

WTU Update

Volume 26, Issue 1

October 2017

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Dear Colleague:

As we begin the new school year, we are still complying with the terms of the 2014-2015 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). While the other side has negatively impacted education because they have continued to violate contractual provisions that ensure educationally sound learning conditions for students, we teachers are doing our jobs professionally and providing students with the best education that we can.

However, we must continue to remind the administration that until we have a successor agreement, it is not business as usual here in Warwick. To accomplish this goal, WTU members are not volunteering to help the administration to do its work, and we have boycotted the staff development day, attended in force the school committee meeting, picketed at various venues, and distributed flyers.

All of these activities call attention to the lack of a successor CBA and serve as reminders that the WTU is always willing to resume negotiations/mediation. In fact, we have offered multiple dates to meet, but the school committee still insists that it will only do so if we limit negotiations to class size and drop all grievances/arbitrations, a condition about which I reported at the Special General Membership Meeting on September 5.

The next General Membership Meeting is the regular October meeting, which will be on October 4, 2017 at 3:30 pm in the Toll Gate Auditorium. Please note the change of location: the regular General Membership Meetings are usually held at Winman.

WTU COMMUNICATIONS

All communications regarding Union business should be done by contacting the Union office directly at 739-2260.

If you have not already done so, please provide us with your personal e-mail address. Teacher e-mails must originate from your personal e-mail address and not from the Warwick School Department..

ELECTION OF AREA/BUILDING REPRESENTATIVES

As per the Warwick Teachers' Union Constitution and By-Laws, the election of Area and Building Reps shall take place in September. When your elections are held, please forward all the information to the Warwick Teachers' Union office.

CLASS SIZE

Building Reps have distributed the class size surveys. It is very important for all teachers to fill out and return this form. The Union will be monitoring the overages for class sizes very closely. All class size forms need to be in compliance by the conclusion of the settle down period.

Kindergarten class size forms were due on the first day of school. Elementary class size lists were due on Friday, September 15, 2017. Secondary class size lists were due on September 20, 2017. Please return all forms to your Building Rep as soon as possible.

DON'T FORGET!



Teachers are responsible for presenting official credentials to support any new request for advanced increment payments. The deadline for applying for a new increment is **October 1, 2016.**

The deadline for requesting payment of longevity, initially and at each level (20, 25, 30 years), was **August 1.** Changes are not made automatically. You must make the request. If you apply after the August 1 deadline, you will receive a prorated amount of the longevity payment depending upon how long after the August 1 deadline your request was received. Therefore, you should apply as soon as possible.

NOTICE OF MEETING

WTU MEMBERSHIP MEETING

DATE: OCTOBER 4, 2017

TIME: 3:30 P.M.

PLACE: TOLL GATE AUDITORIUM

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Secretary's Report**
- III. Treasurer's Report**
- IV. President's Report**
- V. Old Business**
- VI. New Business**
- VII. Adjournment**

Coastline EAP

Confidential Assistance for Warwick Teachers

Warwick teachers and their family members can call Coastline EAP for confidential assistance—for any type of personal concern such as grief, stress, anger, anxiety, addictions, depression, legal matters, family matters, financial worries, relationship conflicts, child/eldercare, etc.

Coastline counselors will listen to your concerns and find resources to help you. The counselor will also follow up with you to make sure that your problem has been resolved.

Your call and any concerns that you may discuss with the counselor is strictly confidential. Coastline EAP will not provide any information about your phone call to anyone unless you request and sign a release.

There is no limit to the number of times that you can use their services. They are available 24 hours—7 days per week. Coastline EAP's phone number is 732-9444. Their Web site is www.coastlineeap.com.

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 of our bargaining unit information for the new school year (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 telephone.

2016-2017 PAYROLL DATES

The following are payroll dates for the 2017-2018 school year:

August 31, 2017
September 14, 2017
September 28, 2017
October 12, 2017
October 26, 2017
November 9, 2017
November 22, 2017 (Wednesday)
December 7, 2017
December 21, 2017
January 4, 2018
January 18, 2018
February 1, 2018
February 15, 2018
March 1, 2018
March 15, 2018
March 29, 2018
April 12, 2018
April 26, 2018
May 10, 2018
May 24, 2018
June 7, 2018
June 21, 2018
June 29, 2018 Lump Sum (Friday)
July 5, 2018
July 19, 2018
August 2, 2018
August 16, 2018

You are encouraged to check your paystubs carefully to make sure you are receiving the correct salary and that all appropriate deductions are being taken. If you have any questions, you should call the payroll department (734-3115) at the Administration Building.



PLEASE NOTE



- Oct. 4** **General Membership Meeting-3:30 p.m.**
Toll Gate High School Auditorium
- Oct. 9** **School Closed**
- Oct. 18** **Building Reps Meeting-3:30 p.m.**
Winman Junior High School
- Oct. 25** **Executive Board Meeting-WTU office**

WTU FAX NO. 739-2287 **WTU PHONE NO. 739-2260**

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WTU EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Darlene Netcoh
V.P. Secondary	Michael Costello
V.P. Elementary	Karen Monteiro
Secretary	Diane Chaplin
Treasurer	David Croll
Asst. Treasurer	Scott Daigle
Sp. Serv. Rep	Meredith McSwiggan
Sec. Rep	Matthew Hodge
Elem. Rep	Cindy Bowden
Itinerant Rep	Janet Goes

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