

Hearing Education Services

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Cecilia Cortez, Chapter Leader • e-mail: ccortez@uft.org • 212.598.9277 • UFT Hours: Wednesday 1-3 p.m.
UFT Delegates: Caryn Benjamin, Betty Hintz

May 2009

MESSAGE FROM

Cecilia Cortez

As a chapter leader, I have been meeting with HES teachers from the different boroughs last month and this month. I hope to get to all the boroughs by the end of the year. It has been such a pleasure to encounter such a great group of involved, energetic and caring teachers who serve our hearing-impaired students with such dedication and love. They move from school to school serving our students in such a unique setting. It is really an inspiration to anyone who knows the job we do. My message is support each other, in union there is strength.

—Cecilia

You should know



I will have the second consultation meeting on Wednesday, May 6 at 4:00 p.m. at the HES office.

Please send your concerns, suggestions and questions to ccortez@uft.org.

Know Your Rights

WHAT THE CONTRACT SAYS ABOUT:

Excessive absences/lateness

If you are tenured and you are excessively absent or late, the DOE has the right, with sufficient notice, to summon you to a hearing about your conduct. It is critical that you alert the union as soon as you are summoned so a union lawyer can assist you at the hearing and can review the documentation the DOE must provide you. The hearing officer cannot terminate you but can levy penalties against you.

If you are not tenured and you are excessively absent or late, you may receive a letter for your official file. You also may be subject to an unsatisfactory ("U") rating and/or discontinuance of your probation (in other words, termination). You should contact your chapter leader immediately so that you can be provided with the proper advice and representation.

Things to do

- Join the "There Is No Excuse" campaign: ACCEPT NO EXCUSE. Defend the IEP. It's the law. Call the hotline and let them know your concerns. The hotline to report violations: 212-701-9499.



Events

● Maternity workshops

The Queens UFT office will hold maternity workshops on May 12, June 9 and June 16, 4:30–6 p.m., 97-77 Queens Blvd. RSVP to Karla Jordan at kjordan@uft.org. Include your due date, file number, non-DOE e-mail address, school, district and phone number. You will be registered for the workshop according to your due date. This workshop is for women only.

● Just For Fun

May 27 retirement party for Jeanette Kerrigan and Eileen Morgan, HES secretaries, from 4:30 to 8:00 p.m. at SPQR on Mulberry Street in Little Italy.

● May is Better Hearing and Speech Month

- May 1** May Day (Labour Day or International Workers' Day)
- May 5** Cinco de Mayo: Battle of Puebla
- May 5** National Teachers Day (Tuesday of the first full week of May)
- May 10** Mother's Day
- May 25** Memorial Day
- May 28** Shavuot (begins at sundown)

"The strongest bond of human sympathy outside the family relation should be one uniting working people of all nations and tongues and kindred."

— Abraham Lincoln