



The BEES Beacon

BEES

BOCES Educators of Eastern Suffolk

Union Strong



Volume 31 Issue 4

June 2018

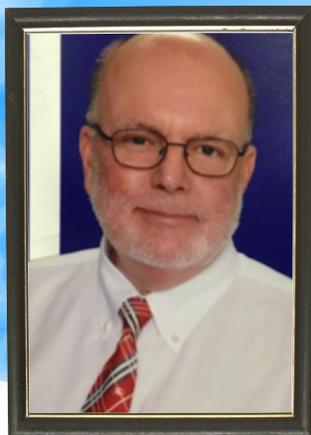
AFT Local 3037/NYSUT Local 22-220

From the Lighthouse in the East to the Lighthouse in the West

Read All About It:

- President's Report - 2
- Executive Vice President's Report - 4
 - First Vice President's Report - 6
- Area V.P. of Special Education Report - 8
- Area V.P. of Para-Educators Report - 10
- Area V.P. of SAS/Itinerants Report - 11
 - Area V.P. of Academy/S.C.E - 12
 - It *Benefits* You to Know - 13
 - From the Treasurer's Desk- 17
- Membership Secretary's Report - 18
 - Grievance Report - 19
 - Let's be Social - 20
- Notes from the Recording Secretary - 22
- The Retiree Chapter - 23

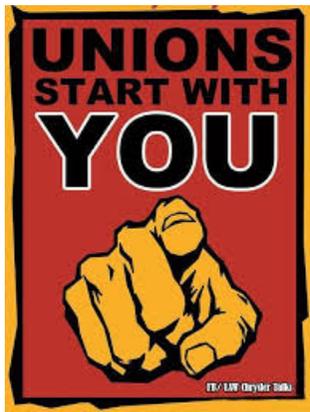
JIM BECK ~ PRESIDENT



You Are The Union

Hello my Sisters and Brothers. As usual, the 2018 school year has flown by and the last Beacon article is here. The end of the year continues to be busy for us all. We are currently engaged on many fronts. The Supreme Court decision on the Janus case is expected this month and it is expected to go against us (unions). We have been preparing for such a decision. One of our actions has been our re-carding campaign in which we are encouraging all of our members to stick with the union. We continue to talk about the real value of union membership. Our benefit-rich contracts, the professional and determined representation of our members, support both in and out of the classroom, additional benefits like life insurance, legal plans, financial consultations and many other benefits are just some of the reasons to stick with the union. Perhaps one of the best reasons to stick with the union was said over 200 years ago by the patriot Patrick Henry who, in speaking about the coming fight for our independence from Britain said “if we don’t hang together, we shall surely hang separately”. This statement has never been truer or more appropriate.

We continue to work on defending our member’s rights with respect to evaluations and APPR. There has been a great deal of progress in de-coupling state exams from the APPR. A bill has passed the House and is awaiting a vote in the Senate where it is expected to pass. The main problem is that Long Island’s own Senate Majority Leader John J. Flanagan has held up the bill in committee and is not releasing it for a vote. NYSUT is currently working very hard to bring it to a vote. They have even organized protests outside of the Senators office in Smithtown. We will keep you posted on this matter.



JIM BECK ~ PRESIDENT



You Are The Union - Continued

Our opening day meeting in September will not take place at the Patchogue Theater this year due to unavailability of the theater. We have not finalized the location yet, but we should know by the end of the school year. The location will also be mentioned in Dr. Julie Lutz's August letter discussing the 2018-19 school year. Please keep an eye out for this information as we hope to see you there.

I would like to cover just a few housekeeping issues. Please remember to be accurate and precise with your sign in times and keep records with all of your assignments. The Agency has been conducting several audits that have resulted in charges against some members. The old saying that time is money continues to be true. Any attempt to fudge the numbers or providing inaccurate data can be construed as theft of time and can snowball into placing your job in jeopardy. Please avoid that mistake.

Attendance continues to be a major issue for the Agency. We do stress that you should not to come to work if you are ill. That is what sick days are for. Several members have recovered from a very serious illness and did not have to worry about where the next paycheck was coming from. They had enough days to cover an entire year. That being said if you wish to work in a summer program you need to be mindful of your attendance. The Agency looks at summer employment to be given to employees with good records, including attendance. There is a three-year lookback period.

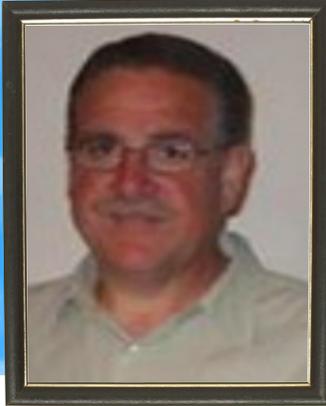
For those of you thinking of retirement please check the timelines and notifications that are in your respective contracts.

Finally I would like to congratulate all of our 2018 retirees. We wish you well on your new journey.

