

# Hearing Education Services

## CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Cecilia Cortez, *Chapter Leader* • e-mail: [ccortez@uft.org](mailto:ccortez@uft.org) • 212.598.9277 • UFT Hours: Wednesday 1-3 p.m.  
UFT Delegates: Amy Cohen and Donna Kafka

April 2011

### MESSAGE FROM Cecilia Cortez

Last month once again I attended the UFT District 75 training weekend, and once again it was invigorating. I had the privilege of sharing that experience with five other HES teachers. They came from Manhattan, the Bronx, Brooklyn and Staten Island. It was really empowering to be there sharing the knowledge and the fun at the same time. I want to thank the people who came and participated in this great event. We were given all kinds of tools to better serve our members.

I also continue to visit HES teachers at their monthly meetings. I have seen HES teachers in the Bronx, Manhattan, Queens and Brooklyn West. I hope to see HES teachers in Staten Island and Brooklyn East soon. Those meetings are very important to me because I get to talk to the members and listen to their concerns. It puts names to our issues.

At the UFT's Lobby Day in Albany last month I met my state senator, Kevin Parker. We discussed tenure issues, among other things.

HES chapter members came out for the pension meetings that were set up at the UFT borough offices. Keep attending them. There are will be two more meetings in this series coming up in Brooklyn and Queens.

On a sad personal note I want to share with you that my mother passed away. She lived with me. She was 88 years old. She is in a better place now, but she is greatly missed.

—Cecilia

### Things to do

- Attend the meetings the HES Chapter has set up specifically for you on pension. The next meetings will be held on Wed., April 27, 2011 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the Brooklyn UFT; and Wed., May 11, 2011 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the Queens UFT.

### You Should Know

#### Injury on the Job

Teachers and other school staff injured or made sick on the job have important rights and benefits. However, in order to access these, you must follow certain procedures. The UFT is dedicated to guiding injured and ill members through the process – so that you can make use of the benefits available to you and make a speedy recovery.

Pedagogues – teachers, guidance counselors, school secretaries, psychologists, social workers and lab specialists – injured or made sick on the job are covered by the Injury-in-the-Line-of-Duty provision of the UFT-DOE contract.

In the event of an emergency situation, seek medical attention if necessary and call the UFT Safety & Health hotline at 212-701-9407. Victims of assault or other similar incidents may also call the UFT Victim Support Program at 212-598-6853.

For more information or assistance with your rights under the Injury-in-the-Line-of-Duty provisions of the contract, call your UFT borough office:

- Bronx: 718-379-6200
- Brooklyn: 718-852-4900
- Manhattan: 212-598-6800
- Queens: 718-275-4400
- Staten Island: 718-605-1400

Detailed information as well as the teachers contract is also available in the Our Rights section of the UFT website at [www.uft.org/our-rights/line-of-duty-injury](http://www.uft.org/our-rights/line-of-duty-injury).

*"You are never strong enough that you don't need help."*

— Cesar Chavez

### Next Consultation Meeting

The next consultation meeting with Ms. Kaufman is on Wednesday, May 4, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at 400 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue in Manhattan. Please send your questions and concerns and comments to Chapter Chair Cecilia Cortez at [ccortez@uft.org](mailto:ccortez@uft.org).

