

Hearing Education Services

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



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UFT Delegates: Amy Cohen and Donna Kafka

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MESSAGE FROM Cecilia

Many good things continue to happen this new year.

I attended the UFT Functional Chapter Training Weekend in January. It was very informative and energizing. I came back full of knowledge and strategies. I hope to use that information to serve you better. Just remember you can apply to attend this weekend with me and learn all about our Union and latest information for functional chapters. Traditionally this has been a yearly event. Please let me know if you would like to get more involved in these trainings. I will continue to have different events throughout the rest of the year.

We had our after school meeting with Vice President for Special Education Carmen Alvarez and UFT Liaison Lisa Mendel. They spoke about many issues specific to HES members. They also discussed SESIS. As a reminder, please document any SESIS work outside of your school day or during lunch. The UFT is currently in the midst of the Union Initiated Arbitration for SESIS. This information may be necessary for this case.

An afterschool meeting for HES teachers was held on March 14 at the Bronx UFT and I attended Lobby Day in Albany on March 21. I will continue to have different events throughout the rest of the year.

— Cecilia

You Should Know

Absences, Leaves & Sabbaticals

Under the UFT-DOE contract, teachers and other members have varying rights to absences, leaves and sabbaticals. In this section you'll find summaries of these rights as well as helpful links to more detailed information and related forms and guidelines.

Absences

If you are a teacher or other pedagogue and are absent from school because of illness, you will be paid for up to 10 days in any school year without needing to submit a doctor's note.

Leaves

Any regularly appointed teacher may apply for a leave of absence. Leaves of absence with partial pay include military leaves and sabbatical leaves for study and for restoration of health.

Sabbaticals

Sabbaticals are available to teachers to enhance their teaching skills, restore their health or achieve state certification in a shortage area.

Consultation Meeting

I continue to have consultation meetings with Ms. Helen Kaufman (Who is this person and what office does she represent?). They take place once a month. The next consultation meeting will take place Wednesday, May 2, at 4:00 p.m. at the HES office. Please send your concerns, questions and comments to me at ccortez@uft.org. ccortez@uft.org.

Things to do

- Send questions for the consultation meeting. Attend UFT/HES meetings and UFT conferences. Stay registered at www.uft.org.

