

WTU Update

Volume 23, Issue 7

March, 2016

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



arbitration panel began to hear the first issue and its first witness.

The electronic grading and report cards topic was introduced with the testimony of the Winman principal. The school committee had at least three other witnesses scheduled to testify. There was confusion on cross examination concerning the principal's resume and regarding the use of electronic grading. The events of this day only makes one think about how poorly ASPEN was rolled out in this district. After examination and cross examination of this first witness, the day ended. Clearly, not much progress was made.

The Warwick Teachers' Union still stands by its offer to the School Committee: our position has always been and still is that an agreement will only be reached when the two parties sit down to negotiate a contract.

INTEREST ARBITRATION UPDATE

During the month of March there will be three hearings: March 8, 23, and 29.

The following is a summary of the January 26, 2016 Interest Arbitration. Both sides presented opening statements. The first topic to be discussed commenced after opening statements in front of the arbitration panel. You should recall from last month's WTUpdate that the first four issues that will be before the arbitration panel are:

1. Electronic Grading Report-Cards
2. Common Planning Time
3. Educational Materials
4. Coaches

During opening statements for the school committee, Mr. Henneous reported that "the evidence that we will present will be quick, it will be concise..."

After both opening statements the

PLEASE NOTE THESE CONTRACT PROVISIONS

12-25 CLASS ASSIGNMENT AND PROGRAM

12-25.1 **No later than March 1** the department head in the secondary school and the principal in the elementary school shall distribute a standard form to the teachers in their department or school respectively on which the teacher shall indicate his/her program preference. Special area teachers shall receive their form and return them to their department head or immediate supervisor. The forms are to be returned no later than one (1) week after distribution and shall be kept on file at the individual school until October 1 of the following school year. Program preference forms shall include space for high school teachers to specify if an extra class is desired.

Please note: High school teachers who may be interested in teaching an additional class, in accordance with 12-8.7 (e) of the contract (\$56), should indicate this on their program preference forms.

13-3.2 Any teacher who wishes to receive his/her summer check in a **lump sum in June** shall make application in writing to the Human Resources Office **prior to March 1 of the school year.** Lump sum payment shall be paid prior to July 1st.

If you are interested in receiving a lump sum payment in June, please remember to send your request by March 1st.

EAP

The executive board and I would like to once again remind the membership of the services of Coastline Employee Assistance Program. In my experience, the stretch from March to April vacation can be an arduous one. We are lucky to have unfettered access to this confidential resource.

Coastline EAP offers confidential consultation or support anytime, day or night for all employees and family members 24/7.

You can contact Coastline at 732-9444.



REMINDER
PENSION BENEFICIARY

It is very important to keep your beneficiary information updated. Remember, you have both a defined benefit pension and a defined contribution account. Be sure to update your beneficiary on both of them.

You can access your records with the Employee Retirement System of Rhode Island.

You may contact ERSRI by telephone at 462-7600 or at their website, www.ersri.org.

25 WEEK CLUB
WINNERS

Julie Connors-Costello and Pauline Pinto, Co-Chairwomen of the Warwick Teachers Union 25 Week Club announced that the following people were winners in the Weeks 6-10 and \$50 Bonus Drawings:

Week 6-Sue Skiffington-O.B.

Week 7-Kathy Byrne-Vets

Week 8-Meredith McSwiggan-Gorton

Week 9-Lindsey Guglietta-Holden

Week 10-Sharon Miller-Wyman

\$50.00 Bonus-Tracy DiPetrillo—
Warwick Neck

PLEASE NOTE

March 2, 2016
WTU General Membership Meeting-Winman-3:30 p.m.

March 7, 2016
Voluntary Staff Development Day

March 9, 2016
WTU Ex. Board Meeting Union Office 3:30 p.m.

March 16, 2016 -Job Sharing Meeting-Ad. Building 3:15 p.m.

March 23, 2016
Building Reps Meeting Winman-3:30 p.m.



TAX
PREPARATION
2015 UNION DUES

\$882.25

WTU GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING

DATE: MARCH 2, 2016
TIME: 3:30 P.M.
PLACE: WINMAN

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. SECRETARY'S REPORT
- III. TREASURER'S REPORT
- IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
- V. OLD BUSINESS
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. ELECTION OF AUDIT COMMITTEE
 - B. ELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Have you moved recently? Do you have a new telephone number? If so, it is important that you call the Union office as soon as possible. We are in the process of updating all our bargaining unit information (names, addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, school locations, etc.), and it is important that we have accurate information so that we can communicate with you, if necessary, by mail, e-mail and by telephone.

YOU MAY CONTACT

THE WTU BY E-MAIL

AT:

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WEBSITE:
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WTU
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WTU Update is a publication of the Warwick Teachers Union, Local 915, AFT, RIFTHP, AFL-CIO