



Happenings

Affiliated with NYSUT, AFT #2937, AFL-CIO

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Message from the President

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This month has been very busy for PJTA and its members as we all settled into the new school year.

Benefit Fund

Each member should have a PJTA Benefit Fund information booklet.

Please take the time to educate yourself regarding reimbursement for dental procedures. This will save you delays in processing your claims, as well as teach you the steps to take to avoid denial claims.

Please be sure to update the district payroll office and PJTA Benefit Fund administrator should you divorce. Ex-spouses are not entitled to your benefits, and nondisclosure of a divorce could be considered an intent to defraud the plan.

Dependents entering college must have a dependent student certification form completed each semester. These are available in the schools' offices or the PJTA website. Dependents are not covered until the age of 26 like the health insurance. Dependents over the age of 19 must be full time students in an accredited college and under age 25.

The new two-year vision cycle began on July 1, 2017. The maximum vision care benefit per member for covered charges for the two-year vision care plan cycle (July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2019) is \$1,300.00. No benefit payment will be made in excess of the actual charges.

*****PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU VISIT THE PJTA WEBSITE UNDER BENEFIT FUND INFORMATION FOR MORE INFORMATION*****

Building/Faculty Cabinet Representatives

PJTA thanks our members who have volunteered to serve on the building faculty cabinets, the Building Education Planning Teams (BEPT), and those who serve as building representatives. Please check the building representative list so you are aware of your building representatives. I urge all of our members to request a building representative to be present at any meeting in which they are being reprimanded, accused, or questioned about an incident. The building representative will be able to advise you in a situation that may be emotional or sensitive. Attached are the building representatives this year.

Health Insurance Open Enrollment

The business office sent out a memo stating that, during the month of No-

vember, any member can enroll or change coverage options. If you want to make any changes, you must complete an enrollment form or change form. These forms are located in the main office in your building.

If you have any questions you can contact the district business office.

Parent-Teacher Association/Parent-Teacher-Student Association

All members should be a part of this organization. The PTA does great things for everyone, including PJTA. I encourage all of you to join in your building.

Personal Day Forms

Make sure when you are requesting a personal day, you review what you cannot do when requesting a personal day. Remember, when you log onto Front Line Education website in creating a personal day absence, you still need to fill out the form as well!

The following reasons for Personal Leave Days shall **NOT** include the following:

- Recreational or leisure activities

- Shopping

- Pursuit of what could normally be construed as gainful employment or profit-making endeavors

- Vacations

- Extending school vacations or other days on which school is not scheduled on the school calendar

If an emergency arises, create a personal day absence on the Front Line Education website and fill out the form as well!

Vote "NO" on Opening the New York State Constitutional Convention

There is a push by some political factions in New York State to hold a new Constitutional Convention. Gov. Andrew Cuomo has expressed his belief in the past that a state constitutional convention is the best route to achieve comprehensive reform in New York.

Not only would a Constitutional Convention needlessly cost the New York State taxpayers an estimated \$100-million, but also it could jeopardize the current level of pension benefits already received by retirees and promised to active members.

Public sector pensions are guaranteed against diminution thanks to powerful language present in the New York State Constitution. In the event of a Constitutional Convention, the language could be altered, thus eliminating that guarantee and paving the way for a reduced pension benefit.

It won't matter if you have been retired 1 year or 20 years. **YOUR BENEFITS WILL BE REDUCED; YOUR PENSIONS WILL BE REDUCED. THE MONEY THAT YOU HAVE SPENT YEARS WORKING FOR, PAYING TAXES ON AND SPENDING COUNTLESS HOURS OF OVERTIME BUILDING UP FOR RETIREMENT, WILL BE DIMINISHED!**

A convention may open up New York's Constitution to hastily thought out changes and reversal of laws and protections that in some cases took more than 200 years to put into effect; and for police, firefighters, paramedics, corrections, sanitation workers, teachers, MTA, hospitals, etc, benefits that took decades to achieve. **THIS WILL AFFECT ALL NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC RETIREES!**

A referendum whether or not to engage in a Constitutional Convention will be on the ballot for voters in the next election, November 7, 2017.

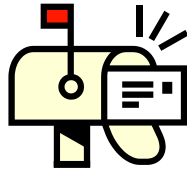
VOTE "**NO**" when the **CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION** is placed on the November 7, 2017 ballot.

There are much better ways in which \$100-million or so of our tax dollars may be spent.

Make sure you start spreading the message! I have attached a flyer as well!

I hope you are enjoying the autumn season!

Regis



Correspondence

Sympathy

Harmony Brady, for the loss of her grandfather, Mr. Rausch.

