



*A Newsletter by and for HEC Instructors, Assistant Teachers & OT, PT, Speech Assistants
July 2004*

Making the First Steps Towards Our Contract

HEC Union Bargaining Committee

The summer is here! Whether you are working for HEC this summer or whether you are working somewhere else or taking time off and returning this fall, we hope you are having an excellent summer.

Thank you for helping nominate us as your union bargaining committee! (Please see the reverse side for our contact information). We are looking forward to representing you and your interests at the bargaining table. We are happy to report that we are making the first steps towards negotiating a union contract for all HEC alternative learning program and vocational program direct care employees in the union's bargaining unit: instructors, assistant teachers, occupational, speech and physical therapy assistants, and substitutes. The collective bargaining process with HEC management will begin soon, perhaps as early as August. We recently indicated to HEC management our intent to begin the bargaining process, and we are waiting to hear from them regarding the first dates and locations for negotiations.

Currently we are meeting each week to review copies of other UAW and special education school union contracts and contract worksheet to begin forming the basic proposals to present to HEC management when contract bargaining begins. Our union contract covers wages, hours of work, and working conditions.

Although "working conditions" refers to many aspects of our workplace like breaks, health benefits, seniority, and severance, you may be surprised to know what else it encompasses; please let us know what protections and benefits you want on your job!

The best way we can now represent your interests and communicate your concerns to management – and win the fair contract we all deserve – is for you to let us know what you want in your union contract! We need to hear from you! Also, please contact any one of us at the phone numbers we have provided in this newsletter!

Thank you, and we look forward to representing each and every one of you at the bargaining table.

Have You Returned Your Contract Survey Yet?

The survey is the best way for you us to ensure that your voice is heard during contract negotiations right now. Please return it!

If you need another copy of the contract survey, or have any questions, please contact Tim Scott at UAW Local 2322 in Holyoke; 1-800-682-0269, or (413) 883-1411. Thanks!

UAW Local 2322
252 Open Square Way, #406
Holyoke, MA 01040
(800) 682-0269

Your HEC Union Bargaining Committee

Please contact us and tell us how you would like to improve our work,
our workplace, and the education of our students at the
Hampshire Educational Collaborative!



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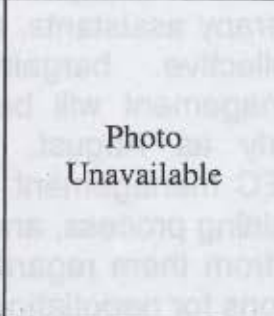
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HEC Union supporter
who attended our last
committee meeting



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