Enjoying the New Office:

WCT Open House

Visitors arrived at Heritage Square between 2 PM and 6 PM to see the new WCT Office. The invitations were not limited to WCT members. Some non-WCT visitors were: Superintendent Richard Powell, District lawyer John Donoghue, Director of Human Resources Joanne Sereda, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Dr. R. Lloyd Jaeger, and Van Wyck Principal Steve Schuchat. A number of retirees attended the event, as well as WFW President Debra Cassidy, and the first WCT president, Ralph Capasso.

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UPCOMING 2006 BOARD MEETINGS

February: 27th
March: 13th & 27th
April: 3rd & 25th
May: 8th & 22nd
Congratulations to NBTC Recipients Virginia White and Terry Brusco

As the Representative Assembly met on January 31, 2006, WCT President, Pasquale Delli Carpini, congratulated two WCT members on receiving National Board Teacher Certification. Virginia White (BR) and Terry Brusco (OG) were recognized by the union representatives and presented with gifts. To enhance the festivities, cake and coffee were served.

NYSUT President Visits Fishkill Plains

New York State United Teachers President Richard Iannuzzi visited Fishkill Plains on Friday, January 27, 2006. While at the school, he met with the principal Sylvia Epstein. He then proceeded to take a tour of the building. President Iannuzzi stopped to talk to the students in Mr. Schwartz’s third grade class, wanting to know what the children were learning at that time. He also wanted their opinions about the new third grade ELA tests. Mr. Iannuzzi then visited Mr. McCaffrey’s fourth grade class in the library and sat right next to the students. He also wanted to know their opinions about the state tests. President Iannuzzi was very well-spoken and a delight to meet. We were thrilled that he came to our school.
Ralph and Janet Capasso Scholarship

The WCT, in conjunction with the Wappingers Congress of Retired Teachers, is offering three $1500 scholarships to seniors presently enrolled in any public or private high school who are planning to attend college in the fall of 2006. To be eligible, candidates must have a parent or legal guardian who is a member in good standing of the WCT. The selection process for these awards will require the following:

- an application
- an essay
- a high school transcript
- one letter of recommendation
- a personal interview for the finalists

Applications are available in the WCT office. Please call 227-5065 to request an application, or pick it up directly. To be considered, applications must reach the WCT office no later than 5 p.m. on April 7, 2006.

Committee members are: Nancy Beiner, Caroline V. Hernandez, Norma Najjar, Linda Sprance, and Ceris Valesey.

WCT Shirt Orders Being Accepted

Shirt forms available online at...
http://nysut.org/wappingers/shirtform.pdf

(Kinry teachers were the first members to receive WCT shirts. Modeling the sports shirts from left to right: Kim Woods, Tom Rogers, and Meredith Inkeles)
FAQs

What are the guidelines for taking a personal day?

At least two days’ notice to the sub service is required to take a personal day. Call the service, or go online - you do not have to explain yourself to anyone, because your business is personal. However, be aware that there are some limitations on days before or after vacations or long weekends.

The only time you need approval from a building principal or superintendent is when there is an emergency and you are under the two-day time requirement. For example, if you wake up one school morning, and your boiler broke and your basement is filled with water, you do have to call your principal.

To see all of the specifics associated with this type of leave, consult article 11.5 in the contract on page 21, or go online at http://wappingerschools.org/HumanResources/Contracts/WCT0106.pdf on page 23.

Fishkill Plains Elementary School “Pennies for Patients”

By Denise Lombardi

Fishkill Plains Elementary School participated in the “Pennies for Patients” fundraiser, a wonderful educational tool for children to learn about leukemia, as well as rewarding themselves with a feeling of accomplishment in helping to find a cure for those less fortunate. During the three-week period, January 9 - January 27, students, faculty, and staff collected change in their classrooms. It was exciting to see everyone working together to help put an end to the number one child-killing disease.

The total collected was $983.07. Congratulations to Ms. Dell’s 5th grade class, who collected a total of $93.28! They will receive a pizza party.

A very special “THANK YOU” to all the wonderful children, parents, faculty, and staff at Fishkill Plains for making “Pennies for Patients” a very successful fundraiser!

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(Continued on page 6)
MEMBERS’ CLASSIFIED ADS (continued from page 5)

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Ladies’ embroidered sports shirt – size 2X: $28.50
Unisex t-shirt – sizes S to XL: $7
Unisex t-shirt – sizes 2X, 3X, 4X, & 5X: $8

Please return this form to the WCT Office or to your senior building rep ASAP. Write your checks payable to Wappingers Congress of Teachers.

Name: ____________________________
School: __________________________
Sports Shirt: 
Men’s _____ QTY. _____ 
Size(s) _____
Ladies’ _____ QTY. _____
Size(s) _____
T-shirt: 
Size(s) _____ QTY. _____

*TOTAL amount enclosed: __________________________