

BI - WEEKLY **FOCUS**



Farmingdale Federation
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FFT FOCUS
Edited by
Barbara Lieberman



From the president...

Welcome back! I hope you all had a relaxing summer, and are ready to begin another year in Farmingdale. For those new to our staff, I offer a special welcome to you as you begin your career here, both as an educator and as a member of the Farmingdale Federation of Teachers. We have a wonderful history of solidarity in Farmingdale, and I am looking forward to sharing our history with our newest members.

This is a special year for us, as we begin our first full year of being a 40 year affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers. As we go through the year, we will keep you informed of upcoming events to celebrate this milestone, and will share pieces of our history along the way. It's sure to be an exciting year for all of us, as proud members of the FFT.

I wish you all a rewarding, successful year.

In solidarity,
Claire Zatorski

2009-2010 Weighted NYSUT Courses

The following NYSUT courses available for weighted credit. You may register for these courses at www.nysut.org. Please remember you must also register on *MY LEARNING PLAN* at least 10 days prior to the course. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Barbara Lieberman at (631)249-0773, ext. 13.



1. Brain Compatible Classroom ENY 714
2. Writing as Learning ENY 728
3. Assessment for Student Learning EDU 678



WE'RE MAKING STRIDES AGAIN!

The FFT will once again be participating in the American Cancer Society's "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk" at Jones Beach. It will be held on **Sunday, October 18th**. Please save the date and join us, as it may one day save lives.

To join the team, please send your name and building to James Hughes at the High School. Please contact us if you are interested in helping out in this great event. Come join the team for coffee and a walk on the boardwalk together. Two hours of your time can make a difference in the fight against breast cancer. If you are unable to walk with us, please make a donation to this cause.

CONTRACT CORNER *With Christine Sarni*

If you have questions or concerns regarding possible contract violations, contact your Building Representative or the FFT Office.

These 'bread and butter' items were gained in our contract through many years of negotiating by our former and current union leaders. Many other Long Island locals do not enjoy these working condition items that the FFT contract has contained for many years.

Class size – Our contract states that every effort shall be made to schedule and maintain class sizes as follows: Kindergarten – 25; General level or Similar Achievement Level – 20; Grade 1 – 29; Special Classes – 15; All other Classes – 30; Physical Education – 40.

Teaching Hours – The length of the school day for teachers grades K through 12 shall not exceed seven (7) hours. All teachers shall be entitled to an uninterrupted duty-free lunch period of not less than forty (40) minutes.

Teaching Assignments

Every effort shall be made for teachers in departmentalized areas to teach not more than three (3) classes or duties in succession and never more than four (4) in succession. Every effort shall be made to schedule teachers in non-departmentalized areas (grades 1-12) to no more than 120 consecutive minutes of instruction and/or duty periods.

We are continually updating our member list database at the union office. In order to serve you better, if you have a name, address or e-mail change, please contact James Hughes at the FFT office (631)249-0773, ext. 19, or by e-mail at fftlocal1889@aol.com.

FFT Buy/Need– Lines

If you would like to place an ad in the FFT Buy-Lines/Need Lines, please send all information, including a personal contact number to: Barbara Lieberman to fftlocal1889@aol.com or call (631)249-0773, ext. 13.

Oktoberfest Happy Hour

Let's toast each other for a great start to the school year.

Come join us at the
Black Forest Brewhaus

There will be drink specials, food and 50/50 raffles to raise money for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk

Friday, October 2

3 pm until ???

