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ENFIELD TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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Negotiations Update

ETA ETA ETA ETA

Inside this issue:

Shortage Areas	2
Calendar of Events	2

Our last arbitration hearing for our successor contract was held on the evening of November 23rd. The Association and the Board have since submitted briefs to the Arbitration Panel. The Panel met in Executive Session on December 7th. We should be receiving their binding decision by December 17th. Within twenty-five days of the receipt of this award, which will be around January 11, 2011, the decision may be rejected by the Enfield Town Council by a two-thirds vote. This would then trigger a second look arbitration. If this occurs, the Commissioner would select a review panel to render a final and binding award. Our final decision would arrive near the end of February.

The ETA Team, along with our CEA Uniserv Rep Joe Czerbinski have worked tirelessly on behalf of ETA members to negotiate a successor agreement in good faith that is fair and progressively moves the Association forward. We hope to be successful in this endeavor.

President's Message

Hello Team ETA,

Well this year has certainly been...challenging for education and educators everywhere, and particularly in Enfield. We have been basically accused of causing the downfall of modern society - yes it's all on us. The national media and the local media have found lots to blame on us teachers. Did you realize how much power we have? If the town of Enfield doesn't have any money, it seems to be our fault. If the high school dropout rate is too high, again, our fault? Need to close 2 schools? Well if those teachers weren't so greedy... Laying off 25 teachers last year? Those greedy teachers again. Wondering where you will be teaching next year? Just don't ask questions. We'll let you know when you need to know. Know your place!

Well, well, well. There seems to be a lot of blame to go around. Yes this has been a very difficult year in Enfield. Right now we are waiting to hear the decision of the arbitrator concerning our next contract. We are waiting to find out where we will be teaching next year. We are waiting to find out how many, if any, teachers will be eliminated due to the reorganization. We are waiting to hear how the reorganization will be handled. And then, of course, some of us are waiting for Santa!

I have no great words of wisdom but just want all of you to know that the leaders of your association are working for everyone's best interests. No matter what happens in 2011, we know that the teachers of Enfield will be providing a quality education for our students, no matter what obstacles we may be facing. We don't foresee a pile of gold at the end of the rainbow. The budget will probably be grim again, but we will do what we do...with energy, steadfastness and pride. The ETA is as strong as all of us together. We must remember that. Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season, a restful week off, and a happy health New Year.



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To:

All ETA Members

From:

The Enfield Teachers' Association

Executive Board Members

The Commissioner of Education has designated the following Subject Shortage Areas for 2010-11:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bilingual Education, PK-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Music, PK-12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive Special Education, K-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Remedial Reading and Language Arts, 1-12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> English, 7-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> School Psychologist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> Speech and Language Pathology |
| (This category excludes Superintendents) | <input type="checkbox"/> World Languages, 7-12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics, 7-12 | |

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

- 12/6 ETA Executive Board
- 12/13 Professional Rights & Responsibilities
- 12/16 ETA Representative Assembly
- Enfield High School Library
- 12/17 Binding Arbitration Decision

January

- 1/3 ETA Executive Board
- 1/10 Professional Rights & Responsibilities
- 1/20 ETA Representative Assembly
- Enfield High School Library
- 1/26 Hartford County Council
- Chowder Pot, Hartford