Unity and strength,

Jim

JOE POSTIGLIONE ~ EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



Is Your Union Membership In Jeopardy?

Hello members! I'm happy to say that our re-carding campaign is going very well! In case you are not sure what this is about here is a brief explanation. The Janus case that is before the Supreme Court right now is challenging the constitutionality of paying dues to be a union member. NYSUT has asked all local unions to conduct a re-carding campaign. This is asking all union members to recommit to be a dues paying member of their union. Hopefully by now your building or program union rep has asked you to sign re-enrollment card. If you have not, technically your paid union membership will expire on June 30, 2018. Don't let this happen to you, actions will be taken to severely restrict non-dues paying members rights to representation, voting, and attendance at union meetings just to name a few.

If you have not signed a re-enrollment card I have included one in this issue of the Beacon on the following page. Fill the form out and send it to me interoffice (J. Postiglione @ ICC). Below there are two lists of members, the first list of members are names that I have tried without success to contact through e-mail or available phone numbers. If you know one of these people please contact them and ask them to contact me at EXECVPBEE@GMAIL.COM or send me an e-mail and let me know how to contact these members. The second list is members that I have sent re-enrollment cards to, either interoffice or by US mail and have not returned them yet. If you are one of these members or if you know one of these members, please remind them how important this is to their future as a dues paying member of our union.

MEMBERS NOT CONTACTED

Carol-Ann Bubnis
Patricia Ermert
Debra Gould
Mary Lynn Larson
Stephanie Niatas-Sonander
Tiana Saladino
Jessica Velasquez

Christine Cammarata
Elizabeth Figueroa
Justine Hemmert
Natalie Litman
Christine Oakley
Jenna Santa
Mary Hendrickson

Kathleen Elshazly
William Filosa
Denise Homa
Heidy Matias
Janine Reh
Lauren Staudt

MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT RETURNED THEIR RE-ENROLLMENT CARD

Claudia Bonavita
Denyse DeHayes
Rosa Emeric
Valerie Kelly
Jessica Mercado
Jeanne Waters

Debra Botti
Frank Dono
Barbara Erdman
Mallory Maffucci
Kerrie Rank

Tamara Costanzo
Melanie Dubovsky
Alexander Golik
Rachel McNaughton
Thomas Valerio



NYSUT ID:

First name:

Last name:

Street address:

City, State, Zip:

Home Phone:

Mobile phone:

Email:

Twitter handle:

Local union: 22220 BOCES Educ/E Suffolk

Building:

Position:

Yes! I request and accept membership in the local organization named above, the New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) and its national affiliates, American Federation of Teachers (AFT), the National Education Association (NEA), and American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), where applicable.

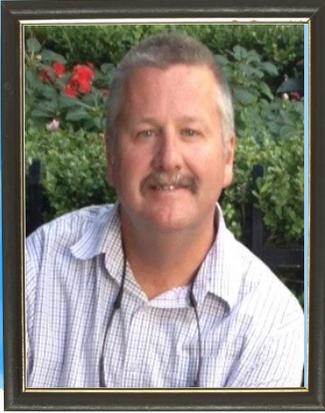
I recognize the need for a strong union and believe everyone represented by a union should pay their fair share to support the union's activities. I hereby request and voluntarily authorize my employer to deduct an amount equal to the regular monthly dues uniformly applicable to members of the local organization named above and remit that amount to the local. I understand that this authorization and assignment is not a condition of my employment and shall remain in effect, regardless of whether I am or remain a member of the union, for a period of one year from the date of this authorization and shall automatically renew from year to year unless I revoke this authorization by sending a written, signed notice of revocation via U.S. mail to the union between the window period of Aug. 1-31 or another window period specified in a collective bargaining agreement.

By providing my cell phone number and signature I am expressly consenting to receive autodialed and/or prerecorded calls and/or text messages from or on behalf of AFT, NEA, NYSUT, AFL-CIO and/or the local union at the wireless number provided. The scope of this consent relates to any purpose for which any of the above entities may call. I understand that this consent is not a condition of my membership with NYSUT, its national affiliates, or the local organization named above.

Signature:

Date:

