

Officers

President: Joseph Becker

1st Vice President: Jenny McElroy

2nd Vice President: Carol Brown

Recording Secretary: Maura Brady-Wilson

***Corresponding Social Secretary:
Shannon Johnson***

Treasurer: Lindsay Wylie

Grievance Chairperson: Jacqueline Behnke

Happenings November 2025

Affiliated with NYSUT, AFT #2937, AFL-CIO

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

The Elks Toy Drive is underway, and posters have been sent out to each building. Please consider donating to this worthy cause, as so many of our students benefit from the Elks Christmas Project.

Moreover, a survey was sent out by Shannon Johnson about dates for the End of the Year party. There were only twenty-six responses. Based on the results, June 12th, 2026 is the tentative date scheduled. Everyone is invited to come and celebrate the end of the school year and to honor those who retire.

Just a reminder, the Parent Teacher Conference times are as follows:

- Secondary: 12-3 and 5-7
- Elementary: 1-3 and 5-7

If you are out sick on the Parent-Teacher Conference day, you will be docked 1.5 days. Please be aware of this fact. Also, we are able to leave on Tuesday, 11/25, at half-day with the students. This was such a great addition to our contract, and I hope everyone enjoys the time off.

Additionally, I wanted to update everyone on our current executive board and head building representatives since we have had some changes.

PJTA Officers:

- Joe Becker – President
- Jenny Siegel – 1st Vice-President
- Carol Brown – 2nd Vice-President
- Jaqueline Behnke – Grievance Officer
- Maura Brady-Wilson – Recording Secretary
- Shannon Johnson – Corresponding/Social Secretary
- Lindsay Wylie - Treasurer

Head Building Reps:

- Austin Carroll- High School
- Kyle Ross- Middle School
- Jen Kowal- HBE
- Stephanie Vandemark- EME

Lastly, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. I hope everyone spends time relaxing and spending time with family and friends. As always, if anyone needs anything, please do not hesitate to reach out.

In Solidarity,

Joe Becker
PJTA President

Other items:

- Thank you to all who have attended the BOE meetings.
- VOTE Cope is currently underway- please consider contributing.

Upcoming Meetings:

- **PTJA: 12/15 @ 3:45 pm in the MS library or attend virtually.**
President Joe Becker will send out a link before each meeting.
- **Board of Education: 12/16 @ 7:00 pm**

Correspondence:

Cards Sent:

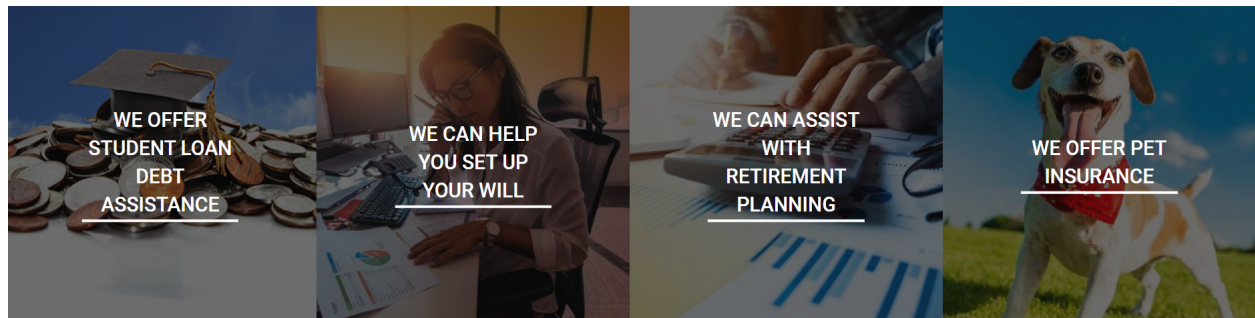


Jennifer Grismer - on the loss of her father, Myles Nugent

Eric and Nikki Hartmann on the birth of their daughter, Palmer Sutton

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](#)
 - [PEER SUPPORT LINE](#) -- For more information or to speak with someone at the Peer Support Line, call toll-free 844-444-0152.
 - [Legal Assistance](#)
 - [Student Loan Counseling](#)

- [Certification](#)
- [MB Discount & Deals](#)
- [New Member Life 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.

- [NYSTRS Benefits Pt. 3: Calculation of a NYSTRS Benefit](#)
- [Pension Education Toolkit](#)
- [Retirement Planning](#)
- [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