



Officers

President: Joseph Becker

1st Vice President: Jenny McElroy

2nd Vice President: Carol Brown

Recording Secretary: Maura Brady-Wilson

Corresponding Social Secretary: TBD

Treasurer: Lindsay Wylie

Grievance Chairperson: Jacqueline Behnke

Happenings September 2025

Affiliated with NYSUT, AFT #2937, AFL-CIO

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

I hope everyone is having a great start to the school year. It is hard to believe we have already been back for a month. This past weekend, PJTA was well represented at the Fall Foliage.

Thank you to everyone who donated and volunteered their time to run our booth, with special thanks to Shannon Johnson for organizing the event.

This year, we are continuing to encourage members to attend one board meeting- please consider signing up. We will also keep our tradition to wear PJTA swag on the Fridays following our monthly reps meeting. If you are looking to add new swag to your collection, there are some great options available on the PJTA scholarship fundraiser website.

Additionally, Congratulations to Lindsay Wylie on being nominated and selected to be the PJTA Treasurer for our executive board! With her new appointment, the Social Chair position is vacant, and nominations are being accepted at this time. Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Welcome Back social. It was a wonderful event where everyone enjoyed themselves. It was great to catch up with so many people.

As a reminder, please continue to review your paystubs and your salary agreement carefully. Reminder- Salary Adjustment Claim Form- for graduate courses is done twice a year 10/1 and 2/1. Be sure to submit your paperwork and official transcript prior to these dates to receive compensation! If you have any questions, please reach out. In addition, if anyone has had a change in name or address, please notify Carol Brown (Dental/ Vision) and Lindsay Wylie (Treasurer) as soon as possible. Moreover, please be sure to complete your GCN training as the

deadline is quickly approaching. Lastly, our New Teacher Orientation is on Wednesday, October 1st, and is mandatory for the new teachers to attend. It will be extremely informative, and we will cover the contract and beyond.

In solidarity,

Joe Becker
PJTA President

Vision/Dental Coverage:

TO: PJTA Benefit Fund Participants
FROM: Carol L. Brown, Fund Administrator
DATE: September 1, 2025
SUBJECT: Plan Updates and Reminder Notice for Claims and Appeals

PLAN UPDATES

The following changes took effect beginning July 1, 2025. Plan documents are available on the PJTA website: pjta.us.

DENTAL CHANGES:

The following items were added to the schedule of benefits:

D0364 Cone beam CT capture & interpretation with limited field of view - less than one whole jaw	350.00
D0365 Cone beam CT capture & interpretation with field of view one full dental arch – mandible	350.00
D0366 Cone beam CT capture & interpretation with field of view one full dental arch -maxilla with or without cranium	350.00

(Coverage is limited to once every three plan years for D0364, D0365, and D0366)

VISION CHANGE:

The maximum vision care benefit per member for covered charges for the two-year Vision Care Plan cycle (July 1, 2025-June 30, 2027) is \$1,500.00. No benefit payment will be made in excess of the actual charges.

REMINDER NOTICE FOR CLAIMS AND APPEALS

As a refresher, the following guidelines apply to the submission of claims and appeals.

- ☐ All claims must be submitted no later than 90 days from the date of service.
- ☐ Denied claims due to late submission may be appealed by the member to the Board of Trustees.
- ☐ Appeals for a denied claim must be submitted to the Trustees within 90 days of the denial notice.
- ☐ Appeals for claims that were denied due to a late submission that exceeded 365 days from the date of service will be automatically denied by the Trustees.

Upcoming Meetings:

- **New Teacher Orientation: 10/1 @ 3:30 pm in the MS Media Center**
- **Board of Education: 10/14 @ 7:00 pm**
- **PTJA: 10/20 @ 3:45 pm in the HS library or attend virtually. President Joe Becker will send out a link prior to each meeting.**

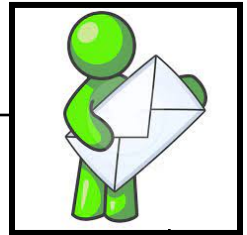
Other Happenings:

New Teacher Social: Wednesday, October 1st @ 3:30 in MS Media Center. This event is mandatory for all new teachers.

Correspondence:

Cards sent to:

- Megan Andree Weber- on the loss of her father & former PJTA member/administrator, Richard Andree
- Carol Brown- on the loss of her brother, Thomas O'Keefe
- Lisa Perkowski- on the loss of her father, Robert Lee Lehn.
- Meredith Burns- on the loss of her sister, Jenn Pierce.
- Sean Corcoran & Family- on the loss of their mother & former PJTA member, Anne Corcoran.
- Amy Theodore- on the loss of her father, Kevin Nicolette
- Chris & Catherine Stellato- on the loss of their uncle, Kevin Nicolette
- Megan & Brian Barstch- on the loss of Brian's grandmother, Ingrid.
- Jackie Emanuele- Congratulations to her and her husband, Nick, on their wedding.
- Michael Dunleavy- Get well soon card



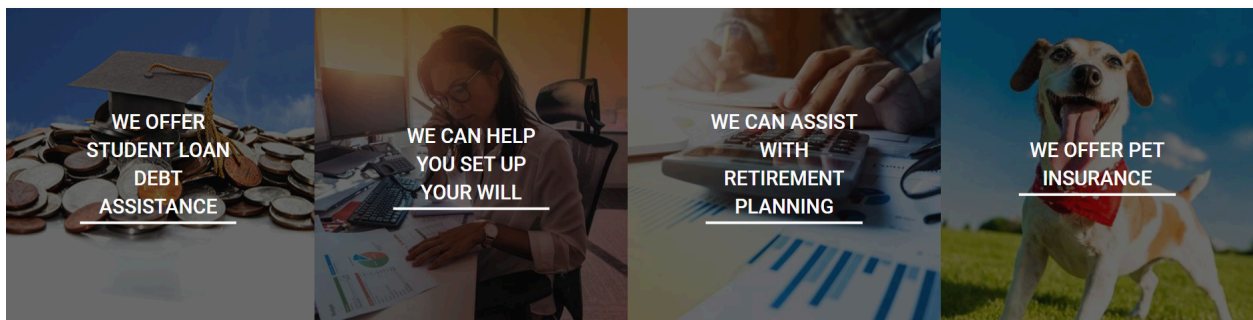
Thank you cards received from:

- Thank you card from Janine Chase for the meaningful retirement card and generous gift card.
- Thank you card from Mark Trotta for the retirement gift and for all that PJTA does for their members.
- Thank you card from Diana Gabel for the retirement gift and for all of the support through the years.
- PJTA Scholarship Recipients:
 - Abigail Straebler

- Kaleigh Polanis
- Caroline Centauro
- Julia Elston
- Elia Trujillo Castillo

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:

- Created in partnership with Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care, this confidential helpline can provide answers, referrals, and empathetic support when you need it.
 - **Check it out online:**
 - **[PEER SUPPORT LINE](#)** -- For more information or to speak with someone at the Peer Support Line, call toll-free 844-444-0152.
 - **[Premium Calm Subscription](#)**
 - **[Travel Assistance Services](#)**
 - **[Legal Service Plan](#)**
 - **[Financial Counseling Program](#)**

- [Pet Insurance](#)

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.

- [The Retirement Process Video Part 1](#)
- [Countdown to Retirement](#)
- [Retirement Countdown Video Series](#)
- [Retirement Planning FAQs](#)
- [NYSTRS Retirement Checklist](#)

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