



HEARING EDUCATION SERVICES



United Federation of Teachers

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HES Consultation Committee Meeting Minutes November 28, 2007

HES Consultation Committee: Rose O'Connor, Helen Kaufman, Caryn Benjamin, Nancy Haggerty, Betty Hintz, Wendy Wolffson, Olivia Klansky

Old Business

1. Audiology – Helen read the draft of a form letter intended to address the care and handling of FM equipment. The purpose of the letter is to inform school administration of the importance and expense of FM equipment. The committee suggested changes, including the addition of the name of the HES teacher. A second letter is being drafted. This letter will request a meeting with school administration and a student's parent in the event that the FM equipment is lost.
2. New Supervisor Update – Despite the fact that Gerry Jenulis retired before the beginning of this school year, the position of HES supervisor has not been posted. (Last year, the committee was assured that the position would be posted when Gerry's retirement was official.) Rose stressed that this is creating a difficult situation for teachers. No date has been given for when the position will be posted.
3. Unserved & Underserved Students – Three or four teachers have been hired on F-status to serve such students. Also, all teachers will be allowed to schedule students on their preps and be paid per session. Teachers who wish to do this should contact their supervisors. The committee asked about the possibility of seeing students' per-session after the work day. Teachers should discuss this with their supervisors.
4. Mentoring – We're waiting for a call back from Fred King. Helen indicated that our teachers could be mentored by teachers who have licenses other than Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The committee, once again, objected saying that the new teachers would not get the necessary training to do the job. Helen, once again, mentioned that Brigidann Turadek, HES supervisor, has new teacher workshops,

and assigns a “buddy” teacher. Rose objected because the DOE posting indicates that these “buddy” teachers should be given a free period in order to mentor the new teacher. Helen said that it would be difficult to do this because of the shortage of teachers. Nevertheless, HES needs to have a mentoring plan in place.

New Business

1. District 75 Plan for Changes in HES – A meeting was held to voice the concerns of principals for more control over HES/EVS classes in their buildings. This meeting was attended by principals, the deputy chancellor and Helen. The committee asked to be informed about this situation as it proceeds.
2. Travel Checks Not Received – Many RS service teachers have not received their travel checks. Supervisors were asked to follow up, Helen will investigate. If you didn’t receive your check, contact your supervisor.
3. Title IIA Funds – Rose asked about the Title IIA funds, which have not been received. Helen said that the superintendent is looking in the delay in funds.

The next meeting was set for January 16, 2008.