



Happenings

Affiliated with NYSUT, AFT #2937, AFL-CIO

www.pjta.us

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Message from the President

I hope everyone enjoyed the plenty of family, friends, and food during the Thanksgiving holiday.

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

Negotiations

As you are all aware, the district has declared IMPASSE.

Grievance

PJTA filed a grievance because the district did not pay the advisor, even though the person was board approved, for the club that is listed in our contract. The district is going to pay the advisor for doing the club.

VOTE COPE

VOTE-COPE is an acronym representing the **V**oice **O**f Teachers in **E**ducation, the **C**ommittee **O**n **P**olitical **E**ducation. VOTE-COPE is also referred to as a PAC (Political Action Committee), the non-partisan political action arm of New York State United Teachers. Funded entirely by voluntary contributions from members, VOTE-COPE is used to help union-backed candidates and campaign committees that support education and labor. VOTE-COPE helps strengthen political action programs on all levels - national, state, and local. To help on the local level, VOTE-COPE provides rebates to participating unions for political action. VOTE-COPE funds, by law, are kept separate from those of NYSUT. Decisions on the use of VOTE-COPE contributions are made by a statewide committee. Voluntary VOTE-COPE contributions can be made through payroll deduction during the current campaign, or by writing a check in the spring. Contributions or gifts to VOTE-COPE are not tax deductible.

The building representatives will be around asking for your support again this year.

President's Message

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APPR

Our APPR for this year has been approved by the state. Just a few reminders when going through the APPR process:

Your first observation will be announced and will be the length of an entire period, or lesson.

You are not required to fill out any pre-observation/post observation forms.

Domain 1 should be filled out before you have your first announced observation.

Your second observation will take place during the second half of the year, and it will only be for 10-15 minutes.

The K-2 teachers will have the state assessment portion of their APPR be based on the average Regents' exams of Common Core English, Geometry, Earth Science, Physics, and United States History & Government. For anyone who does not have a state assessment attached to their class, they will use the Fourth grade science test.

Our waiver was approved for us allowing the same administrator to do both your first and second observation.

Toy Drive

For many years, the Port Jervis Teachers' Association has made Christmas more special for many in the Tri-State area because of their spirit of giving. Our toy drive, in cooperation with the Port Jervis Elks' #645, has been a great success. Once again, this year, PJTA will participate in this most worthwhile event. PJTA is asking all of our members to donate one gift to this cause. The gift should be wrapped and labeled on the outside for either a boy or a girl and the approximate age. If any of our members wish to give more than one gift that would be most appreciative.

Please check with your head building representative to see where you should place the gift. I will be around to collect the gifts at each of the schools and send them to the Elks Club on Friday, December 18.

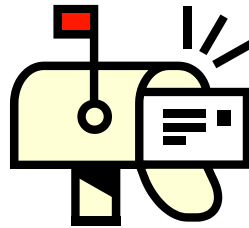
In advance, PJTA thanks you on behalf of all the children of the Tri-State area for whom you have made this Holiday season a bit more special!

I would like to wish you and your family a wonderful start to the holiday season!

In Solidarity,

Regis Foster

Correspondence



Cards Sent

Sympathy

Amy Relyea—loss of her uncle, David Evans
Denise Jackson—loss of her mother, Marilyn Jackson
Megan Wieboldt—loss of her grandfather, Raymond Stilwell, Sr.

Congratulations

Erin & Michael Martucci—birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Michelle