

Happenings

Affiliated with NYSUT, AFT #2937, AFL-CIO

Editor: Timothy Leonard
tleonard@pjschools.org

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
Chairperson:**

Dawn Higgins

When you work in a school, and you say, "March Madness," you are not talking about basketball! Though March Madness is upon us, at least it's a reminder that SPRING is finally here! I hope everyone had a relaxing Spring Recess!!

District Permission Slip Forms

The district has created two district wide permission slip forms that they want us to use. One permission slip form is if you are planning to go on a day trip and the other one is if you are staying overnight. The district informed PJTA that you are only responsible for filling out the top portion of both permission slip forms. The rest of the information on both permission slip forms are for the parents to fill out. You do have to fill out the permission slip form if you are going from school to school traveling by bus.

Student Calendar 2018-2019

The student calendar was adopted for next year. Seven emergency days have been added to the calendar.

Superintendent Search

The board of education read a statement, on March 20, stating they did not result in the appointment of a superintendent. They are going to continue to search for a superintendent that meets the needs of the district. In order to provide consistency in our district, Ruth Zuclich will remain in place at this time. The information that was provided at the forum and online survey would be reviewed again, when the board re-opens their search in the very near future.

PJTA inquired that if the board decides to have an interview committee consisting of others and not just the board of education, that we would be interested in being part of that committee.

Re-Enrollment Form

As many of you know, Mark Janus is suing his union, AFSCME, because he feels paying his union dues is a violation of his rights. He does, of course, still want to work under his union negotiated contract and enjoy his union negotiated benefits. However, if he wins his case, freeloaders will become allowed in all public unions. Union busting organizations such as Freedom Foundation have already collected contact information for members and will be visiting homes to try and get them to drop their union.

In our local union, everyone has signed the re-enrollment form! By everyone signing the card, it is the best way in defending our voice, our values and our union. PJTA thanks everyone for their dedication in keeping this union strong.

VOTE-COPE

VOTE-COPE is an acronym representing the Voice of Teachers in Education, the Committee on Political Education. VOTE-COPE is also referred to as a PAC (Political Action Committee), and is 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 NY-SUT. Decisions on the use of VOTE-COPE contributions are made by a statewide committee. Voluntary, VOTE-COPE contributions can be made through payroll deduction or by writing a check. Contributions or gifts to VOTE-COPE are not tax deductible.

The Building Representatives will be around asking for your support again this year.

Elementary Child Care

The district and PJTA reached an agreement that the board of education approved. Elementary school teachers who are parents of students in their assigned school will be permitted to care for their children after the student day (3:05 pm) and until the end of the contractual workday (3:20 pm) for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year. PJTA and the district will work out an agreement before June 30, 2018. If PJTA and the district cannot reach an agreement, then we will go to arbitration starting July 1, 2018.

Remind

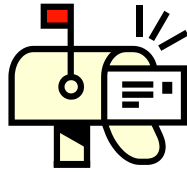
Don't forget to sign up for Remind if you have not already done so.

Retirement Dinner

The PJTA annual End-of-the-Year Dinner will be held on June 15 at the Erie Trackside. To date, the board of education has accepted resignations for the purpose of retirement this year from Robert Avdoyan and Robert Dorn. I hope to see you all there for a nice relaxing evening!

In Solidarity!

Regis



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