

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope this first newsletter of the 2018-2019 school year finds all of our members well and settled in to the new school year. As we approach the holiday season, I can't help but count my blessings, those in my personal life as well as my professional life. And although the past few months for me, personally, and for the UTS in general, has been a time of change, adaptation and, some might say, tumult,

I truly believe that getting through the difficult times can only lead to growth and a greater understanding of where we have been and where we want to go in the future, both as individuals and as unionists.

Some might say that at this point in time, the UTS stands divided and not united. And some might further say that that this division has arisen from the recent contract vote. However, the fact

that we are able to conduct a contract vote and not have our working conditions dictated to us by management, just reinforces for me the value of being union. No matter how you voted on the recent contract proposals, the bottom line is, each and every one of us, by virtue of our union membership, has the right to vote on what we believe should be in our contract. If we didn't have the right to collectively bargain, we wouldn't be discussing whether or not certain contractual changes are worth proposed percent raises and health insurance contributions. Without that right, the district could simply dictate changes in working conditions and there would be no sitting down at the table to bargain.

As we move forward in the process of negotiations, we will continue to reach out to our rank and file members as well as our

executive board to gain insight from all of our members. The negotiating team is currently compiling information from other districts regarding recent contract settlements. When we have completed gathering and compiling that information, it will be distributed to the membership.

At this very busy and hectic time of the year, my hope for each and every UTS member is that you are able to fully experience and appreciate the joys and blessings of this holiday season with your family and friends. Wishing all of our members and their families an enjoyable holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year.

In unity,
Margaret Glancy



thankful

UTS LATEST NEWS

The following are highlights from the UTS monthly meetings. Full minutes are posted at seafordteachers.com:

October Highlights

- Welcome to Brian Horner, the new Building Rep for the Middle School!

- NYSUT Workshops are coming up - information will be forwarded to the Exec Board

- Matt Adler and Keri Degan will be going to the leadership conference on 10/27.

- Email going out this week regarding posted positions for PAC and the PR event planning team. There will be one representative from each building.

- Retirement workshop with Ron will be moved up to 11/13/18 (last year was in the Spring). Time and location TBD.

- Vice President - Maura Coghlan: Hot Chocolate Run will be on 12/1/18. Volunteers will be needed to sign people in. Hot chocolate, bagels, and tshirts will be provided.

- The tshirt order over the summer went well. Almost all of the money laid out has been paid back. He's planning another order for the Spring.

- He's going to look into replacing the banner because it has the old logo.

- Harbor- Maureen Sabella reported that the new Special Ed director is telling parents that therapy

sessions will be made up within 7-10 days when the therapist is absent. This is an issue because therapists do not get subs, do not have make-up time allotted in their schedules, and have to comply with IEP mandates with group sizes if doing make-ups.

- High School - Linda Karanek



Tom's family receives the horrible news.

reported that new teachers at the high school are required to submit full, typed lesson plans every two weeks on Fridays (reduced from one month to two weeks after checking with other schools). The chairpeople addressed it with administration and nothing was changed. Margaret will bring it up to Central TAC.

- Manor - AnnMarie Motisi asked for follow-up regarding teachers being called in for less than 12

absences and that the number for calling people in was not consistent between schools. Central reportedly did not see it as being "unreasonable" to call people in after 12 absences. Margaret is going to bring in up to Central.

Negotiations: Survey results were discussed and the building reps shared some concerns that they have received from the members.

- Vice President - Dan Hayden Handed out a packet on recent contract settlements in the area and a worksheet of salaries at different levels per district. Matt Adler reported what %ile Seaford fell into for each level.

- If MA 75 is added to the salary schedule, it would put Seaford above the middle of the list for Nassau County.

- Building reps make this information available for members for reference, but it will not be copied and handed out.

- PAC - Ed Kent (via text): Election Day is approaching, consider voting for NYSUT

endorsed candidates.

- Phone banks will be organized, date TBD, 3-7pm(ish)

- Building Sponsored Events - check with Ed regarding the Argyle Theatre-Babylon Village

- Retirement Party - possibly 6/20, looking into other dates that might work.

TREASURERS REPORT

Budget Summary Report 10/1/18 through 11/16/18

Category	Budget	Actual	Difference
Dues	\$255,006.00	\$48,879.60	\$206,126.40
Interest Earned	\$26.00	\$4.14	\$21.86
Misc. Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vote Cope	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Total Income	\$257,032.00	\$48,883.74	\$208,148.26

Category	Budget	Actual	Difference
Accountant	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Affiliations	\$137,106.00	\$13,291.52	\$123,814.48
Bank Charges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Communications	\$1,100.00	\$150.00	\$950.00
Conferences	\$4,000.00	\$176.00	\$3,824.00
Member Benefits	\$9,000.00	\$516.94	\$8,483.06
Misc. Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Negot/Griev	\$2,500.00	\$214.13	\$2,285.87
Office Expenses	\$2,300.00	\$275.37	\$2,024.63
Political Action	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Public Relations	\$11,500.00	\$975.00	\$10,525.00
Stipends	\$80,842.00	\$0.00	\$80,842.00
Total Expenses	\$254,848.00	\$15,598.96	\$239,249.04

Net Worth as of 11/16/18

Account Balances:	
Checking	\$125,218.22
Savings	\$54,387.91



Shopping & travel benefits designed for NYSUT members

NYSUT members and their loved ones have access to dozens of endorsed shopping, travel & personal programs available through NYSUT Member Benefits. And unlike with purchasing products available to the general public, there's no need to go it alone when Member Benefits has your back.

