



HEARING EDUCATION SERVICES



United Federation of Teachers

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Consultation Committee Meeting Minutes September 19, 2007

In Attendance: Helen Kaufman – Assistant Superintendent District 75
Rose O'Connor – UFT Chapter Leader
Nancy Haggerty, Caryn Benjamin – HES Teachers

- 1) Helen: Posting of the vacant supervisor position will be done; has not been done yet.
- 2) Audiology:
 - a. Helen has made a budget request. She will put money for earmolds and repairs first. There still is no contract with a vendor for earmolds.
 - b. A request was made by the teachers for better communication with the audiologists during the first training day of Chapter 683 summer school. The goal is for the teachers to know which audiologists are responsible for their students and the location of all FMs. Teachers fill out storage forms in June; this information needs to be accessible to teachers promptly in July and September.
- 3) The committee expressed strong opposition to the new monthly services card. It was agreed that a committee will generate a new card. Helen will review this card. For now, teachers should use the form given in September, signing only once. A new form will be submitted to Helen by Friday, Oct. 15.
- 4) Underserved students: The committee requests that substitutes or F-status teachers be hired. The committee stated that teachers should not be asked to underserve students. Rose is concerned that students are not receiving their mandated services. She said that if a child is mandated for 5x a week, she or he should not be seen only once. Helen agreed. Students who do not have parents who demand that mandated services be provided are at the greatest disadvantage, which is not acceptable. Helen will seek out personnel. She will also find out if she can hire a substitute for a related service provider with a long-term medical problem. It was also suggested that supervisors need to act in a timely manner so that students can receive full services through an RSA.

- 5) Handbook: Small changes were suggested to the handbook that was given out at the beginning of the school. One of the issues that was discussed was the demand for one month's notice for absence for personal business. The committee stated that the contract requires "a reasonable advance notice." Helen asserted that one month is a reasonable time. She expects forms for personal business to be submitted to her one month in advance, unless it is an emergency situation.

Another issue was that of signing in at a security desk. It was determined last year that this is too time-consuming for related service teachers. Helen's concern is that teachers must sign in or clock in somewhere to verify that they were in the school.

- 6) Future meeting dates:

Oct. 24

Nov. 28

There will not be a meeting in December.