



HEARING EDUCATION SERVICES



United Federation of Teachers

Cecilia Cortez, Chapter Leader

52 Broadway, New York, NY 10004

Voice mail: (212) 598-9277

Fax: (212) 510-6437

E-mail: ccortez@uft.org

HES Consultation Committee Meeting Minutes
November 3rd 4:00- 5:00 pm.
400 1st Avenue, N.Y. 10004, 5th floor

In Attendance:

Helen Kaufman, Assistant Superintendent; Cecilia Cortez, UFT HES Chapter Leader;
Toni Wofse, Brooklyn HES Related Services Teacher / Note taker; Sandy Spekman, RSP
Bronx

Agenda:

1. - Space for HES Providers
2. - Trac
3. - Paper Work
4. - Replacing Manhattan Supervisor
5. - Money for Conferences
6. - Speaker for PD
7. - Date for Future Consultation Meeting

1. - Space for HES

A number of HES teachers sent me information about the lack of space in their schools after I asked for that information. I brought this issue to the consultation meeting. Ms Kaufman said there is very little she can do. She said there have been hearings on the issue. I asked her if she could ask the supervisor to be supportive when it comes to speak up for space for us. She said she will bring it up at the next supervisors meeting.

As a follow up I brought the issue to the UFT. I spoke to Ms. Lisa Mendel, UFT Liaison Division of Students with Disabilities and English Language Learners.

She suggested that HES providers who have space problems should file a Special Ed. report @ uft.org to make sure that the issues are brought to the attention of the Division of SWD for their review and correction.

2. - TRAC and #3. - Paper Work

These two issues are together because I heard Ms Kaufman asked the HES supervisors not to approve TRAC until the paper work is received. That is against the law to withhold money for paperwork not done.

Some HES teachers are having problems with TRAC. I asked Ms Kaufman to tell the HES supervisors to approve TRAC right away without having to wait for paper work. I explained to her that it is money that teachers have already spent and we should get our money as soon as we can. Ms. Kaufman said she will speak to the supervisors at the next supervisor meeting.

As a follow up I will bring it up next month to see Ms. Kaufman's response. I will request in writing the exact procedures including time lines for TRAC requests.

4. - Replacing Manhattan Supervisor

I asked Ms Kaufman about what she is doing about the Manhattan supervisor.

She said HES is a full time program and Manhattan needs a full time supervisor.

She said she will keep Ms. Gail Oberlander until she finds a new full time supervisor. She said she is interviewing people this week. As soon as she gets a full time supervisor for Manhattan she will let Ms Oberlander go. She thinks she will get a new supervisor next week. She said Ms. Oberlander retired and has to be replaced. She wants Manhattan to have a full time supervisor. She said Manhattan can't be run with a part time supervisor. It needs a full time supervisor and she intends to get a new one.

5. - Money for Conferences

Some HES teachers have asked if HES has money to go to conferences. There used to be money for conferences years ago. Ms. Kaufman said there is no money for conferences. She will give you the conference day. If approved, it will not come out of your bank if you go to a professional conference. It has to be related to our profession. You just have to fill out the paperwork and send it in along with the flier from the conference. It should be done at least a month in advance.

6. - Speaker for PD

We will have another professional day in June. Some people asked if we could have a speaker from our field on that day. Ms. Kaufman said she has some money for a

speaker if it is the right person and the right price. She will support the idea of having a speaker for HES on that day. If you know of a person who can come and speak to our group let me know. It will be nice to have someone from our field come and give a lecture.

I want to thank Manhattan and Bronx HES teachers for the participation at the UFT meeting on November 2nd. I had arranged for Mr. Abe Ruda as guest speaker. He spoke to the HES providers from both boroughs about the Welfare Fund and its benefits. It went fine. Many teachers wrote me to let me know they enjoyed the talk. I hope to have a UFT speaker for every group in the near future. I am working on setting up those meetings.

7. - Dates for Future Consultation Meetings

The next consultation meeting will take place on Wednesday December 1st.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know.

Follow up:

Concerning the parking permit issue Ms Kaufman said she would like to know who doesn't have a parking permit and wants one. She said the list and the paper work has to be done in the spring. The parking permits must be applied for early so they will come by next September. Once the list is done it can't be changed she said. I will find out what information she needs from you and let you know. That is from the agreement we had that everyone who wants one will get a parking permit sometime within the next three years.