

Welcome

I hope you had a relaxing and restful summer filled with many happy memories of time spent with family and friends. As we return in anticipation of a busy year, I am happy to report that some members who were excused are now back with us. I know we will all continue to meet the challenges of Common Core, APPR and State Assessments while keeping our primary goals, of challenging and educating Herricks students at the forefront of what we do each day.

HTA Operations

The HTA office is located on the first floor of the Herricks Community Center (Room 111). The Association has two telephone lines: interschool Ext. 8981, which has a voicemail feature available when we are not in the office, the outside line is 248-7948. Ellen Safarik is the Association's secretary and is in the office 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on all schooldays. Ellen is extremely knowledgeable and helpful. She will take a message and attempt to answer questions. I will be in the office daily beginning at 2 p.m. If you need to reach either of us via email, our addresses are: htasecretary@gmail.com for Ellen and ndeglio88@gmail.com and nidya@herricksta.org for myself. In addition, my cell number is (516) 244-2667.

Potential Retirees

An informational meeting will be held on Thursday, October 30 at 4 pm in Room 208 of the Community Center with Helen Costigan and Catherine Vetrano. A discussion of insurance options into retirement and other retirement related procedures will be discussed. If you are considering retiring this year, please be sure to attend this meeting.

Certification

The rules for certification vary enormously depending on the date you graduated, began employment, or changed tenure areas. It is the responsibility of each member to be aware of necessary requirements to maintain his/her

certification. Please address all questions or concerns to Dr. Hayes' office.

APPR 2013- 2014

After numerous revisions, the State finally approved this year's APPR on August 29, 2013. Please note: All teachers must submit 10 artifacts each year. All artifacts will be rated on a 1-4 scale (ineffective to highly effective). Please submit artifacts list early in the school year. Please refer to Dr. Bierwirth's email from September 4, 2013 for other details.

Do You Know?

Taylor Law: The Public Employees Fair Employment Act that passed in 1967 oversees public employee labor relations in New York State. This law permits union organizing and provides a system within which to resolve labor-management conflict short of striking. Public employers are required to recognize and negotiate in good faith with the union representatives of a bargaining unit.

Triborough Amendment: An amendment to the Taylor Law that provides that all terms, conditions and provisions of an expired public contract remain in effect until a new contract is approved.

Collective Bargaining: The contractual agreement between an employer and a labor union that governs wages, and working conditions for employees and which can be enforced against both the employer and the union for failure to comply with its terms.

HTA Website:

Our webmaster, Adam Dugger, has added many new features to our website. Please visit us at: www.herricksta.org and sign up for Constant Contact. This will enable you to receive current updates that we send out. The website also includes a list of weekly district events and meetings that your HTA executive council and/or reps will attend. Also, we are now on Twitter. Members can follow us at @HerricksTA. We will begin using Constant Contact shortly, too.

Sad News

It is with great sadness that I inform you that Denise Foley passed away last week. For the past 12 years Denise was a much loved and respected teacher aide at Searingtown School. Denise was also a dedicated and hardworking HTA building rep for many years, who worked tirelessly to help our members in any way she could. In addition, she spent her summers working at the Herricks Summer Recreation Program. We will remember Denise's smile, her willingness to help others, her unselfish acts of kindness and respect toward both students and fellow colleagues. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her son, daughter and family during this difficult time.

Professional Negotiations Committee

The PNC will begin meeting Wednesday, September 18, to discuss upcoming contract negotiations. I urge you to submit your blue sheets and attend the meetings set up for your particular group throughout the next few months so your voice and opinion can be heard.

NYSUT & TALI NEWS

Carle Place Teacher's Association has entered their third year without a contract! The Carle Place Board of Education wants a **two-tiered salary schedule** that would **pay new hires substantially less than current members**. For example, in 2031, a teacher in Carle Place at **MA +60 would be earning \$30,000 less** than they do now!

Please support our colleagues in Carle Place. Join other NYSUT and Long Island teachers and members, as well as Randi Weingarten and Dick Ianuzzi, by attending:

The Carle Place Rally
Thursday, Sept. 26, 2013, 7:00 p.m.
Carle Place High School
168 Cherry Lane, Carle Place, NY 11514

Let's have a strong showing by standing together behind our HTA banner as we support the CPTA. Let's unite, show our strength and not allow our profession to be devalued and divided. Our future and the future of our profession is at stake. See you on September 26th.

Involvement and Participation

A strong union is comprised of members and leaders who are actively involved and work together to benefit all members.

Throughout the past summer and few weeks I have contacted you various times updating you on the events that occurred in Herricks. Knowledge of events, involvement and working together will continue to strengthen our Union. I urge you to become involved and show your support for Herricks throughout the year.

- Please join the PTA in your building. Membership forms will be collected in each building so that they can be handed into PTA in mass. Also consider joining one other organization such as SEPTA, Music Boosters, Art Boosters or Athletic Boosters. Prizes will be awarded to the building or buildings who have 95% or more staff joining PTA. Deirdre Bambrick, our Public Relations representative, will send out more information about the PTA membership drive and other events throughout the year.

- Your involvement and appearance at events send a clear message. We care and are a big part of Herricks - we are not just employees.

I look forward to seeing you throughout the year in the buildings and at district events. My best wishes to each of you for a wonderful year as you continue to help enrich and provide our students a safe and nurturing environment where they grow, learn and achieve. No matter what your role in Herricks, thanks in advance for your professionalism and all you continue to do to make and keep Herricks a premiere Long Island district.

Nidya Degliomini
September 2013