

Happenings

Affiliated with NYSUT, AFT #2937, AFL-CIO

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Message from the President

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Regis Foster

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**Corresponding/
Social Secretary:**

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**Grievance
Chairperson:**

Dawn Higgins

Everyone can't wait to say goodbye to the 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.

Snow Days

As of today, we have to give back Friday, May 25 of Memorial Day weekend. I have spoken to the district and board members to emphasize the importance of making sure they consider placing eight emergency days back on the calendar for next year.

Safety Concerns

At the February representative assembly meeting, many of our members shared their concerns and thoughts after hearing about bullets, a threatening note, and bullet casings found at the high school. Many of our members were concerned, voicing their opinions about the lack of communication of the high school not notifying the Anna S. Kuhl within twenty-four to forty-eight hours. Especially, since they are on the same campus and connected, when this all took place. The Anna S. Kuhl members were notified of this incident a week later. Another big concern that was brought up at our representative assembly meeting was the high school students received a different letter than what the district sent out to the parents. Our members expressed their opinions that the letter was not explicit enough and too nebulous in giving detailed information.

The district asked PJTA for a list on what we felt needs to be improved upon in all of the buildings. I wrote a list up of all concerns that was shared at the February representative assembly meeting and then spoke to the head building representatives to confirm the list before sending the list to the central administration. Central administration did share with me that they are going to review the list about our concerns.

The district did hold a community forum about how they are going to improve upon school safety. I did speak at the forum and several community members spoke as well in a packed high school cafeteria.

I am suggesting you take your concerns and bring them up at your local building level safety committee and then have them be brought to the district level safety committee.

Child Care Notice of Claim Update

PJTA met with the district. The district gave PJTA a memorandum of agree-

ment for us to discuss. PJTA will be reviewing the memorandum of agreement with our Labor Relations' Specialist. I have given our Labor Relations' Specialist the go ahead to file an improper practice charge so we are not time barred. I am hoping we can resolve this situation without going to arbitration.

APPR

PJTA has been meeting with the district in updating our current APPR. PJTA and the district is working together in updating language to meet state education regulations and language that is unclear with the administrators in our agreement.

Keys for Coaches Coaching Spring Sports

Coaches who are coaching spring sports came to PJTA and stated there was a memo sent out from Buildings & Grounds stating that coaches coaching spring sports will not receive keys until all the coaches who coached winter sports have returned their keys. PJTA expressed our concerns about this memo in light of everything that has been going on in our country in regards to school safety and the fact that people are being punished because other people are not handing in their keys in a timely manner is not right. PJTA brought this to the district, the district agreed, and a memo went out to the coaches who are coaching spring sports stating they could pick up their keys.

In Solidarity,
Regis

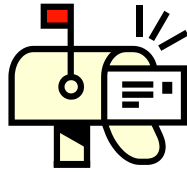
Benefit Fund

Just a friendly reminder, that ALL claims from your dentist are to be mailed to:

Port Jervis Teachers' Association Benefit Fund Office
P.O. Box 95
Port Jervis, N.Y. 12771

Please do not have the dentist mail claims to a trustee's house, East Stroudsburg, or the Middle School. This will cause processing delays and denied claims.

If your dentist needs to speak to Port Jervis Teachers' Association Benefit Fund Office, the dentist needs to go through you. You may then find the information in your fund documents or contact a trustee about any further questions. The Port Jervis Teachers' Association Benefit Fund Office will give you, the member, the information.



Correspondence

Sympathy

Jody Hanlon, on the loss of his father, Thomas Francis Hanlon, Jr.

Carrie Sarbello, on the loss of her grandmother.

Judy Dawson, on the loss of her nephew.

Cori Jashembowski, on the loss of her grandmother.

Peg Roda, on the loss of her mother-in-law.

Ed Ridley, on the loss of his wife, Karen, a retired PJTA member.

Kelly Tigue, on the loss of her grandmother, Viola Thurston.

Cards Received

Thank you from Claire and Sherri Dillon for the donation made to the Port Jervis/Deerpark Humane Society in memory of their daughter, Katie.

Get Well

Theresa Fontana