



Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2019

Message from PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT:

*Brothers and Sisters,
Welcome Back! We hope you had a relaxing, yet invigorating summer!
We are excited to be starting this school year with a contract that runs through 2023. With the changes the state made to APPR, our local control with teacher evaluation will become even stronger. A vote for the teacher members will be coming soon, so be on the lookout for it.
As the year progresses, we want to encourage you to attend building and RA meetings, stay engaged and informed, and utilize the resources and people that represent you in the HTA.
One way we look to stay engaged with you is this newsletter. We hope it's informative and keeps us all connected. Should you have any suggestions for topics to address in the newsletter, please let your building rep know.
With that being said, we wish you a wonderful upcoming year filled with peace and camaraderie.
In solidarity, Amy and Scott*

YOUR HTA OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT - Amy Takacs
VICE PRESIDENT - Scott Weidmann
TREASURER - Mary Huen
POLITICAL ACTION CORRESPONDENT - Kelly Murray
SECRETARY - Sandy Wittmeyer

From your TREASURER:

Over the summer the audit for the AFT was completed, & the federal taxes were done.
Anyone at anytime can request to view them.
The total union dues for 2019-2020 is \$848.68

POLITICAL ACTION:

The Vote-Cope campaign kicked off the year with over 110 members increasing their contribution or newly contributing.
GREAT JOB MEMBERS & THANK YOU!!!



WHY UNION?

Your union is a family — a family that has your back.

1. Stands up for your rights
2. Gives you a voice at work
3. Negotiates higher pay
4. Secures better benefits
5. Improves your profession

OUR UNION DUES WORK FOR YOU

Every dues dollar helps defend Our Voice, Our Values, Our Union



- 54%** Negotiating contracts that provide better pay, good benefits and a secure retirement.
- 12%** Providing legal support to help members defend their rights and enforce their contracts.
- 8%** Providing professional development tools, training, conferences and assistance with certifications.
- 8%** Amplifying our voice and advocating for our professions in the media and online.
- 6%** Fighting to ensure our voice is heard in the halls of power.
- 6%** Providing regional offices with the resources and technical infrastructure to support our locals.
- 4%** Providing direct assistance to srps, small and rural locals, health care professionals and retirees.
- 2%** Partnering with state and national unions to amplify our voice and defend our values.

100%



LEARN HOW YOU CAN FIGHT BACK
visit www.nysut.org/FightBack

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Oct. 12, 2019: Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk
Canalside, Buffalo



Oct. 16, 22, 28 &
Nov. 4, 2019: Phone banking @
NYSUT regional office for candidates.

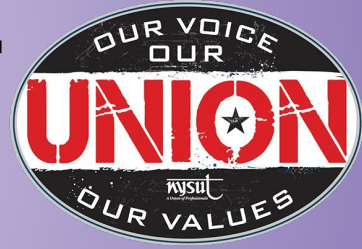
Nov. 1, 2019: Rally @ Niagara Square, Buffalo to support SUNY ECC

Nov. 5, 2019 : Election Day - Go VOTE!



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From your SECRETARY:

Who do I contact if I have a question for a union representative?

Please contact a building representative if you have a question about the union.

As stated in the Hamburg Teachers' Association Constitution, your representatives shall:

- "Be elected in each building in a ratio of one for each 10 teacher members or a major portion thereof.
- Serve their members in areas of grievance and other contract provisions.
- Serve on the Building Committee for the building.
- Keep members informed of HTA policy.
- Implement the decisions of the RA.
- Represent their buildings at the RA.
- Be responsible for securing an alternate to the RA.
- Attend building HTA unit meetings."

In addition, each building has a building chair who shall:

- "Be spokesperson for the building committee and forward a copy of all building committee minutes to the President and Secretary.
- Act as a liaison between officers and members.
- Forward pertinent items to the President for inclusion in the RA agenda.
- Conduct monthly unit meetings.
- Forward a copy of all building and monthly unit meeting minutes within 7 calendar days after said meeting to the Secretary.

Your Building Representatives for 2019-20 School Year:

AES: Jim Mason (Chair), Rose Kowalski, Jon Pawlowski, Donna Zeigler, Kristine Loft (TA Unit)

BVS: Robin Bartoo (Chair), Erin Holstein, Anne Ingoldsby (TA Unit)

CAS: MaryBeth Diggins (Chair), Marilyn Reardon, Marisa Watkins, Mary Jo Lardo (TA Unit)

UPES: Heather Mardino (Chair), Erin Agle, (N/MRT/COTA Unit), Jaime Boisvert, Marie Hennessy, Lisa Strong, Mindy Wolf (& New Member Coordinator), Ania Gibbon (TA Unit Chairperson), Maggie Reagan (TA Unit)

HMS: Debbie Tuberdyke (Chair), Jodi Follett, Kelly Lauria, Jeff Miodonski, Colleen Sperry, Justine Springborn, Karen Colasanti (TA Unit), Vickie Wolf (TA Unit)

HHS: Amity Kamats (Chair), Kelly Campbell, Matt Meader (Grievance Chair), Maria Kaczmarek, Lori Raybold, Lisa Palma, Susan Green (TA Unit), Nancy Hawes (TA Unit)

Retired: John Mrozek, Diane Skovenski

The Representative Assembly meets at 3:45 on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the UPES Axis Room (former office), unless otherwise noted. A copy of our meeting schedule can be found on the Hamburg Teachers' Association website. All HTA members are welcome to attend these meetings!

Please remember, this information is also available to you at <http://www.hamburgta.com/>



Your Union-Endorsed Benefits: Debt Consolidation & Mortgage Savings

NYSUT Member Benefits understands the challenges that the hardworking women and men of this labor union face when it comes to financial issues such as student loan re-payment options, credit card consolidation or debt management, or saving on purchasing or refinancing a home.

Student Loan & Debt Counseling Program

Your union membership allows you to receive a no-obligation debt and/or student loan consultation at no cost with a certified counselor through the Member Benefits Corporation-endorsed **Cambridge Credit Counseling** program. Cambridge provides individualized student loan counseling along with a unique web portal available at a reduced rate to help explain the various options when paying student debt; debt relief services are also offered.

UnionDirect Mortgage Discount Program

The Member Benefits Corporation-endorsed **UnionDirect Mortgage Discount Program presented by Mid-Island Mortgage Corp.** offers union members and their families savings of up to \$2,700 on lender fees and closing costs. Your union membership also entitles you to no application or processing fees; no commitment fees; no underwriting fees; no lender or broker fees; and reduced attorney and title fees.

The Power of the Union

Regardless of whether you are participating in either of the programs mentioned above; one of our endorsed insurance, financial or legal programs; or our many shopping, entertainment or travel offerings, NYSUT members receive a quality product and enjoy the **"Power of the Union"** behind them. Unlike when purchasing products available to the general public, Member Benefits is here as your advocate if you ever have any issues or concerns with our endorsed programs.

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call 800-626-8101.



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.