RAY STENBERG ~ FIRST VICE PRESIDENT



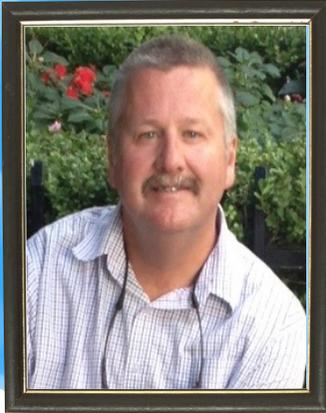
The Final Lap

We are quickly approaching the final lap in the race to June 22nd. Students are preparing for end of the year assessments and staff are writing checks to attend retirement parties. The cold, long, and snowy winter is far behind us and the sounds of landscaping machines are buzzing. Well, my brothers and sisters, the BEES are buzzin' too. We are in full steam ahead mode as we prepare for the Janus case to be decided in the US Supreme Court. It's hard to believe that one man, Mark Janus, could single-handedly negatively impact the lives of millions of union workers across the land. This is just what the corporations have been waiting decades to do - destroy unions. By destroying unions, you destroy hard earned benefits and salaries. The worker loses and the company wins. It's that simple. However, it's not all gloom and doom here in New York State. If we stick with the union, we win. If we opt out and chose not to pay union dues, we lose. Just imagine how losing your health insurance would impact your monthly budget. Without a contract, that could happen. Just imagine calling in sick and not getting paid for the day, that could happen. Just imagine your personal days being cut in half, that could happen. These are just a few examples of things that could happen to us if our contract is laid to rest. Let's not let that happen to by committing to be part of this very strong AFT, NYSUT, and BEES union. The white card campaign, under the leadership of our Executive Vice-President, Joe Postiglione is going very well with many buildings reporting 100% participation. Joe and others have spent countless hours undertaking this project to keep us in the game. Thanks Joe!

Here in New York State, Governor Cuomo is trying to gain support from NYSUT. In a smart, calculative move, he put very strong pro-union legislation in the state budget. This language is meant to protect unions in New York State from some of the painful ramifications of a Supreme Court loss. I have to give the Governor credit on this one.



RAY STENBERG ~ FIRST VICE PRESIDENT



The Final Lap - Continued

By now, you know the results of our school budget votes here on Long Island. As a result of our votes, along with family and friends, we approved every single school budget in Suffolk County and all but two in Nassau. This is great for us because passed budgets mean resources to send students to BOCES. Increased enrollment yields job security and more full time jobs (with benefits and a rich contract). This also tells you that an overwhelming majority of Long Islanders support public education and the great job that we do. Retirement party season is here and many of our members are leaving us at the end of the school year. After working 20, 30, and even 40 years, the decision was made to submit the appropriate paperwork and transition into the life of a retiree. From what I've been told it's wonderful. You can look forward to receiving that direct deposit into your bank account at the end of each month. Add social security and your 403b money to the mix and you should be doing okay. I truly want to wish all BEES retirees a happy and healthy retirement. For everybody else, I wish you a summer filled with happiness, great adventures, and inner peace. See you in September!

I am a union worker

**That means I am part
of an organization
that fights not only
for my benefit, but
for everyone's benefit.**

Unions set the standards!



BEE The Change

Here we are at the end of another school year; eagerly awaiting the summer months and anxiously awaiting the verdict from the Janus case. Although we are fairly certain which way the gavel will drop, there are still many uncertainties ahead regarding the future of public sector unions. I hope that you have seen us in your buildings and heard us talking about the numerous important perks of union membership. I hope that you have had conversations with your co-workers and friends about what the labor movement has done for workers across America and what non-unionized workplaces look like. I hope that you have seen the educators on strike and picketing across our great states for better wages and funding and thought, “Wow, that could be me, but it’s not because I’m lucky enough to belong to a strong union.” I hope that you are tired of hearing us talk about all of these things because if you are, it means we were successful in doing our jobs. I’d like to ask you one final time before that verdict comes in: to Read your contract and highlight all the benefits we have. Even if you disagree with a few things that have happened over the years, even if you don’t feel like the Executive Board decides things as you would from time to time, is it worth gambling all those contractual benefits away? I hope the answer is no, and I hope that each of you will continue to choose to be part of the BEES.

I’d like to shift focus to APPR for a moment. You remember “Annual Professional Performance Review” – that wonderful phrase that came about in 2010 along with the HEDI scale (highly effective, effective, developing, ineffective). How could you forget, right? It’s been a thorn in our sides ever since its inception, coupled with biased standardized tests - it’s a miracle anyone was “effective” at all. It was so bad that a moratorium was put into effect from 2015 through the 2019-2020 school year, but the effects of this disastrous measure are already visible. Perhaps worst of all is the undue stress our students endure as they sit through countless hours of high stakes testing. We have all seen them struggle, panic and melt down. Some because they “feel stupid” and some because they want to do well so we “get a good score.” How awful of State Ed. to put such pressure on a child? This test and punish phenomena has also driven new and potential teachers away from the field, resulting in teacher shortages that are only getting worse. Parents are opting their children out of the tests, and school districts are being pressured by the State Education Dept. to make sure they participate, thus creating a tense, uncomfortable environment, the exact opposite of what a school should be. When will it end?

ASHA MAZZA-SHAW ~ AREA V.P. FOR SPECIAL ED.



