



# The BEES Beacon



## BEES

BOCES Educators of Eastern Suffolk

**Union Strong**

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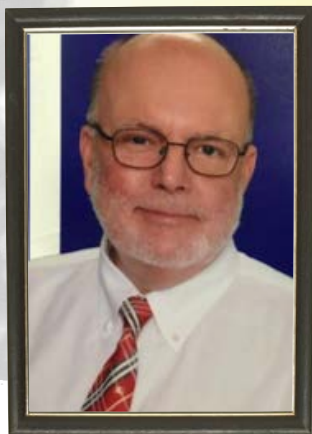
AFT Local 3037/NYSUT Local 22-220

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

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# JIM BECK ~ PRESIDENT



## You Are The Union

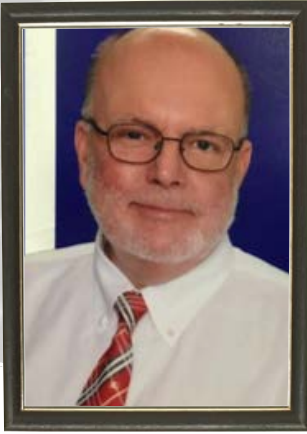
Happy 2019, my Sisters and Brothers. I hope you all have a happy and healthy new year. It is hard to believe that 2019 is here. Where does the time go? It seems like only a few years ago that I started working as a para at the North Country Learning Center in 1987. Ahh well, let's talk about what has been happening with our union.

The biggest news is that both the Yellow (para) and Blue (teacher) contracts have been ratified and are in place. The Blue MOA passed by 94 percent and the Yellow MOA by almost 70 percent. Both are solid, benefit-rich contracts that will take us past the post Janus years and ensure a solid footing for future negotiations. The agency will shortly be printing copies of both contracts for distribution, and we will get them out to the buildings as soon as they are ready. Given the strange political environment we find ourselves in, this is a great accomplishment. I'd like to thank our entire Executive Board for their support and for our NYSUT labor relations specialist, William Oquendo.

This was a team effort, and I could not have done it without them. As of this writing the longest partial federal government shutdown has ended, and 800,000 of our unionized sisters and brothers are back to being paid. It is my hope that this never happens again. It is estimated that over half of Americans could not go one month without a paycheck. Middle class Americans have had a rough time of it lately. Our ability to organize for the financial gain of our members is just one of the benefits of union membership.

 **UNIONS**

# JIM BECK ~ PRESIDENT



## You Are The Union

Another victory for NYSUT is the changes to APPR that have passed both the Senate and Assembly. It would have gone through last year but Senator Flanagan, as leader of the Senate, prevented the bill from coming to the floor in hopes of shaking out more money for Charter schools. It did not work out well for him in the last election but it worked well for us. There is strength in organized numbers that fight for each other. This is another benefit of unionized labor.

On the local level, we have been trying to make sure that all of our members are signed up for the union. This has been a very labor-intensive process. In the last few weeks, all of your Executive Board members have volunteered to visit all of our buildings to register all of our members. Personally, I visited Sequoya and JAC. We hope to have everyone registered by the middle of February.

Also, elections for Executive Board positions will soon be taking place. I will be running for President for one last time. I hope everyone will take this opportunity to vote and be part of the process. A special election issue of *The Beacon* will be coming out and will contain all of the biographies of the candidates. Please take time to read it. We are expecting several retirements, which will create room for movement within the board.

Finally, let me assure you that we will continue to work hard in protecting your interests and representing you and your concerns. It is shaping up to be a busy last half of the school year. Thank you, my friends, for sticking with your union.

Unity and strength,

*Jim*



# JOE POSTICLIONE ~ EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



## To BEE or Not To BEE Why is This Even a Question?

An open letter to the four members who have withdrawn their membership or refused to sign up as a dues paying member of the BEES.

