

Fall SRP Meeting: **Wednesday, November 3, 2004**

Introductions:

Karen Shield welcomed new SRPs in attendance to the district and informed them of key people to assist them. Karen is SRP rep on PDTA board and recognized the assistant reps, Maryanne Maland JR, Gail Mulkeen SHS/MHS, Sherry Tontarski MCE, Connie Bader PMS, Andrea Johnson-Credit PMS, and Annie McCarthy AC. This year there are also two building reps that are SRPs and they are Barb O'Brien AC and Marcia Brown PR.

There are now 207 SRPs in the district. We have grown in numbers and now may be eligible for another rep on the PDTA Representative Assembly.

SRP Advisor Program:

There is one advisor in every building to help orient new SRPs. They are Maggie Ashley MHS, Connie Bader PMS, Inta Grymin PMS, Pamela Danger SHS, Marcia Brown PR, Chris Burton MCE, Annie McCarthy AC, Maryanne Maland JR and Mari Wolk TR. The Teacher's Center has provided the stipend in the past, but will now be provided by the district under the new contract.

New Contract:

Barb Shapiro attended the meeting to answer any questions regarding the new contract.

All employees should have a copy of the new contract. Contact building reps. or Karen if you need one. Thanks to Sherry Tontarski and Gail Mulkeen for hours of work on our behalf as they represented SRPs on the negotiations team last year.

Sick Bank: There is a form to fill out to give 3 of your sick days to the bank. Participants can draw from the bank when all accumulated sick leave and prolonged illness days are exhausted

Realignment of Paraprofessional Structure: Under the new structure there are now 1) Supervisory Paras, 2) CSE Assigned Paras (1:1), and 3) Educational Assistants (Library, Math, Computer, Classroom, Special Education). We currently do not have the title, "Teaching Assistant". At the time of negotiations, the District did not wish to pursue that title. The new contract provides language for seniority, layoff and recall rights, and voluntary transfer within each group.

Professional Development: The rate of pay for a professional development course through the Teacher Center has increased from \$12.50 to \$13 per hour for this year, with an increase to \$13.50 in the school years 2005-2006 and 2006-2007. The Teacher Center sponsors many excellent classes for paras and everyone is encouraged to participate. The Genesee Valley School Board Institute Para Conference will be held March 17, 2005 in

downtown Rochester. Conference request forms are available in your school's main office and should be submitted to your principal.

Personal/Sick Days: Our personal/sick days have been increased from 12 to 15. PDTA is working on one form to be used for all buildings. You do not have to give a reason for the personal day you are requesting, but it should be within the guidelines of the contract. If the day you are requesting is attached to a holiday or vacation the principal or secretary has the right to ask the reason for the time off.

Subbing: Educational Assistants may sub for the teacher in YK, K or 1st grade before going to the sub list, provided they have a four year degree, and have the approval of the teacher. Other grade levels are required to go to the sub list first, and if a qualified sub cannot be found, a qualified para may sub. There is a \$30 a day stipend.

Career Award: There has been an increase in the career award. Employees who have 10 years full time continuous service or 12,000 continuous contract hours are eligible for \$40 a day for each unused personal/sick day upon retirement from the New York State Employees' Retirement System and/or the Social Security System . They are also eligible for \$250 for each year of service to a maximum of \$13,000.

Health Fund: There was no increase this contract because it was noted that when the contract was extended last year the health allowance was increase from \$325 to \$425.

**Next meeting will be held in April 14, 2005 at 3:45 p.m.
in the Sutherland High School cafeteria.**