BEE The Change - Continued

Recently, a new teacher evaluation bill was passed by the NYS Assembly and is being considered by the NYS Senate. The Bill, A.10475/S.0830, would eliminate the mandatory use of state test scores (ELA and math 3-8 and HS Regents) in teacher evaluations. School districts that choose alternative student assessments for evaluating teachers would have to do so through collective bargaining with unions. Did you catch that? Just another thing the union would be involved in... it's good to be a union member. There are some senators, like Long Island's own Senator Flanagan, Senate Majority Leader, who have been holding the Bill back from a vote. NYSUT has been in Albany protesting and rallying to get the Bill passed. Another good reason to belong to a union! Unfortunately, this Bill does not solve the over-testing issue for our students, but it is a step in the right direction. You can support NYSUT and the BEES by signing up for the NYSUT Member Action Center app at <https://www.nysut.org/resources/all-listing/2013/april/nysut-mac-app> . Don't forget to follow the BEES on Facebook and Twitter, and there's always lots of great updates and information on our website www.beesbeacon.org.

Lastly, congratulations to all of this year's retirees! I wish you many years of health and happiness! To all the BEES members, thank you for the work you do every day; it does not go unnoticed. Have a wonderful summer, and don't forget, BEE the change you wish to see in the world!

Asha



LINDA BUFALO ~ AREA V.P. FOR PARA-EDUCATORS



Keeping Up With Para-Professionals

As you all know, we are entering the last year of the Para-Educator contract. I have been in touch with many members and have had many conversations about where we go from here. I am very aware of the concerns, needs, and expectations of our unit, as is the BEES Executive Board. We do not have a scheduled date for negotiations to begin at this time, but the membership will be informed as we move forward. A survey may be sent before the end of the school year, or in September. It will depend on when talks begin.

A decision in the Janus case is expected by the end of June. The local and NYSUT are gearing-up for whatever comes next. It was so gratifying to see the large percentage of members who participated in the “re-carding” process. We need to stay strong and stay together. I believe we will! I encourage all members to ask questions, be informed, and understand what a decision not in our favor could mean to us if we do not have solidarity.

There have been many questions coming my way on matters where we have language, either in the contract or Professional Practices Agreements. The following is from our Pro-Practice Agreements:

- 1) Breaks: Para-Educators are eligible for up to one (1) 15-minute break per work day. This break may not be guaranteed since classroom activities and student needs must come first. This break may not be combined with the half-hour lunch period.
- 2) Summer School Positions: BOCES contract Para-Educators are to be given first opportunity for summer school positions. When summer school is held in the same building or program that the Para-Educator works during the regular school year, he/she will be given the first opportunity for these positions. Para-Educators in other programs will be considered for summer school employment prior to non-BOCES employees.
- 3) Medical Documentation: According to the Para-Educator contract, each Para-Educator is required to send medical documentation to the Human Resources Office when asked to do so in order to substantiate the need for said sick day. Only the Human Resources Office can request medical documentation. Building Principals and/or Secretarial staff are not to ask for such notes. This documentation should be sent directly to Human Resources.

As this was my first year as Area Vice President, I would like to thank the Para Building Representatives for their support, dedication, and professionalism. They are the link between you the members, me, and the Executive Board. They work tirelessly for all of you, and I thank each and every one of them.

I would also like to extend my sincere congratulations to all of our retirees. You’ve earned a well-deserved rest for a job well done. The students of Eastern Suffolk BOCES are so fortunate to have had you in their lives. I wish you a happy, healthy retirement.

In Solidarity,

Linda

PROUD TO BE A



PARAEDUCATOR

KRISTIN ERICSON-ABRUZZESE ~ AREA VP. FOR SAS/ITINERANTS



Professional Responsibilities

Well once again, I cannot believe I write this with only one month of school remaining for the year. I would like to start off by congratulating all the members who will be retiring this year and I wish you only health and happiness. In speaking with many members, retirement is often bitter sweet, the joy of being able to not have to rush out the door in the morning but for many it is also missing coworkers they consider family. This year along with issues close to home, we have been putting a lot of emphasis on the Janus case which could change the future for union members. I strongly encourage all members to stay informed with the current issues surrounding us locally and federally since many people do not like the fact that we are unionized, have pensions, medical benefits and of course could be off for the summers. I hope all made an effort to vote on your school budget because what happens to our local districts strongly determines what happens to ESBOCES. We are currently strong with our numbers and I continue to be involved with interviewing new members, but we need to stay informed and strong. I also encourage all members to stay on top of when you need to renew your license and/or certifications. I mention this not only because you are entitled to money for your license but also you were hired with that license/certification and as a professional responsibility you are required to keep it up to date and active. Please don't wait to the last minute to complete your hours, finish course work or submit your information to NY State since they are often back logged and this is not an excuse. Also, another professional responsibility is to be at work. I know many members worry about their days for summer school and as per our contract we receive sick and personal days however, if you can prepare your students when you will be out please do. No matter what population you are working with they truly miss the services, and this could be a negative factor for their day. I know another addition to the psychologist and social workers responsibilities this year was to complete the colored folders, speech already has their green folders set up. For example, the social workers received salmon colored folders to be completed by the end of the year and placed in the student's office hanging folder. Don't forget there is more information to fill out on the back. Last but not least, I want to thank every member who has attended my meetings at the union office and those who have attended their building union meetings. I know we are all busy and have many things we juggle both before and after work but it is so important to be involved. Please remember that what you share as a concern with your union will always be addressed and some issues may go our way and some issues may need to be revisited at a later date but we hear you at all times. So please, I urge you to reach out. I can be reached at kristinericson@optonline.net and 631-218-5411. Have a great summer and enjoy some time to just smell the flowers!

