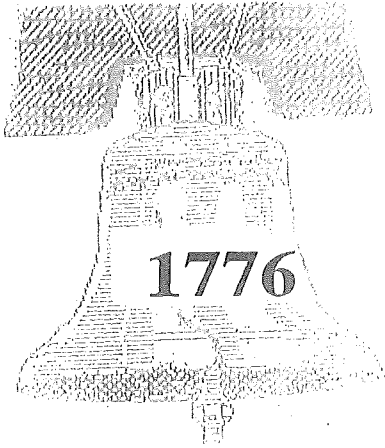


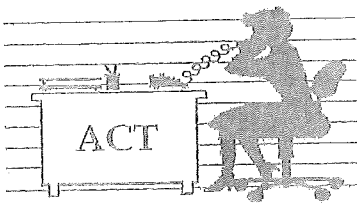
# THE

The Newspaper of Local 1776  
The Association of Catholic Teachers



# SPIRIT '76 OF

1700 SANSOM STREET - SUITE 903 - PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103 - 215-568-4175 - VOLUME XXXIII- NO. 7  
Fax 215-568-8270 - email ([nacst.nacst@verizon.net](mailto:nacst.nacst@verizon.net)) - web site ([www.act1776.com](http://www.act1776.com)) - July-August 2013



## From The President's Desk

### MID-SUMMER UPDATE

Summer is going by too quickly, as usual. I hope you have all been enjoying the break.

The ACT Staff has been working on various issues and problems, including grievances, as well as answering teachers' questions on any number of topics. Below is an update of many of the items on which we have been working.

The Constriction numbers have improved a bit. At the present time, fifteen teachers are still without permanent positions. There should be some additional retirements and resignations during August, and, hopefully, some schools will receive additional teachers. We would like to see everyone back to work by September.

On June 19, the Association's Executive Board wrote to the CEO of the Faith in the Future Foundation in regard to his **5,3,2,1 Plan** with its goal of student happiness but no mention of Catholic identity or Gospel values. All ACT members received a copy of the letter. To date, there has been quite a bit of positive reaction to my letter from teachers, but, strangely, no response of any kind from the CEO of the Foundation, the Foundation or anyone from the Archdiocese or the School System.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

## FROM THE PRESIDENT. . .

There were a number of questions from teachers, and rightly so, when the Archdiocese published its financial report for 2011-2012, showing a sizable Lay Employees' Retirement Plan shortfall. The ACT Staff had met with Tim O'Shaughnessy, the Archdiocesan CFO, who had told us about the upcoming report. ACT's representative on the Pension Board of Trustees had also informed us of what had happened. Both Mr. O'Shaughnessy and Ellen Donato informed us that the Trustees had taken action as soon as they were aware of the shortfall. One thing they did was to increase the contribution rate from the parishes, agencies and schools.

As soon as the report was released, ACT contacted the Vice Chairman of the Pension Board and requested a copy of the latest actuarial statement as well as the annual audit. We now have the actuarial statement and will receive a copy of the audit for 2012-13 when it has been completed. ACT's attorney is also reviewing the documents.

The Association is being told that the Archdiocese is expecting a much-improved report for 2012-2013. We will continue to monitor the Plan and will get information to you as it becomes available to us.

On July 23, Irene and I had lunch with the new Secretary for Catholic Education, Christopher Mominey. Both the lunch and the conversation were enjoyable. It was, basically, a getting-to-know-you time.

Just a reminder to everyone about the August 28 local school In-Service Day. By contract, this day is added as of this year as part of the 190 days. Since this is a professional development day, I contacted the Superintendent to ask about Act 48 credits. I was told that there will be a minimum of 3 hours and possibly more depending upon the programs run in the individual schools.

As we prepare to return to our students, please be aware that this will be a negotiating year. I have spoken with everyone who is part of Archdiocesan decision-making about the benefits of an Early Bird contract this time around. We will be formalizing the request in early fall.

Happy August. Happy New School Year.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rita". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.

# Salaries and Stipends 2013-2014 School Year

Salary                      There is a pay increase of \$1600 over the 2012-2013 salary.

Beginning with the first pay of the 2013-2014 school year (September 13, 2013), all teachers will be paid by direct deposit.

Moderators	Less than 900 students	\$1,975
	900 or more students	\$2,175
	40 Hours	\$750

Department Heads	\$2,575
TV Directors	\$1,550
Computer Resource Persons (if exist)	\$1,750

**UNION DUES**  
**2013-2014**

\$538.30  
\$25.63 per pay  
beginning with the pay of September 13, 2013  
and ending with the pay of June 20, 2014  
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**SERVICE FEE**  
**2013-2014**

\$430.64  
\$21.53 per pay  
beginning with the pay of September 27, 2013  
and ending with the pay of June 20, 2014

# Congratulations!

Congratulations to Cardinal O'Hara Science teacher, Senior Delegate and ACT Executive Secretary, Tom Imburgia, who was voted the *Coollest Teacher at Cardinal O'Hara high School*, according to votes submitted to WMMR, 93.3 radio on June 7, 2013.

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Congratulations to Carol Snowden, teacher and Social Studies Department Head at St. Hubert. Carol was highlighted in the June 12, 2013 issue of the *Northeast Times*. Carol celebrated her fiftieth anniversary of graduating from St. Hubert and marched with her classmates as one of the "Golden Girls" at St. Hubert's graduation ceremony this year.



From: John J. Reilly Scholarship Award Winners

"Each year, the Association's Executive Board awards a \$500 Scholarship to the 9<sup>th</sup> grader in each Archdiocesan high school and at Holy Cross High School, Delran, New Jersey who has the highest general average as of the end of the first semester. If that student is already on scholarship, it is given to the highest student not receiving financial assistance. The \$500 Scholarship is sent to each school to be applied to the student's 10<sup>th</sup> grade tuition."

Dear Ms. Schwartz,

What a surprise I had upon learning I was a recipient of the Association of Catholic Teachers scholarship, awarded to freshmen class students enrolled in Archdiocese of Philadelphia high schools. Our principal at Archbishop Carroll High School, Mr. Denelsbeck, informed me of this honor just prior to our school's Honors' Convocation celebration. It was the highlight of a very special evening for me!

I am most grateful to the Association for this award and was heartened to discover this scholarship tradition within the Association of Catholic Teachers committees. Students, such as myself who work hard to achieve good grades in school, are encouraged when our efforts and dedication are recognized by others.

With much appreciation, I have learned the scholarship award has been credited to my next year's tuition account, and I sincerely thank you for this academic scholarship honor.

Kind regards,  
*Breda Marie Brady*