Dear Non Dues-Paying Members,

First, I'd like to tell you a little bit about my career at Eastern Suffolk BOCES. I have worked for this agency for 35 years, and I am now coming to the end of my career. Before coming to this BOCES, I worked for what is now Western Suffolk BOCES as a teaching assistant for six and a half years. I would attend an occasional union meeting but noticed that everything they spoke about was for the teachers, there was no representation in the union for the teaching assistants; we seemed to be an afterthought. We had issues that I didn't feel the teacher reps fully understood or gave much thought to. Unhappy with this, I asked the union president if I could sit in on the rep meetings to get answers to some of the T.A. issues and bring information back to my T.A. colleagues. So, that was the beginning of my union career in education. Here at ESBOCES I have been involved in the union as more than a member for the last 21 years of my 35-year career. I started as a building rep for several years, moved up to Area Vice President for SCE, Grievance Chairperson was next, followed by my most rewarding position, Executive Vice President. So to say that I am pro union would be putting it lightly.

Here is why I am writing this letter to the members who have chosen not to pay their fair share of union dues: *I just don't get it!* I can't wrap my mind around how a person would ever think that it would be okay to not pay union dues while their co-workers, colleagues and friends are paying their fair share. You enjoy all the benefits and rights in your contract that have been hard fought for over many, many years, but for some reason, you have chosen not to pay your fair share. You are getting a free ride on the backs of all your co-workers and seem to be okay with this.



# JOE POSTICELIONE ~ EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



## To BEE or Not To BEE Why is This Even a Question?

Recently both the Blue and Yellow contracts were negotiated and ratified. This means that you will have continuous medical coverage for the next four years along with the same number of sick and personal days, and retirement leave payment. The Yellow contract was also enhanced with a provision to pay para-educators for sick time over 200 days. These are just a few of the many benefits that the union fought for and yet you have refused to pay your fair share. Again, *I just don't get it!*

So here is what I am asking -- Please help me understand the thought process in making the decision not to be a dues-paying member of the BEES union. Send me an email at [execvpbee@gmail.com](mailto:execvpbee@gmail.com) or send me a note through interoffice mail at ICC. I am seriously asking for your help to help me understand.

Thank you,

*Joe P*



# RAY STENBERG ~ FIRST VICE PRESIDENT



## Seeing Results

As we approach the half way point of the 2018-19 school year, we can feel a sense of relief that we now have a state legislature that is pro-education and a governor that has changed his tune and become increasingly pro-labor. In light of the disastrous Supreme Court ruling in the Janus case, our Governor has passed laws which protect unions in our state. Unlike other states who are using the Janus case to put the screws to unions, our Governor is showing that he values unions and realizes that they financially benefit millions of workers in our great state. In last night's 2019-2020 budget address, the Governor put forth a proposed education package of 2.97 billion dollars, which represents a 2.03% increase to schools on Long Island. Most educational leaders agree that this plan is a good start and that the legislature will probably increase this amount to help with foundation aid as well as educational mandates. It seems that we are going to be feeling much better than we have in years past.

This past November we came out and voted in numbers that we haven't seen in a very long time. Our retirees worked the phone banks and workers from our union went on labor walks to support candidates who are with us and oppose those who are not. It paid off and we were successful in defeating some long time incumbents who didn't help us. Senator John Flanagan who called us a "force of evil" is no longer the Senate Majority Leader while longtime Senator Carl Marcellino, who headed the Education Committee, chose not to take action on APPR and support charter schools lost the election in a stunning defeat. Several educators, including Brentwood's own Monica Martinez were elected to office as well as others who have shown us that we can count on them to help us move forward with our agendas. Needless to say, I'm feeling quite elated about the state of education and labor unions as we carry on.



# RAY STENBERG ~ FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

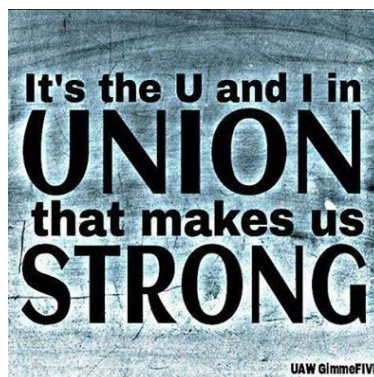


## Seeing Results

On February 27th about 20 BEES members have volunteered to take students from both Special Ed. and CTE up to Albany for BOCES Advocacy Day. Our staff and students will be afforded the opportunity to meet with new legislatures as well as some veteran politicians to advocate on behalf of BOCES in an attempt to move forward a pro-BOCES agenda. I whole-heartedly thank those who will be getting up at 4:00AM to catch the bus up to the capital. A week later, I will be back up there for the Committee of 100, lobbying on behalf of NYSUT. I look forward to both of these events, especially during these changing times.