ROSARIA BROESLER - AREA V.P. FOR ACADEMY/SCIENCE



Exceptional Effort

It's the home stretch and we all can taste those summer days. Your BEES Union Representatives have had a very busy year working behind the scenes to protect your contract and keep you informed of the upcoming challenges to us and to unions throughout our country. As you say goodbye to your graduating seniors, know that you have prepared them in the best possible way for their future as an adult employee in the real world. The technical skills you worked hard to teach them can only be matched by the work ethic you instilled by lesson and example. No one can argue the amount of effort that the BEES CTE Instructors devote to our students. Employers rave about our kids and it all comes from the concerted efforts of our great CTE staff.

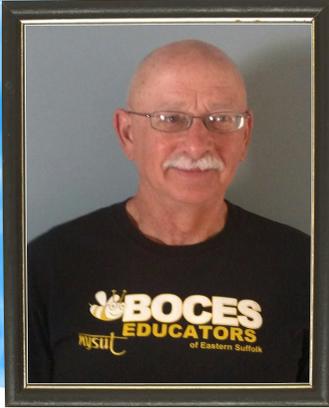
Congratulations to all the BEES CTE retirees. May you have a long and healthy retirement ahead of you!

Until we meet again on opening day, know that your BEES Union stands solid in protecting and advocating for our members. I am truly proud to have served another year as your CTE Area Vice President.

Relax and recharge! Happy summer!



BOB LOVE ~ MEMBER BENEFITS OFFICER



It Benefits You to Know

Spam-spam-spam-spam

I found the following blurb after I got annoyed with all the email telling me my “bank account is frozen,” “my credit card may have been used fraudulently,” and “send your info to Prince Ali-a-bob-wa to claim your \$1,000,000.” Now I simply forward the spam mail to the FTC (Federal Trade Commission). If the spam mail claim to be a bank or credit card company I do a quick Google search for the email address of their fraud department. I still get those emails, but I feel better.

The FTC and its law enforcement partners use a database to generate cases against people who use spam to spread false or misleading information about their products or services. To better handle the high volume of spam forwarded to the database, the FTC recently opened a new email box – SPAM@UCE.GOV

The FTC’s spam database has served as the basis for FTC cases involving pyramid schemes, money-making chain letters, credit card scams, credit repair scams, bogus weight-loss plans, fraudulent business opportunities, and other scams that were promoted via email.

Consumers who wish to forward unwanted or deceptive spam to the FTC should use the spam@uce.gov (link sends e-mail) address. Whenever you complain about spam, it’s important to include the full email header.

Consumers who think they have been taken advantage of by a spam scam can file a complaint with the FTC online at www.ftc.gov. Complaints will help the FTC find and stop people who are using spam to defraud consumers.

To learn more about how to avoid spam scams and reduce the clutter in your in-box, check out www.ftc.gov/spam.

What the blurb doesn’t say is never reply to these scams. If you think it might be real contact your bank, credit card, etc... using a phone number or email address you know is authentic.

Retirement Saving Estimators

Below are two websites recommended by NYSUT for calculating what you might need for retirement and how much you should save to get there.

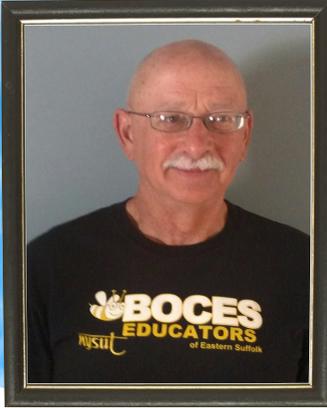
- 1) Choose To Save – www.choosetosave.org
- 2) Social Security Quick Calculator – www.ssa.gov/OACT/quickcalc

For those of you starting your career keep in mind that “It’s not how much you save, it’s how long you save it for.”

NYSTRS Retirement Planning (Adapted from an e-mail from NYSTRS)

Following are some important steps to help you reap your NYSTRS benefit. 1. Attend a PREP Seminar. These free seminars, offered year-round and open to all, cover NYSTRS benefits, financial planning, Social Security, estate planning and more.

