



# Happenings

Affiliated with NYSUT, AFT #2937, AFL-CIO

[www.pjta.us](http://www.pjta.us)

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## Message from the President

### Officers

**President:**

**Regis Foster**

**1st Vice President:**

**Jenny McElroy**

**2nd Vice President:**

**Carol Brown**

**Recording Secretary:**

**Debra Cassara**

**Corresponding/  
Social Secretary:**

**Claire Dillon**

**Treasurer:**

**Joseph Becker**

**Grievance Chair-  
man:**

**Robert Avdoyan**

Everyone can't wait to say goodbye to the cold and freezing winter we have all come across these past few months! Spring will be here before you know it, which, in the world of education, focuses our attention on the issues of the budget and contract negotiations!

### Snow Days Left

We have 6 snow days left in our calendar to date. The district is looking at adding one snow day to the beginning of our spring break, March 18. The district will make a recommendation to the board of education where the other snow days will be placed at a later date.

### Retirement

If you are considering retiring this year, your letter stating your intent to retire must be submitted to Mr. Bongiovi by March 15 in order to take advantage of the unused sick day salary adjustment. You may write a letter and deliver it or send an E-mail to him. Remember, you can be compensated for up to 225 of your sick days. If you would like to donate your sick time to the PJTA sick bank, you may donate up to 10 of your sick days in a letter submitting it to the district.

If you are retiring in June, make sure you contact Nancy Ladonne in the Business Office. There are forms that need to be filled out, which you can get from her.

### Seniority List

I have given a copy of the seniority list to your Head Building Representative (HBR). Please check the list and make sure everything is correct on the list. If you have any questions, please E-mail me your concerns.

## **President's Message**

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### **Representative Assembly March Meeting Date**

The next meeting date will be held on Tuesday, March 15 at 3:45p.m. All PJTA members are welcomed to attend the meeting. The meeting was changed because PJTA is meeting with the district for a negotiation meeting and there is an Orange County Teachers' Association meeting as well on Monday, March 14.

### **Negotiations**

The APPR team has been meeting and has completed a draft for the next three years. New York State Education Department (NYSED) has adopted 3012-d regulations of the teacher evaluation system. Under the NYSED 3012-d regulations, several provisions must now take place come September 1, 2016. Once NYSUT, the district, and NYSED approves it, I will submit it to all of our members.

The negotiation team exchanged proposals and the process officially now begins. Hopefully, the process will go smoothly as we begin.

### **Grievance**

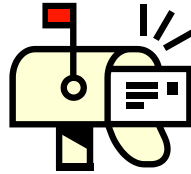
The district was put on notice that they were in violation of the contract in starting negotiations in a timely manner. At first the district said to PJTA that they would not be ready until March 8, but when PJTA put them on notice, the date got changed to February 23.

\*\*\*\*\*Make sure you are checking and keeping records of all correspondence between you, the district, and the New York State Teacher Retirement System (NYSTRS) or the New York State Retirement System (NYSRS). Do NOT take anything for granted if you think you see a mistake!!

### **Stay Warm & United!**

*Regis Foster*

## **Correspondence**



## **Sympathy**

Carol Brown—loss of her father, Thomas O’Keefe  
Jennifer Curreri—loss of her father, Ray Kahmar  
Laurie & Jared Kahmar—loss of his father, Ray Kahmar

## **Congratulations**

Lou Puopolo & wife, Jessica—birth of their daughter, Lia



All applications for the PJTA Scholarship must be submitted by Tuesday, March 1, 2016 to the High School Guidance Office. If you have any questions, contact Carol Brown at ASK.