

GTA TODAY

By Don Pallozzi

September 2006

Welcome Back! I hope it has been a restful and productive summer. Much has happened in two months so let me give you a brief update

A great success: Our Eagles for Education golf tournament was a huge success. We raised approximately \$34,000 for GEF and our scholarship fund. Next June, we will award at least eight additional scholarships. Come join us next July. Watch for the new brochure.

Superintendent Search: The BOE constructed a very thorough search and interview process, including small groups from each of the employee unions. Our reps: Margaret Mourey, Heather Sahrle, Holly Stettner, Tom Gigliotti, Carol Schneider, Richard Vito, Matt Smith, Sharon Bellomo, Lisa Dowdell, Dave Ferington, Terry Luther and I met with the finalists. I think it's safe to say we were surprised and disappointed to hear Mr. King withdrew his candidacy. Thank you to those who gave their summer hours for the process. At this point we only know what has been in the papers and we will forward any new information to you.

Tuition Reimbursement: Paperwork for tuition reimbursement needs to be filed concurrent with registration. The District has honored late requests but will send notification that late requests will not be honored on a repeat basis. If you are permanently certified reimbursement is capped at 12 hours per school year. If you do not remain employed with the District for one full school year following the semester in which the course is taken you may have to repay 50% of the tuition.

Certification Requirements: Please update Human Resources with any changes in your certification status. The state does not automatically do this when you have completed course work. Please remember you are responsible for completing your certification, though HR sends reminders you could lose your position by letting your certification lapse. NYSUT typically holds seminars on the new certification requirements a couple of times during the year.

Dell Computers: NYSUT Member Benefits has entered into an arrangement with Dell to discount existing special prices an additional 2% to 8% depending on the service contract purchased. For more details visit nysut.org and go to member benefits.

Web site: Our web site, www.greeceteachers.com, has up to date information regarding GTA projects, the contract, and allows you to contact the office directly.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer: It is a very busy Fall for many important causes. The annual walk is slated for Sunday October 1. Marianne Sargent is our local captain and will be forwarding current information. Building Reps and the web site will have details as we receive them. I look forward to seeing many of you at Frontier Field on October 1.