Member Benefits acts as your advocate for any program you participate in, and we'll do our best to quickly resolve any issues or concerns you may have. Whether you are participating in one of our shopping/entertainment/travel offerings; auto, homeowners or life insurance plans; or financial or legal services, NYSUT members have the **"Power of the Union"** behind them.

The following is just a small sampling of the endorsed programs available to the NYSUT membership.

Purchasing Power Member Shopping Program

Are you looking to purchase a new laptop computer, washer/dryer or refrigerator? The Purchasing Power Member Shopping Program allows NYSUT members to purchase products such as these and many more while paying for them through the ease of payroll deduction or ACH withdrawals. NYSUT members save 20% on their first order with Purchasing Power.

Abenity Discounts

Seeking exclusive member discounts on tickets to the latest blockbuster movies or theater events, the hottest concerts & sporting events, or the coolest theme parks & attractions? NYSUT members have access to thousands of nationwide and local discounts with the Abenity Discounts program. Abenity also offers an app for iPhone or Android smartphones available at no charge.

Grand Circle Travel

The Grand Circle Cruise Line & Grand Circle Travel program is committed to providing international travel, adventure and discovery opportunities that offer impactful and intercultural experiences. This program offers NYSUT members and their loved ones the opportunity to save \$100 per person on tours or receive a discounted rate on specific trips if acting as a group organizer.

Cambridge Credit Counseling

NYSUT members are eligible to receive free, no-obligation debt and student loan consultations with one of Cambridge's certified counselors. Cambridge also offers a unique web portal available at a reduced rate that can help explain the various options when paying down student debt, including student loan forgiveness programs, income-based repayment options and more.

The Power of the Union

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call **800-626-8101**.



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

Nov./Dec. 2018

EDUCATION NEWS

We Told You We Would Remember

Author: Matt Smith

Source: NYSUT Communications

Don't mess with NYSUT.

If you run for office and call dedicated, hard-working educators and health-care workers “forces of evil” — as Republican Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan did a month before Election Day — our members will remember.

If you refuse to address the state's broken and unfair teacher-evaluation and standardized testing system, our members will remember.

And if you insist on catering to the billionaire-backed charter industry at the expense of New York's students, our members will remember.

“If there is one takeaway from this election, it's that NYSUT members pay attention — and they vote,” NY-

SUT President Andy Pallotta said.

In the same way NYSUT members remembered who didn't stand by students and teachers, they also remembered those who did — staffing phone banks and working tirelessly on behalf of those candidates. In the end, the union's motivated membership was instrumental in flipping control of the state Senate, and electing a majority of pro-public education candidates. Consider:

95 percent of the union's endorsed candidates for Assembly won (137 endorsements, 130 wins — including NYSUT's own Monica Wallace and Patrick Burke)

88 percent of NYSUT's endorsed candidates for state Senate won (40 endorsements, 35 wins)

81 percent of NYSUT's endorsed candidates for Congress won (26

endorsements, 21 wins)

The show of force by NYSUT members — proving they are a “force of good” — continues the trend of teacher activism nationwide. This past spring, fed-up educators in West Virginia, Arizona and Oklahoma walked off the job, leading successful strikes to force lawmakers in their respective states to raise their pay and invest more in their public schools.

You'd think Sen. Flanagan would have remembered what happened to his fellow Long Islander, U.S. Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, who 21 years earlier attacked teacher tenure and was bounced from office by educators who had enough.

Flanagan didn't remember.

NYSUT members never forget.



BUILDING NEWS

High School:

It pays to go to the UTS luncheon during the years first superintendent conference day! High School science teacher Mary Simon's family enjoyed the day at a LI Ducks game with the tickets she won in the raffle!



Harbor School:

Dress like a superhero day. Part of the Harbor's Red Ribbon Week! Here with Renee Hauser-Enea, Sharon Klein and her intern Colby Siergiej.



Homecoming Parade



UTS TRACT Center

The TRACT catalog is now available. We are excited about many new and pertinent courses!

Please see our website to view our catalog and additional professional development opportunities available at neighboring centers.

TRACT is hosting a virtual, informational workshop in partnership with Stony Brook University. The tentative date is November 28, 2018. We'll discuss Educational Technology Badge Programs - Educational Technology and STEAM!



[Click HERE for Tract Center Website](#)

UTS Trust Fund

For information regarding Dental Benefits, Optical and Major Medical reimbursements and Legal Benefits please visit the UTS website (www.seafordteachers.com).

Danielle Alveari:
Chairperson and Middle School Representative

MaryLou Christensen:
Treasurer and Middle School Representative

James Scourtos:
Secretary and High School Representative

Ann Marie Motisi:
Manor School Representative

Jessica Koudelka:
Harbor School Representative

ARTS (Association of Retired Teachers)

The Association of Retired Teachers of Seaford, known as A.R.T.S., meets twice a year for luncheon meetings. It provides an opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new friends. We have enjoyed each other's company at L.I. Islander games, theater outings and dinner cruises. Twice a year we publish a newsletter for our retired members.

Each year the A.R.T.S. grants a scholarship of \$500 to a graduating Seaford senior who will enter the field of teaching. We also grant a \$50 recognition award to two Seaford Middle School students and we make a yearly donation to the Seaford Patriot Dinner as well as a contribution to the Seaford Scholarship Fund in memory of deceased members.

A.R.T.S. has provided a means to stay in touch with those who were a part of our lives in Seaford for so many years. We look forward to increasing our ranks as more UTS members complete their service to the Seaford School District and enter the wonderful world of retirement.

Want to submit UTS member news?

Write a paragraph description and email to ctripoli@seaford.k12.ny.us.

Please only include photos of UTS members.

