

GTA TODAY

By Don Pallozzi
December 2007
Volume II

Holiday Wishes: I hope that everyone has an enjoyable and peaceful vacation. The office will be closed until we get back on January 7. We do check the answering machine over the break so if an emergency occurs please call and leave a message.

Roth IRA: We have had inquiries about the availability of the Roth IRA's as an option. The District will consider it if there is reasonable interest. Since we raised this earlier in the month we've had some interest but we have only heard from one building. If you are interested we will need to notify the District at our January problem solving meeting so please give this some thought over the break and give us a call.

2008-2009 Calendar: We will be looking at the creation of the school calendar when we get back. Many components of the calendar are governed by contract or State Education but we have input on make up days, beginning and ending dates and placement of report card dates. If you have ideas you would like to be considered get them to your building reps or contact us. Keep in mind that the District is bound by contract to not start before Labor Day, has to have 187 days work days as well and testing dates will be set by the State Education Department. We will discuss the draft calendar at Rep Assembly and the proposed calendar will be brought back to the buildings for feedback to be voted on at the following rep assembly. Please feel free to attend. The exact dates are not set but when they are, buildings will be notified.

Building Visits: This past Wednesday, Matt and I went to Arcadia High School to discuss the parent teacher conference grievance, negotiations and the state of the union. We will be visiting the rest of the buildings in the coming months. I know there are many questions about the 105 account (formerly the fringe benefit pool). I suspect there are other issues we are unaware of as well. If there are concerns you would like to see addressed, please contact us or your building reps.

Substitute Teachers: The lack of substitutes district wide is alarming. This has been discussed with the District at problem solving where they informed us that there were some software problems with the sub system that have been corrected. Despite the correction this issue remains a serious concern. Please document your concerns and contact us with the specifics. Our e-mail address, greceteachers@gmail.com, and the office phone (621-7970) will be the most efficient ways to make us aware of shortages. E-mails to the Greece