



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 April 2025

Affiliated with NYSUT, AFT #2937, AFL-CIO

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome Back! I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable Spring Break. We're now heading into the final stretch of the school year with just about eight weeks to go! With so many events and activities happening between now and the end of June, the time is sure to move quickly.

PJTA Elections: I would like to congratulate the following members who were nominated and awarded the following leadership positions:

- President: Joe Becker
- 1st Vice-President: Jenny McElroy
- 2nd Vice-President: Carol Brown
- Recording Secretary: Maura Brady-Wilson
- Treasurer: Walter Kaufmann
- Corresponding/Social Secretary: Lindsey Wylie
- Grievance Officer: Jacqueline Behnke

Additional Appointments:

- NYSUT's ED 14/Representative Assembly Delegates: Craig Fisher
- NYSUT's ED 14/Representative Assembly Alternate Delegate: Jenny McElroy
- NYSUT's Political Action Committee Representative: Nick Miller
- New York State Teachers' Retirement System (NYSTRS) Delegate: Elizabeth Maloney

- New York State Teachers' Retirement System (NYSTRS) Alternate Delegate: Amy Hoverstock

Upcoming Amendments and Votes: Moreover, the executive committee is finalizing an amendment regarding the voting process, which was raised during the March Reps meeting. This would provide members the option to vote electronically rather than mailing ballots home. Once finalized, we will go through the process, per our Constitution, of conducting a vote with the Representative Assembly and if approved, it will be presented to the full membership. Additionally, we're reviewing stipend adjustments. These proposals will also be brought to the membership for a vote once finalized.

Fix Tier 6 Events: NYSUT is hosting events across the state on the 6th of each month to support the Fix Tier 6 campaign. The next local event will be held on June 6th at 5:00 pm on the Walkway over the Hudson. Once I receive a flyer, I will pass it along.

Tenure Congratulations: Please join me in congratulating the following PJTA members who are being recommended for tenure at this week's Board of Education meeting:

- Caroline Van Patten
- Cara Della Monica
- Demetra Palaj
- Melissa Siegel
- Danielle Tiernan
- Austin Wilson
- Christine Kilgore
- Jennifer Sommers

PJTA Benefit Trustee Nominations: The next cycle for the PJTA Benefit Trustee position is now open for nominations. It is currently a slot representing the High School. If you're interested in the position, please email me. The vote will take place during the May Executive Meeting.

PAC Updates: The PAC committee met on April 22nd for a reorganizational meeting. We will be conducting candidate interviews next week. Keep an eye out for emails from Nick Miller regarding opportunities to support the phone banking process. We truly need every union member to help complete phone banking.

Retirement Party: June 20th at the Erie Trackside from 5-9. People can attend the Tiki right after school (2:30-5:00) but there will be no food and a cash bar. Retirees being honored this year: Janine Chase, Diane Bloodgood, Diana Gabel, Heather Robinson, Mark Trotta, and Maria Smith. Heather Robinson and Maria Smith will be attending the End of Year Party.

Please RSVP by June 5th using the [attached form](#) and send \$55.00 to Lindsay Wylie.

Lastly, I would like to share that Jessica Eli, one of our PJTA Members, will be running for the Minisink Valley School District School Board this year. Your support for her candidacy would be greatly appreciated.

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: 5/19 @ 3:45 pm in the MS library or attend virtually. President Joe Becker will send out a link prior to each meeting.
- Board of Education: 5/6 @ 7:00 pm in the HS Cafeteria: *Public Budget Hearing with Q & A*/Board Meeting
- Board of Education: 5/21 @ 7:00 pm in the HS Cafeteria: Canvass of the Vote/Board Meeting

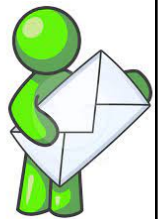
Correspondence:

Cards sent:

Administrative Professionals Day (April 23rd, 2025) - cards & Gio's gift cards were sent to 35 district secretaries

Tenure Recipients April 24th -cards were sent to 12 individuals

Megan Crawford- on the loss of her father, Raymond Kolvenbach



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.

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