



Officers

President: Joseph Becker

1st Vice President: Jenny McElroy

2nd Vice President: Carol Brown

Recording Secretary: Maura Brady-Wilson

Corresponding Social Secretary: Lindsay Wylie

Treasurer: Walter Kaufmann

Grievance Chairperson: Jacqueline Behnke

Happenings May 2024

Affiliated with NYSUT, AFT #2937, AFL-CIO

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you to everyone who participated in the annual BOE interview process and phone banking campaign. We are hopeful more members are willing to help out each year as we continue this important process. Together we made 800-1,000 phone calls, 95 text messages, and mailed out about 1,000 postcards all supporting the budget and encouraging members to vote. Thank you to the entire PAC committee!

End of the Year Party: If you have not already signed to attend this event to celebrate the year, please consider doing so. It is on June 21st. All are welcome. Reach out to Lindsay Wylie if you have any questions.

Benefit Fund: There are (2) positions that are open. Every (3) years a position is opened up to the membership. Please send Joe Becker an email if you are interested.

Mentor Chair: As you know Rick Graham is retiring this year and has been serving as the mentor chairperson for several years. My hope is that we start to select mentors prior to leaving for the summer for those. If you are interested in this position, please send Joe Becker an email by June 1st. Current committee members are Rick Graham- Chair, Mark Trotta- HS, Carrie Sarbello- HBE, Walter Kaufmann- MS, and Tori Becker- ASK. Some of the jobs of this position include organizing a representative from each building, coordinating with the PJTA President and the district office on when mentors are needed, working with the district on

organizing new trainings, selection process of mentors, attending new teacher orientation in the summer, and so on.

I hope everyone enjoys the 4 day Memorial Day weekend. We are at the final stretch of the school year. If anyone needs anything please feel free to reach out.

In solidarity,
Joe Becker
PJTA President

Important Dental Information:

- For Open Enrollment read the details below:
 - If you wish to **change** your **PTJA Benefit Fund Coverage** (Dental and Vision Care) from Individual to Dependent (Family) or from Dependent (Family) to Individual effective with the 2024-2025 play year, **OR** if you wish either to elect coverage or to opt out of coverage (Dental and/or Vision Care) effective with the 2024-2025 play year, send a letter indicating the desired change:

PJTA Benefit Fund Administrator
P. O. Box #95
Port Jervis, NY 12771

If you have questions regarding coverage(s), write to the fund administrator or contact a trustee.

Even if you have mentioned or discussed a change in coverage during the current year, your written request for a coverage change must be received at the fund office by June 30, 2024 for any coverage change to be effective for the July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025 plan year.

*Remember to inform the Fund Office of any "changes in status." This includes, but is not limited to marriage, divorce, change of address, and COLLEGE GRADUATION.

The annual non-pro-rated co-payment for dependent (family) coverage for the 2024-2025 plan year is \$200.00.

Please note when your request for a change of coverage is received, you will be sent the appropriate form(s) to be returned. Coverage will not begin until all forms have been received.

End-of-the Year Party: June 21st at the Trackside from 5-9. People can attend the Tiki right after school but there will be no food and a cash bar. Please **RSVP by June 6th** using the [attached form](#) and send \$55.00 to Lindsay Wylie.

In closing, as always, if anyone has any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out.

In solidarity,

Joe Becker | PJTA President

Upcoming Meetings:

- PTJA: **6/17 @ 3:45 pm** in the HS library or attend virtually. President Joe Becker will send out a link prior to each meeting.
- Board of Education: **6/18 @ 7:00 pm** in the HS Cafeteria: *Retiree Reception*

Correspondence:



Cards sent:

Cards were sent to all tenure recipients congratulating them.
Susan Elston-Mills- on the loss of her mother-in-law, Marion Mills.
Michele Grabiec- on the birth of son, Hunter

Cards received:

Thank you cards (Admin Prof. Day):
Jeanne Wilkowski
Maryann Hull
Jackie Smith
Tammy Mackin
Nathalie Perry
Denise Sauschuck
All secretaries at the main office
Patrick Brady
Jeanmarie Schields

Other Happenings:

End of Year Party: RSVP & send \$55 pp to Lindsay Wylie by June 6th.

QR Code to RSVP:



[NYSUT News:](#)

NYSUT's strength as well as its pride is in the diversity of its membership. That is why the union is proud to offer a wide array of programs, services and information that address its members' unique interests and issues.

[NYSUT statement on the FY 2025 state budget](#)

Member Programs, Services, and Information:

- [Member Guide](#)
- [Political Action](#)
- [Program Services](#)
- [Member Benefits](#)

[NYSTRS Retirement Information:](#)

Thinking About Retirement?

Retirement is a significant life event. Be sure to do the homework necessary to make informed decisions by reviewing publications, web pages, and videos early in the process.

- [Countdown to Retirement](#)
- [Retirement Countdown Video Series](#)
- [Retirement Planning FAQs](#)
- [NYSTRS Retirement Checklist](#)
- [Benefits Consultation](#)

If you are planning to retire at the end of this school year, you should schedule a benefits consultation now via [MyNYSTRS](#) or by calling (800) 348-7298, Ext. 6100. See the [Benefits Consultations](#) page at NYSTRS.org for more details.

You may also calculate your pension estimates with the MyNYSTRS Pension Estimator in your My Retirement tab in your MyNYSTRS account.

NYS office of Mental Health

Youth Suicide Prevention is Everyone's Business

Call or text 988 (Suicide & Crisis Lifeline)

Or

Text “GOT5” to 741-741