Just before Thanksgiving, our members of both the Blue and Yellow contracts came out to Sherwood in the rain to vote on contract extensions. As a result of the hard work of the negotiating teams under the leadership of our President Jim Beck, we were able to extend both contracts with more money and benefits for our members and slight increases in insurance contributions. Keep in mind that BOCES does not set insurance rates and that they have no control over what the insurance companies do. Currently, our colleagues in Western Suffolk BOCES are working without a contract and that administration is insisting that teachers pay a whopping 35% of their health insurance. Needless to say, we are fortunate to say the least.

As we get through the winter chill, we can begin to think about the warm months ahead. Keep plugging along, enjoy what life has to offer, and do what you do best here at Eastern Suffolk BOCES - continue taking good care of our students as they represent the future of the world that we live in.





## Benefits designed exclusively for NYSUT members

NYSUT members and their loved ones have access to dozens of endorsed shopping, travel & personal programs available through NYSUT Member Benefits, including discounts on hotels & vacations; car & truck rentals; international group tours; sports & concert tickets; theme parks & attractions; and more.

Whether you are participating in one of our shopping/entertainment/travel offerings; auto, homeowners or life insurance plans; or financial or legal services, NYSUT members have the "Power of the Union" behind them ready to serve as their advocate.

### The following is just a sample of the endorsed programs available to NYSUT members:

**Bose** -- NYSUT members receive special educator pricing on high-end, high-quality electronics such as music systems, headphones and bluetooth speakers. You must contact Bose toll-free at 877-709-2073 and mention "educator pricing" to receive this exclusive pricing.

**Orlando Employee Discounts** -- NYSUT members save up to 30% on unforgettable Orlando, FL excursions to Disney World, Universal Studios and many other attractions.

**Grand Circle Travel** -- NYSUT members can enjoy a number of unique travel deals on international river cruises and other travel opportunities with Grand Circle's small ship cruise tours, river cruises and land tours.

### **Member Appreciation Month is back!**

One of our most popular annual events is set to return this February. The 2019 Member Appreciation Month celebration will be filled with a series of prize drawings for items donated by NYSUT Member Benefits and our endorsed program providers -- including gift cards, iPads, Echo Dots and more!

As a MAP Alert member, you are eligible to win prizes every single day throughout the month of February.

All MAP Alert members are already entered to win; if you have colleagues who would like to be eligible to win, they simply need to sign up for our MAP Alert service on the Member Benefits website. Prize winners will be listed daily on the Member Benefits website.



To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit [memberbenefits.nysut.org](http://memberbenefits.nysut.org) or call 800-626-8101.



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

Jan/Feb. 2019



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



## The Power of Unions

Happy New Year to all our BEES members. I hope that 2019 has begun on a positive note for all of you. It seems that on a larger scale, things have been off to a rocky start this year. If you have been paying attention to the news, you may have seen the United Teachers of Los Angeles on strike. The Denver Classroom Teachers Association may follow in their footsteps any day, and of course, none of us can forget the government shutdown that was the longest in our country's history.

All of these occurrences have one thing in common: unions. Your union representatives are often asked, "What has the union done for me?" On the local level we have just ratified both our contracts, Yellow (Paras) and Blue (Teachers) for new terms. This was extremely important given the new post-Janus era with which we are dealing. On a larger level, let's look at the UTLA strike. The Los Angeles teachers were fighting against numerous road blocks, including a lack of funding, staff, support services, class sizes of 40 or more and the increasing privatization of schools. They wanted more for their students, and they got it. For six days, thirty-four-thousand teachers from LA schools went on strike. As a result of unionized action L.A. will reinstate limits on class size starting next year, hire more nurses, counselors and librarians. Significantly, there will be a reduction in standardized testing and there will be a moratorium on new charter schools. The teachers also gained a long-overdue six percent raise.

