



HEARING EDUCATION SERVICES



United Federation of Teachers

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HES Consultation Committee Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2014

4:00 – 5:00pm

400 First Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10004

In attendance:

Helen Kaufman, Assistant Superintendent District 75;

Cecilia Cortez, UFT HES Chapter Leader;

Danna Kafko, Brooklyn HES Related Services Teacher, Note Taker

AGENDA

1. FM Units

Cecilia asked about some Manhattan teachers stating their students are without FMs.

Ms. Kaufman answered: She would discuss this issue with Ms. Judy Cohen. This is not a money issue. There is money for all FM units.

2. Self Contained Classes.

Cecilia asked about the future of Self Contained Classes; HES Teachers in HES self-contained classes are concerned about their future due to low numbers. There are less new students coming in.

Ms. Kaufman said: If there are not enough students to keep self-contained classes open those classes will be closed. A class cannot function properly with only one or two students. There are mandates 12:1:1 in middle school; 15:1 in high school. HES Teachers in self-contained classes, whose classes will be closed, will be excessed to related services. Classes open and close based upon the population. She said over the years she needed to close classes in Brooklyn and then had to reopen them again due to more students coming in. No HES teacher will be out of a job. We cannot recruit children to our programs.

3. Space -

Cecilia asked: HES Teachers in HES self-contained classes are concerned about the space issues in their schools. Ms. Kaufman said: There are no guarantees. If a principal wants, a HES program out it will happen. (The UFT monitors all co location issues, if you have specific concerns please contact Cecilia directly)

4. Summer School

Cecilia asked about Summer School

Ms. Kaufman said we do not know who will be in charge yet. But HES Supervisors will soon start collecting the names of HES teachers who want to work in summer school. (Chapter 683 discrepancy forms are out in all D-75 programs. Please review to confirm your name has been listed indicating your desire to work this summer. If your name is not on the list please contact Cecilia as a grievance may be required)

5. Leaves

Cecilia asked: A few HES teachers indicated they want to take a leave of absence.

Ms. Kaufman said that she would grant leaves to HES teachers. She will need documentation and a reason for the leave and they will need to do all the paper work.

6. U-Rating and working at Sumer School

Cecilia asked: Can a HES teacher work on summer school after she gets a "U" rating in summer school?

Ms. Kaufman said: No, they can't work the following summer. They stay out of work one summer. After that, they can work in summer school again.

7. Next date:

Tentative Wednesday, April 30