



Rush-Henrietta  
Employees' Association  
Teachers Chapter  
Volume 12 Issue 3  
June 2011

# RH TEACHER

## PRESIDENTS CORNER

I am going to end our last newsletter of the year by sticking to my theme of leadership as we enter the summer with uncertainty. Especially, regarding the new APPR regulations which the state is determined to push through no matter what the consequences, intended or unintended. John Wooden, the famous UCLA basketball coach, used to tell his college basketball players, "Show me what you can do, don't tell me what you can do." It is time for the teachers in our district to show the district (collaboratively) what we can do in regards to leading our profession. To emphasize my point I would like to share the following story by John Maxwell, which illustrates the principal of doing versus telling. A newly hired traveling salesman wrote his first sales report to the home office. It so stunned the brass in the sales department because it was obvious that the new sales person was ignorant. Here is what he wrote: *"I seen this outfit which they ain't never bot a dime's worth of nothing from us and sole them some goods. I'm now goin to Chicawgo."* Before the man could be given the heave-ho by the sales manager, along came this letter from Chicago: *"I cam here and sole them haff a millyon."* Fearful if he did, and afraid if he didn't fire the ignorant salesman, the sales manager dumped the problem in the lap of the company president. The following morning the ivory towered sales department members were amazed to see posted on the bulletin board - above the two letters written by the ignorant salesman - this memo from the president. *"We ben spending two much time trying to spel instead of tryin to sel. Let's watch those sails. I want everybody should read these letters from Gooch who is on the rode doin a grate job for us and you should go out and do like he done."*

We have an opportunity to go out and "sell" this summer. The Superintendent has invited RHEA to attend the Summer Administrative Meetings. I would love as many members as possible to attend one or as many of the meeting as possible. I know many of you volunteered to be part of the strategic planning process and APPR. Well, now is the time! Here are the dates:

- July 20, *Strategic Planning Forum*, Burger MS, 1:00 to 5:00 pm
- August 8, *Elementary Schools Forum*, TOC, 8:00 to 11:30 am
- August 8, *Secondary Schools Forum*, TOC, 1:00 to 4:30 pm
- August 9, *Leadership Development Forum (Collaborative Inquiry)*, TOC, 8 am to 1 pm
- August 10, *Leadership Development Forum (APPR Implementation)*, TOC, 8 am to 1 pm

Please let me know if you are interested in attending any of the meetings and participating. I will need to RSVP with the District. I look forward to seeing many of you at the meetings as we take a lead role in regards to our profession. Last, I want to thank everyone who voted in the recent RHEA elections. I am honored to represent you for the next two years. I would like to congratulate Nancy Kula, Adam Huck, Bob Graham, and Rich Walker who were also elected to serve on the Executive Council as officers. Enjoy your summer, you deserve it!

Professionally and in unity,  
Brad Crooks  
President, RHEA Teacher's Chapter



## New RHEA Website Has Arrived!

### Communications Update

By: Adam Huck

Since the last *R-H Teacher*, I have worked hard to bring a new website to RHEA. The reason for this is twofold. First, I wanted to find a more economical alternative to the service we were using. Second, I wanted members to have a more user-friendly experience when viewing our site. The new site accomplishes both of these goals. Our new website service is not only FREE to RHEA, but also much easier and faster to update. Our new site houses all of the same features of our old site, but many new features as well. Please go to [ny.aft.org/rhea](http://ny.aft.org/rhea) and make sure to update your favorites!

Some useful features of our new site include:

- **Calendar:** Keep track of upcoming events, meetings, and more!
- **About Us:** Find your building rep. and learn the history of AFT
- **GET INVOLVED!:** Find many great ways for all members, tenured and non-tenured, to get involved in your union and have your voice heard
- **Member Benefits:** Use this page to find benefits from NYSUT, AFT, and NEA (for example: insurance, health club memberships, travel, and much more!)
- **New Teacher Information:** Did you know that you could get some, or all, of your student loan forgiven, just for working at R-H? Also, find answers to frequently asked questions!
- **Retirement Information:** If you are nearing retirement, you can find a retirement calculator and other useful steps to help you prepare for life after R-H

Remember to go to [ny.aft.org/rhea](http://ny.aft.org/rhea) for these and many more useful resources.

### Social Networking

Our Facebook and Twitter pages remain a popular destination for members to find current information, articles, and other resources. If you have an account on either of these sites, please check out our page and consider following us. The addresses are listed below.

As a reminder, while these sites are great for gathering information and communicating with friends, family, and colleagues, dangers do exist for those that choose to use them. Many teachers across the country have gotten into hot water (many through no fault of their own) because of posts on these sites. If you choose to have an account on Facebook and/or Twitter, please double check your security and privacy settings as well as continue to use common sense in your postings. While there are no clear guidelines, a good rule of thumb is to not post anything you wouldn't want your mother to see!

[ny.aft.org/rhea](http://ny.aft.org/rhea)

[www.facebook.com/RHEATeachers](http://www.facebook.com/RHEATeachers)

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RH Teacher  
Official publication of the Rush-Henrietta Employees' Association, Teachers' Chapter. Affiliated with New York State United Teachers, American Federation of Teachers & AFL-CIO.

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