BOB LOVE ~ MEMBER BENEFITS OFFICER



It Benefits You to Know - Continued

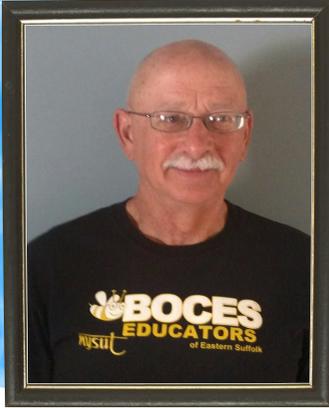
L.I. - Hauppauge	Radisson Hotel Hauppauge - Long Island 110 Vanderbilt Motor Parkway Hauppauge, New York 11788	Tuesday, July 10 Thursday, July 26 Tuesday, August 7
L.I. - Melville	Melville Marriott 1350 Walt Whitman Road Melville, New York 11747	Wednesday, July 11
L.I. - Plainview	Residence Inn 9 Gerhard Road Plainview, New York 11803	Wednesday, July 25
L.I. - Riverhead	Hotel Indigo - East End 1830 West Main Street, Route 25 Riverhead, New York 11901	Tuesday, July 24

2. Schedule a Consultation. Meet with a NYSTRS representative, in person or by live video, to discuss your retirement questions. Run estimates for different retirement dates and discuss the various payment options. 3. Understand Your Payment Options Before Choosing. Thoroughly review the difference between each before making your selection. 4. Apply for Retirement With NYSTRS. You must file an Application for Retirement (RET-54) with the Retirement System in order to receive your monthly pension payment. Applications can be filed up to 90 days prior to your date of retirement. Or file on your date of retirement, but make sure your date of retirement is at least one day after your contract with your employer expires. Have Questions? Speak with a NYSTRS representative by calling (800) 348-7298, Ext. 6250.

NYSERS Retirement Planning

You can schedule an individual appointment at the Hauppauge office – 330 Motor Parkway, Suite 107. To schedule an appointment, contact the Call Center at 1-866-805-0990. You can also visit the NYSERS website, <http://www.osc.state.ny.us/retire/members/index.php>, for planning videos and other retirement information. You might also be interested in visiting NYSERS on social media... Subscribe to the blog: <http://www.nyretirementnews.com/> Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NYSLRS> Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NYSLRS>

BOB LOVE ~ MEMBER BENEFITS OFFICER



It Benefits You to Know - Continued

Quick Quiz

- 1) Under the current contract how many years do you have to work for BOCES to qualify for individual health insurance into retirement?
- 2) Under the current contract how many years do you have to work for BOCES to qualify for family health insurance into retirement?
- 3) What is the name of the plan that allows you to use pre-tax dollars to pay for qualified healthcare and/or dependent care expenses?
- 4) How many consecutive calendar days do you need to be out for to be eligible for disability?
- 5) How much does the free individual dental coverage provided by BOCES cost you per month?
- 6) What percentage the family dental plan do you have to pay?
- 7) What is the name of the only eligible health insurance plan provided by BOCES that includes vision coverage?
- 8) What type of leave allows you to continue to accumulate time in the retirement system and on the seniority list?
- 9) How many consecutive days must you be out before the sick leave bank kicks in?

BONUS: Are you a member of the Sick Leave Bank? (You only get credit if you can answer yes)

- 10) What is the name of the form that you must fill out if you are injured as a result of a student's or parent's action?

NOTE: All questions are based on the contractual benefits under the current contract. As with all contractual items they are subject to change whenever a new contract is negotiated and ratified.

If you had trouble answering the above question, then perhaps you should consider reading a selection or two from my annual summer reading list:

- the Collective Bargaining Agreement, i.e. your contract.
- the Active Member's Handbook (for TRS members) or
- the Employees Retirement System Plan Booklet (for ERS members)
- What every NYSUT member should know and
- our website – BEESBEACON.ORG

I hope everyone has a safe and pleasant summer.

Remember, as in everything that is important – KEEP COPIES OF EVERYTHING

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions for future issues you can contact me at beesvpcb@optonline.net.

Financial advice shouldn't be a one-size-fits-all approach!

Stacey Braun Associates, Inc. -- the program provider of the NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation-endorsed Financial Counseling Program -- understands the unique benefits and retirement options of NYSUT members and how to address your specific financial needs.

There are two types of services available: a Full-Service Program and a 403(b) Advisor Option.

Financial Planning Center

Member Benefits also offers NYSUT members access at no charge to an online Financial Planning Center. Choose from more than 100 modules on a variety of financial topics.

NEW! -- Student Loan & Debt Consolidation Services

The NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation is pleased to announce the endorsement of Cambridge Credit Counseling as a provider to assist NYSUT members and their loved ones with better understanding their student loan re-payment options and/or debt consolidation. **Learn more about this new endorsed program by visiting memberbenefits.nysut.org/cambridge.**



Expert legal assistance for NYSUT members

The program offers:

- Low annual cost of just \$85 (\$55 for retirees)
- Unlimited toll-free legal advice
- Includes Simple Will, Power of Attorney, Health Care Proxy & Living Will
- Two, free, hour-long consultations with a plan attorney

Did you know NYSUT members have access to expert legal assistance for everything from preparing crucial estate planning documents to dealing with traffic violations?

Provided by Feldman, Kramer & Monaco, P.C., the NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed Legal Service Plan offers access to a national network of attorneys that deal with personal legal matters.

For an additional fee, Plan participants can add an Elder Law Rider and/or Business Protection Rider that provides access to attorneys who specialize in these areas.



