

*Douglas County
Federation of Teachers
November, 2006*

Rapping Paper

Phone: 303-688-3381

FAX: 303-688-1039

DCFT.net



President, Brenda Smith answers questions from the membership on November 2, 2006.

More than 80 members of the Douglas County Federation attended the first annual DCF combined certified/classified General Membership meeting on November 2, 2006 at the Douglas County Events Center. Brenda Smith, President, along with members of both Executive Councils spoke to the certified/classified members about issues concerning membership. Joe Goldhammer, counsel for DCF, spoke to members about legal issues confronting all working staff members in public schools from custodians, to transportation assistants, to teachers in the classrooms. He stressed the fact that all people employed by the District should belong to the Union to be assured of legal counsel, should the need arise.

Greg Spearman, Liberty Mutual, and Chris Kolker, AXA, gave short presentations about the types of services and opportunities offered to members of DCF.

Dinner was followed by a presentation by Joe Goldhammer, legal counsel to DCF. Joe stressed the importance of being a member of the Union.

Douglas County Federation Holds First Annual Certified/Classified General Membership Meeting

Amy Hunter, from the American Federation of Teachers, spoke to members about the upcoming elections and how critical it is for membership to have a voice and to have that voice heard by voting.

Brenda continued the meeting by providing information concerning some of the issues facing certified and classified personnel in Douglas County – among them being the 2007-08 calendar, the DCSD waiver request from the Colorado Department of Education and Infinite Campus. Members' questions and concerns were addressed and documents were made available to help answer some of the questions.

Greg Spearman ended the meeting by holding a drawing for those present. Each winner received a set of binoculars.



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Joanne Slanovich
801 S. Perry Street
Suite 140
Castle Rock, Colorado
80104

PHONE:
303-688-3381

FAX:
303-688-1039

WEBSITE:
DCFT.net



*"Making Teachers
Better Teachers"*



Jody Papini Shares ER&D Expertise With Staff/Students at South Elementary

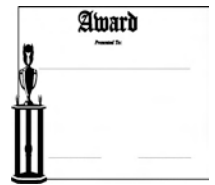
Jody Papini, a Thinking Mathematics trainer for DCF, has spent the last two years helping students and staff, at South Elementary, take full advantage of their new math series. Jody has conducted a series of on-site sessions with teachers. During the sessions, Jody has modeled lessons, conducted grade level discussions, talked with students, and examined how the adopted math materials can be used in the most effective way.

Jody will continue mentoring the staff and modeling lessons with students throughout this year. Such guidance provides an opportunity for Jody to share her expertise as a National Trainer for AFT's Thinking Mathematics.

Educator Awards/Grants

Award for Literacy Educators

The National Center for Family Literacy/Toyota Family Literacy Teacher of the Year Award is given to an educator who demonstrates exemplary efforts in family literacy to help parents and children achieve their academic, personal and professional goals. (Parent and Child Together (PACT) Time).
http://www.famlit.org/site/c.gtJWJdMQIsE/b.2014417/k.CBF7/Toyota_Family_Literacy_Teacher_of_the_Year_Award.htm



Educational Grants

Grants for Outstanding Science Educators

Toyota TAPESTRY grants recognize outstanding educators who are making a difference by demonstrating excellence and creativity in science teaching.
<http://www.nsta.org/programs/tapestry>

Upcoming Events

November 23 – 24 Thanksgiving Holiday

December 1 Executive Board Meeting

**December 18 to
January 2 Winter Break**

