



HEARING EDUCATION SERVICES



United Federation of Teachers

Rose O'Connor, Chapter Leader

52 Broadway, New York, NY 10004

Voice mail: (212) 598-9277

E-mail: roconnor@uft.org

HES Consultation Committee Meeting December 13, 2006

In Attendance: Helen Kaufman, Rose O'Connor, Betty Hintz, Nancy Haggerty, Steve Scouten, Wendy Wolffson, Judy Cohen and Caryn Benjamin.

Old Business:

1. Minutes of the Nov. 1, 2006 meeting were read.
2. Follow up: Helen indicated that it will not be possible for RS teachers to be paid for their preps to service underserved students. She said that she has already hired more teachers and is looking to hire more ASAP.

New Business:

1. **Special Ed. Bussing:** Betty brought up the issue that CSE is no longer checking off the box for bussing on the IEP. She said that she was told that there is a new directive. Helen said that the change will be in effect at the end of January. It will not be assumed that every child who receives special education services or programs will be entitled to bussing. The Committee suggested that information should come from HES about this issue. We are concerned that bussing will stop for students without parents or teachers being aware of it.
Helen said that we should have been aware of it because it has been ongoing news.
2. **Audiology:** Judy discussed the recent problem with the Phonak order. The ROC had set aside the money for the September order, which was a sizeable amount. However, Phonak's contract expired, so the District was not able to pay them. It has taken these past three months for them to send in the necessary paperwork to DOE Office of Contracts. This new contract will be in effect for five years. The question was asked about new ear molds and repairs. Helen said that ear molds are separate from this issue and there haven't been any problems. Repairs were also being made without incident.
The question was raised about student's having their FM units for the citywide test in January. Helen advised us that teacher's should notify their supervisors immediately so that an FM unit can be provided.

3. Gerry Jenulis' Replacement: Rose asked about the steps that will take place to assign a replacement for Gerry when she retires in June. Helen said that she will notify the superintendent and the position will be posted. Rose stressed the need for teachers to be informed of who the supervisors are and what areas they will be assigned to for September. Helen said that because the process takes time, there is a chance there will be an Interim Acting Supervisor put into place for September. Rose reminded Helen that the UFT Chapter Leader needs to be part of the C30 process.
4. Staff Development: Rose mentioned the HES Staff Development that is on the D75 website and asked if these workshops were mandatory. Helen said that they were not mandatory, but in some instances it may be advised that a teacher attend because she/he is in need of the training. Rose asked Helen to speak to the supervisors about not making such statements as: "You better attend," and she said that she would.
5. Observation Reports: Rose brought up the issue of teachers receiving their reports via email. The discussion focused on the fact that not all teachers have a computer available to them. Although we do know that many teachers in District 75, such as Inclusion teachers and Vision teachers, were given lap tops, HES teachers have not received them. This puts the burden on the teacher to access a computer and to get the report printed. There was also mention of the fact that the report would not have the supervisor's signature. Some of the committee thought that it was important to receive the "hard copy" from the supervisor.
Finish
6. Meetings for 2007: Meetings were set for January 24 and March 7.
7. Family Day: Rose & Helen discussed the possible site PS169M and Rose will go with Brigidann to see if it will be adequate for the event on March 10th. Rose asked Betty to help Sandy Spekman to acquire funds from stores for door prizes. Wendy was asked to help with registration.