Learn more by visiting memberbenefits.nysut.org or calling 800-626-8101.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

MICHELLE TINTER ~ TREASURER



United We Stand

As the 2017-2018 school year comes to a close it is often time to reflect back on our school year and ask once again where has the time gone. We made great strides on our political actions voting down con-con. As we await the decision on Janus, I ask we continue to fight the fight and stay as one where together we will get the job done! Congratulations to all of our constituents who are retiring. For the rest of us, have a happy and restful summer and hope to see you all on opening day in September. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at mmtt2004@aol.com

THANK A UNION

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Weekends | 14 Collective Bargaining |
| 2 Paid Vacation | 15 Breaks |
| 3 FMLA | 16 Wrongful Termination Laws |
| 4 Paid Sick Leave | 17 Age Discrimination Laws |
| 5 Child Labor Laws | 18 Raises |
| 6 Social Security | 19 Sexual Harrasment Laws |
| 7 Minimum Wage | 20 American Disabilities Act |
| 8 8 hour Work Day | 21 Holiday Pay |
| 9 Overtime Pay | 22 Military Leave |
| 10 Health & Safety OSHA | 23 Equal Pay Act |
| 11 Health Care | 24 Civil Rights |
| 12 Dental | 25 Workers Comp |
| 13 Vision | |

LiUNA!
Feel the Power

AL RIOS ~ MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY



The More the Merrier

Well another school year has come and gone. It is during this time of the year, that I often look back and can't believe how it felt like it was just September and I was setting up my classroom and now here we are in the last few weeks of the year and we are wrapping up our lessons, trying to review for the Regents tests and most of all trying not to stress over how our students will do on the state tests.

This year has been another very busy year in the membership department. Throughout the agency, between newly hired members, change of status employees and probationary appointments we have had yet another year of growth. All of this hiring and welcoming of new members makes me reflect on how fortunate we are to be a part of our local union "The B.E.E.S." (BOCES Educators of Eastern Suffolk.)

It's been a battle against the unions by big corporate America this year and we are all waiting to hear the final verdict on the Janus Supreme court case.

However the Supreme Court rules, I feel like we are prepared and we have actively gotten the word out on how dangerous it would be if we lost our contract because of a drop in our union membership. We are a very fortunate local with benefit rich contracts. We need to stick together and be proud union members to make sure we will always have the ability to have a voice in our jobs and protect our rights as union members.

So, rest up this summer and as we say goodbye to the 2017-18 school year and look forward to our summer, I want to wish you all a very happy, healthy and safe summer and I look forward to seeing you all well rested and motivated to make next year just as wonderful as this year.

All the Best,

Al



PATTI RICHARDS ~ GRIEVANCE OFFICER



Union Strong

Where has the year gone? It feels like just yesterday we were all gathering for our opening day meeting and now we are preparing for our Honorarium in June. Many of us will soon be packing up our classrooms and some will be preparing for summer school. Either way, the 2017-2018 school year is coming to a fast end.

Over the past weeks, the Executive Board members have had the pleasure of coming out to the buildings and speaking with you about the upcoming Janus V AFSCME case. As many are aware this case is with the Supreme Court and we are expecting the decision by late June. We have had many great conversations, and we hoped to alleviate any concerns or fears.

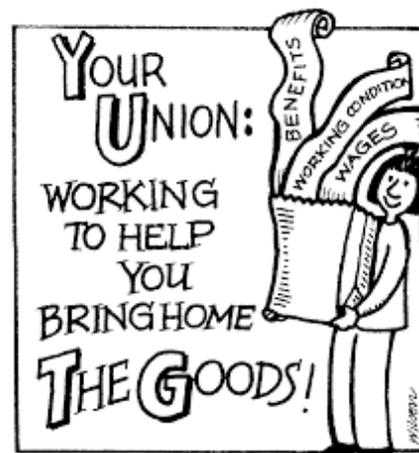
As many have heard from our visits, we do not anticipate the court to side with us. Therefore, you will be asked each year to make a decision to commit to our union. This year, BEES members overwhelming pledged their commitment and signed their cards. We thank you all for your continued support of your BEES Union.

With your pledge and commitment you understand with your union we are strong. You understand that as a union, we have a voice, a benefit rich contract, bargaining power, support, legal protection, and much more. Over the upcoming weeks and into next year, I urge you to read and familiarize yourself with your contract, attend your building level union meetings, speak with your school ambassadors, ask questions should you have any and read your BEES Beacon.

We are all in this together. United we stand - Union Strong!

Have a wonderful summer,

Patti



ANGIE SCHULTZ ~ SOCIAL CHAIRPERSON



Summer Sendoff

Can you believe we are at the end of yet another school year? The Summer will fly by and before you know it, it will be time to start the 2018-19 school year. For some of us the end of this school year means new beginnings, whether in a new building or new position or you are at the end of a wonderful career and you are heading down that path of retirement. For those of you finishing up your first year with Eastern Suffolk BOCES I hope it was a great success. We would like to wish you all a safe, happy and restful summer. To those members of the BEES that are retiring, we wish you a happy and healthy retirement. We, of course welcome your membership under your new hard-earned title of “retiree” Thank you to all of you that responded to attend the Retiree Honarium. Your responses were overwhelming and we are happy to report that the honorarium was a great success and an enjoyable night was had by all!

