MESSAGE FROM Cecilia Cortez

I want to welcome everyone back and wish you a good and productive school year.

The DOE's special education reform will expand citywide this September. Look for more information about the reform in the special section of our website (http://www.uft.org/teaching/special-education-reform) and in the New York Teacher.

By staying abreast of all the changes and how they are being implemented, you will be better able to ensure that your students are getting the services they need.

“It is essential that there should be organization of labor. This is an era of organization. Capital organizes and therefore labor must organize.”
~ Theodore Roosevelt

Things to do

• Visit the Students with Disabilities section of UFT.org (http://www.uft.org/teaching/students-disabilities). You will find information on everything you ever wanted to know and more about special education in NYC.

• Continue to report compliance issues when students are not receiving mandated services by using our online Special Education Complaint form. These forms are confidential and your name will never be used in a complaint and request for investigation by the DOE.

Consultation Meetings

Consultation meetings with Ms. Helen Kaufman take place the second Wednesday of every month at 4 p.m. at 400 First Ave. in Manhattan. Send your questions and concerns to ccortez@uft.org. Minutes from the meeting will always be posted in our chapter’s section of the UFT website.

Once a month I meet with Ms. Kaufman to resolve contract issues that come up. Sept. 12 was our first meeting and we had our second meeting on October 10. If you are interested in participating in a consultation meeting, let me know!