After UTLA's success Denver teachers may follow suit. The Denver Classroom Teacher's Association (DCTA) is also asking for smaller class sizes, more counselors and fair pay. A decision impacting whether or not they will strike is expected on February 11th, so keep an eye on them to see unions in action!

If unions are "no longer necessary," or "obsolete," why do corporations spend billions trying to destroy them? Consider this your thought for the day, and share your thoughts!



someecards  @unions4workers  /unions4workers

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



## The Power of Unions

As you know, the longest government shutdown in our nation's history recently ended. There were many attempts at deals and negotiations, but the real driving force behind the recovery was, you guessed it, union power! With TSA workers and air traffic controllers staging a "sick out" in response to the shutdown, more and more airports were experiencing significant delays and cancellations. Groups that would normally work against each other, like the labor unions and airline CEOs were suddenly on the same side. They worked together to put pressure on the government and played a pivotal role putting an end to the shutdown. Now that's real union power!

Luckily, our local has not had to take to the streets for any of our own needs. It is good to look at how unions in other places get things done, and how fortunate we are to have a hard-working group of Building Representatives and Executive Board members who do their very best to maintain good working relationships with the agency. I urge any member who is interested in the union to get involved! Executive Board Elections are around the corner, so please take a look at the special "Election Edition" of *The Beacon* to get to know the candidates.

Thank you for all you do and remember to BEE the change!

*Asha*



# LINDA BUEALO ~ AREA V.P. FOR PARA-EDUCATORS



## What's Old is New

It seems impossible that we are nearly half way through the school year. I wish all of you a very Happy New Year!

Our contract was ratified on November 27, 2018 by a 2:1 vote, and adopted by the ESBOCES Board on December 12, 2018. We are now in the process of reviewing the finished copy which will be signed and sent to print shortly. In the meantime, please contact your Building Representatives should you have any questions.

During the past few months, questions and issues, which I believed to be resolved, have once again surfaced. You should rely on your Building Representatives for answers to your questions. They are the trained union members who will have accurate information for you. As we have many new members, and people often “don’t know what they don’t know”, I would like to address the questions and concerns that have been brought to my attention.

The first thing members need to be aware of is that Special Education Aides, Teaching Assistants, Bilingual Aides, and Sign Language Interpreters are **ALL** Para-Educators. We are in the same contract (known as the “Yellow” contract) and we are an umbrella unit under the teachers’ local (the B.E.E.S., or the BOCES Educators of Eastern Suffolk). Our contract and Professional Practices agreements with the agency are the two places you will find most of the answers to your questions. The contract is given to every member. You should rely on your Building Representative to make the Pro-Practices Agreements available to you. **EVERYONE** should attend their building meetings where these agreements are discussed.



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND GO TO THE NEXT  
UNION  
MEETING**

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



## What's Old is New

The following are answers to the most recent concerns:

- 1) Yes, Para-Educators are reimbursed for expenses related to field trips. An expense voucher must be submitted with a receipt. See page 41 of the Pro-Practices handbook.
- 2) No, Teaching Assistants who are certified teachers should not be pulled to serve as a teacher in another room. Aides should only be reassigned to another room if their assigned student is absent. See page 1 of the Pro-Practices handbook.
- 3) No, you do not need to resign to complete student teaching. New language in the contract speaks to the use of sick days and personal time if the school semester does not coordinate with the ESBOCES semesters. The agency semesters are from September 1 through January 31 and February 1 through June 30. A one semester leave will be granted in accordance with the contract. If additional time is needed, there is language for that as well in Pro-Practices. Always contact Human Resources for the specific requirements. This agreement is for Teaching Assistants **AND** Teacher Aides. See page 5 of the contract and page 36 of the Pro-Practices handbook.
- 4) Shared Aides should be in the same classroom with two students who have a similar level of needs. See page 15 of the Pro-Practices handbook.
- 5) Please refer to page 11 in the Pro-Practices handbook for the job responsibilities of Teacher Aides and Teaching Assistants. Your Building Representative can provide you with additional information. Please also read the agency handbook. There is a tremendous amount of information available to you. It is important to understand that there are many agency policies, and although they are not all included in the contract, we must abide by them just the same.
- 6) Only Human Resources 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. See page 29 of the Pro-Practices handbook.

