

## November 9, 2009

- **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – REMINDER \*\*\*** Our **General Membership Meeting** is scheduled for Thursday, November 12, 2009 at Wilcox THS on Oregon Road, Meriden. The meeting will begin at 6:30 PM. Your attendance is needed; please make plans to come to this very important meeting.
- **ELI WHITNEY RENOVATION** – In response to the delayed renovation money for Eli Whitney, SVFT leadership has met with a New Haven Register reporter at Eli Whitney on Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. The reporter plans to release an article regarding Whitney on Sunday, Nov 15<sup>th</sup>. On Wednesday, Nov 18<sup>th</sup>, SVFT leadership plans to attend the question/answer meeting being held at Whitney. The interim superintendent Pat Ciccone has also been invited to attend.
  - Also on Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, SVFT leadership attended the New Haven Manufacturers Association meeting; in which Deputy Commissioner Coleman discuss “Producing a Suitable Workforce in Public Schools”. Deputy Commissioner Coleman informed us that he has written a letter to Governor Rell regarding the Whitney renovation delay.
  - Leadership is finalizing a letter to Governor Rell to express our displeasure and ask for answers – appropriate Senators and Representatives will also be copied.
- **SUPPLIES** – We continue to hear that teachers are having difficulty obtaining supply money. This topic was raised at the CTHSS/Sub Board meeting on Oct 14<sup>th</sup> to the board members and the commissioner, as well as the administrator’s meeting held at the SVFT office on October 27<sup>th</sup>. The superintendent has informed us that principals have been given supply money to distribute. At the November council meeting we discussed this issue and asked for suggestions [see link on our home page].
- **SENIORITY LIST** – A draft copy of the seniority list has been e-mailed to the home and school e-mail addresses of each building representative. A final copy should be available prior to January 1<sup>st</sup>. Once finalized, a copy will be posted on SVFT website. Every member is encouraged to review and notify the SVFT office with errors, omissions or changes that need to be made to the list.
- **MEMBERSHIP LIST** – A SVFT membership list for each school has been provided to each building rep at the November council meeting. Building reps have been asked to review the membership list for errors and omissions and report back to SVFT office.
- **POWERTEACHER** – We have received a response from Mr. Lombardi in regards to the list of teacher concerns presented at the Labor Management meeting Oct 9<sup>th</sup>. Please see the November Vocational Instructor Extra (distributed at November Council Meeting and posted on our website) for more information on PowerTeacher.
- **SCHOOL VISITS** – We continue with school visits. In October we made visits to Bristol, Abbott, Norwich, Whitney and O’Brien, and in November we have plans to visit Bullard-Havens, Ellis, Vinal, Kaynor, and Windham. The remaining 7 schools will be visited in December. As a visit to your school approaches, a letter will be sent to the Principal and the union reps in your building. Please see your rep regarding any issues or concerns prior to our visit.
- **SUPERINTENDENT MEETING** – SVFT leadership met with administration on Friday, Nov 6<sup>th</sup> at Central Office. Agenda items included; **lack of school supplies**, update on Eli

Whitney, low enrollment plans and shop selection process, district-wide trimester exams, system vacancies, field trips, steering committees, and a number of other items.

- **WEBSITE UPDATE** – SVFT leadership met with Paul Lucuk, the communications coordinator, on Monday, November 02, 2009 to review progress and outline changes needed to our existing website. Plans continue to move forward on the new website.