Welfare

In the event that a member suffers a death in the family, a bereavement card will be sent if it is a member’s spouse, parent, child, or sibling. In the case of a member passing, special circumstances will then apply. The procedure for a bereavement card to be sent is as follows: Members should contact their building representative as soon as they believe a member meets the above guidelines and a bereavement card should be sent. The building representative then should contact me via email at rarvm22@gmail.com with the member’s name and address and the name and relation to the deceased. In most circumstances the card will be sent as soon as I receive the information from the building reps. During the summer, you may email me directly since we are not in session.

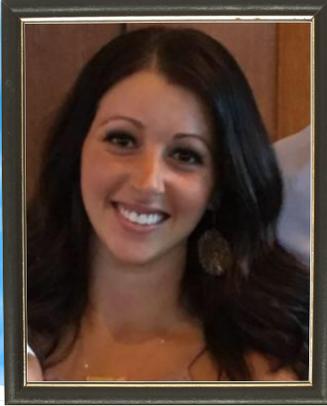
BEE Informed



Follow us on facebook and twitter!
Don't forget to join our text alert
system for the latest updates!



AMANDA PICA ~ RECORDING SECRETARY



Thank You

As we begin to end the 2017-2018 school I would like to take a moment to congratulate all of the BEES retirees! Thank you for all of your hard work, dedication, and years of service. As I conclude my first year as recording secretary I would like to thank my colleagues on the Executive Board for welcoming me with open arms. It has been a challenging but successful year. I hope everyone has a well-rested summer vacation.



TERRY KALB ~ RETIREE CHAIRPERSON



Welcome Retirees

Dear Retirees,

This month I'm delighted to welcome more than 50 BEES into retirement! Congratulations, you made it to the finish line of your ESB career- and you are at the beginning of a new path full of opportunities. Maybe you plan to throw away your alarm clocks, relocate to warmer communities, spend time with your family, travel, embark upon a new hobby or job, or just curl up with a good book- or maybe you are making no plans at all! Whatever happens, please make a promise to yourself to stay connected to BEES as a retiree. We have our own Retiree Chapter with a simple purpose- stick together to protect our hard earned benefits and pensions, stay informed about issues impacting us as public education retirees and senior citizens, and if you choose, opt in to various social/travel activities with BEES friends.

Please email me at terrykalb@yahoo.com or call me at 631-929-4295 to make sure you are included in our database, and to maintain your standing as a NYSUT retiree member. Our \$35 annual retiree dues for the 2018-19 school year are due in September. Make the check out to BEES (not me) and mail to Terry Kalb, PO Box 798, Wading River NY 11792. Learn about all the additional benefits NYSUT offers only to retiree members.

Have a wonderful summer everyone!

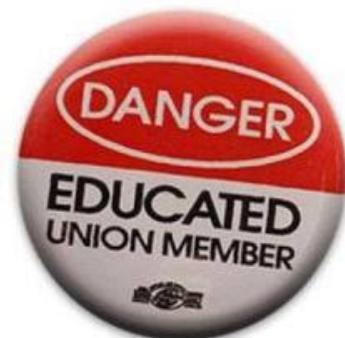
In Solidarity,

Terry Kalb

BEES Retiree Chapter President

RC-22 NYSUT Delegate

terrykalb@yahoo.com



BEES

BOCES Educators of Eastern Suffolk Executive Board

President.....	James Beck
Executive Vice President.....	Joseph Postiglione
Treasurer.....	Michelle Tinter
First Vice President.....	Ray Stenberg
Membership Secretary.....	Al Rios
Recording Secretary.....	Amanda Pica
Benefits Officer.....	Bob Love
Area Vice President Academy/SCE.....	Rosaria Broesler
Area Vice President SAS - Itinerants.....	Kristin Ericson-Abbruzzese
Area Vice President Para Educators.....	Linda Bufalo
Area Vice President Special Education.....	Asha Mazza-Shaw
Beacon Editor.....	Asha Mazza-Shaw
Grievance Chairperson.....	Patti Richards
Retiree Chairperson.....	Terry Kalb
Social Chairperson.....	Angie Schultz
Office Secretary.....	Mary Longo

**Honored 6
years in a row
for NYSUT's
Website of the
year**

**BOCES Educators of Eastern Suffolk
Union Local 3037
NYSUT Local 22-220
440 Waverly Ave.
Building 4, Suite 12
Patchogue, NY 11772
(631) 475-4704**

**Recipient
of AFT's
National award
for best
website**

**The BEACON is the official publication of the
BOCES Educators of Eastern Suffolk
First Supervisory District
Email: BOCESBEES@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/bees3037.**