



Happenings

Affiliated with NYSUT, AFT #2937, AFL-CIO

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Message from the President

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It is hard to believe that the holiday season is behind us and we are into a New Year.

PJTA Dues 2012

PJTA dues that were paid in 2012 were \$651.70.

American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012

The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, which pulled the nation back from the brink of the "fiscal cliff," preserves the educator expense deduction.

Elementary and secondary-school educators can deduct up to \$250 for school books, supplies, computer equipment or other materials purchased with their own money.

See the flier attached for more information!

Food Drive

Our post-holiday food drive is coming to a close. Please be generous!

Holiday Toy Drive

I want to thank you all for your generosity in contributing to the Holiday Toy Drive.

2013-2014 Calendar

A rough draft has been printed for the 2013-2014 school year. PJTA will be reviewing it. Some of our members had already seen it and addressed their concerns at this month's meeting.

President's Message

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Salary Adjustment Form

Once you have completed an approved graduate course or 45 hours of an approved in-service course(s), you must submit a salary adjustment claim form, the prior approval form, and an official college transcript to the district office before February 1st.

Seniority List

The seniority list has been distributed to each of the Head Building Representatives. Please see your (HBR) to ensure that the list is accurate. You receive 365 days for each year of employment. Example: 365 days x 10 years of service = 3,650 days.

*If you were on unpaid leave you must subtract those days from your total amount. Example: 365 days x 10 years of service = 3,650 – 100 days unpaid leave = 3,550 days. An example of this situation would be someone who went on unpaid child care leave.

If you find an error after reading the seniority list, contact Barbara Hamilton at the district office.

Heating System

I addressed the concerns everyone had on the regulation of heat in the building. Since it has been below freezing for the past few days, some of the blowers have been blowing cold air. Maintenance is looking into this problem.

February Representative Meeting Assembly Date

We have moved the date of the meeting to Monday, February 11th due to meetings on Mondays and President's Weekend.

Happy New Year!

Regis Foster



Benefits Bulletin 2013, No. 1

K-12 Educators Can Still Deduct up to \$250 for School Supplies

The *American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012*, which pulled the nation back from the brink of the "fiscal cliff," contains a provision of note to K-12 educators: the educator expense deduction.

Elementary and secondary-school educators can deduct up to \$250 for school books, supplies, computer equipment or other materials purchased with their own money. This deduction is available to K-12 teachers, aides, counselors, instructors and principals. Without the "fiscal cliff" legislation, the educator expense deduction would have expired at the end of 2011.

For more information:

IRSTopic 458 - Educator Expense Deduction: <http://www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc458.html>.

Full text of the *American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012*: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-112hr8eas/pdf/BILLS-112hr8eas.pdf>.

U.S. News and World Report: "Fiscal Cliff Averted: What That Means for You and Your Taxes," January 7, 2013: <http://money.usnews.com/money/blogs/my-money/2013/01/07/fiscal-cliff-averted-what-that-means-for-you-and-your-taxes>.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact John Abraham at 202/393-8644 or Amy Clary at 202/879-4428, both of the AFT Research and Strategic Initiatives Department.