

# Hearing Education Services

## CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



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## MESSAGE FROM Cecilia Cortez

I hope your year is going well. Once again we are moving along. It has been a fast three months. I am sure everyone is settled into their routines and moving along with their programs. I hope it is everything you had hoped for. It is the time of the year where we get together and enjoy our family, friends and students and celebrate our lives. I want to wish you a happy and healthy New Year. Let's continue to work together.

Appropriate space is a big issue for HES providers. As hearing teachers we should ask for appropriate space to work with our students. If you are in the hall, the bathroom, the closet, the cafeteria, the dean's office, or any other office where there is constant interruption, it is not acceptable. You are a professional who has to have all the necessary tools to provide a good education to your students so that they may be successful. As a hearing provider you have to make sure our hearing impaired students are provided with an adequate area with appropriate lighting and sound. They should have mandated services with minimal interruptions and proper conditions conducive to good instruction and learning.

We have to inform principals that we are professionals in the building and that our students deserve the same rights that everyone else in the building receives. HES providers must get proper space. You shouldn't settle for anything less for yourself and the students with whom you work. If you have an inadequate space issue in your school please file a special education complaint on line at [www.uft.org](http://www.uft.org). You don't have to be alone on this issue!

—Cecilia

## You Should Know

### Absences

From the teachers contract, Article 16, section A, number 11:

"Teachers on regular appointment shall be granted absence refunds for illness on application, without a statement from a physician, for a total of no more than 10 days in any school year. Teachers will be allowed to use three of such 10 days of sick leave for personal business provided that reasonable advance notice is given to the head of the school. Effective September, 2002, teachers may use two of the three days allowed for personal business in any school year for the care of ill family members. For the purpose of this provision, family member shall be defined as: spouse; natural, foster or step parent; child; brother or sister; father-in-law; mother-in-law; any relative residing in the household; and domestic partner, provided such domestic partner is registered pursuant to the terms set forth in the New York City Administrative Code Section 3-240 et seq. Days off for personal business are intended to be used only for personal business which cannot be conducted on other than a school day and during other than school hours."

Find more information on absences, other contract provisions and much more in the Our Rights section on [www.uft.org](http://www.uft.org).

## Upcoming Event

- Workshop on pension and retirement for HES teachers on Wednesday, January 12, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at 52 Broadway, in the Manhattan borough office. Presenter: Tom Brown.

## Next Consultation Meeting

The next consultation meeting with Ms. Kaufman is Wed., January 5 at 4:00 p.m. at 400 1st Avenue in Manhattan. Please send your questions and concerns to [ccortez@uft.org](mailto:ccortez@uft.org).

"We are not complaining about the work. We want to see our hard work reflected in our pay."

**Emmett J. Bogdon**



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