I hope this information has been helpful and has put these issues to rest. Please spend some time getting to know your Building Representative. I encourage you to attend meetings, ask questions, and be informed. Our future depends on it.

In Solidarity,

*Linda*

PROUD TO BE A



PARAEDUCATOR

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



## BUSY BEES

Happy New Year to all! I hope everyone had some time to relax and enjoy special time with family and friends over the winter break. For those of you who are currently in an assignment in special education, you know we are entering crunch time with testing, report writing, staffings and annual CSE meetings. Please make sure you adhere to your building timeline for when reports are due. These timelines are very important since it is ESBOCES' responsibility to be timely so that the districts can provide the families with the reports and information before the annual CSE meeting. It is probably the busiest time of the year for most of us. Within the next few weeks, I am hoping to receive updated seniority lists. Any member wanting to find out their number must contact me directly. Your Building Representative cannot get this number for you, and I cannot tell you who is above or below you on the list. These lists and numbers become very important if our student enrollment was to decrease, or if we had limited members retiring and there needed to be reductions in staff members. Thankfully we are not in either situation, and our numbers currently look strong throughout ESBOCES.

I am hoping that all is going well with the members I represent, since I have heard from only a few members with concerns thus far and all have been dealt with. PLEASE speak up if you have a question, a concern or an issue you think may be breaking the contract or just does not seem right. On more than one occasion I have received information after the fact and sometimes it is by chance that I become aware of an issue. What you and I discuss remains confidential, until YOU decide you want to move forward and have it addressed.

Lastly, PLEASE VOTE for YOUR Executive Board. You will be getting a ballot in the mail, please read carefully, vote, place a stamp and return it. We are voted in by you, our members. We do our best to represent our members and make sure your voice is heard. You can also see a special edition of *The Beacon* with a biography for each candidate running for each position on the board.

Itinerants and related service providers please don't forget to send a copy of your new license when you renew it to Jean Christensen @ 201 Human Resources so you can collect your stipend as per the contract. If they do not have your most current license on file, you WILL NOT receive this benefit and NO EXCEPTIONS will be made.

The next related service and itinerant meeting will be April 25, 2019 at 3:30 at the Union Office.

Thank you for all your help and support.

You can reach me at SHS@Pat-Med H.S. 631-218-5411/kristinericson@optonline.net



## Know Your Contract

### HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR CONTRACT?

One of the most powerful things our BEES Union Executive Board does is bargain with the agency over everything from wages to workload. By speaking together with a strong, collective voice, we're able to maintain our standards, defend our profession, and protect the learning environment for our students. The fruits of our work together are represented in the contracts for professional educators. Perhaps the most important aspect of union membership is the ability to negotiate a contract, which is a written guarantee backed by federal law involving every aspect of your work life, including practice issues, pay, insurance benefits, vacation and leave policies, hours of work and much more.

Take this quiz to see how well you know some items in your contract:

- 1. If an employee was hired On or after January 1, 1995 but before July 1, 2005, how many years of service with ES BOCES must they have to be eligible for fully paid health insurance into retirement?***
- 2. How many saved days must an employee have in the sick bank in order to sell them back?***
- 3. What is the maximum amount of hours a CTE teacher can work in the course of a day?***
- 4. How many prep periods per week are GUARANTEED?***
- 5. How many observations can a probationary teacher be subject to per school year?***
- 6. Can a teacher take a personal day with no reason attached to a holiday?***

# ROSARIA BROESLER ~ AREA V.P. FOR ACADEMY/SCIENCE



## Know Your Contract

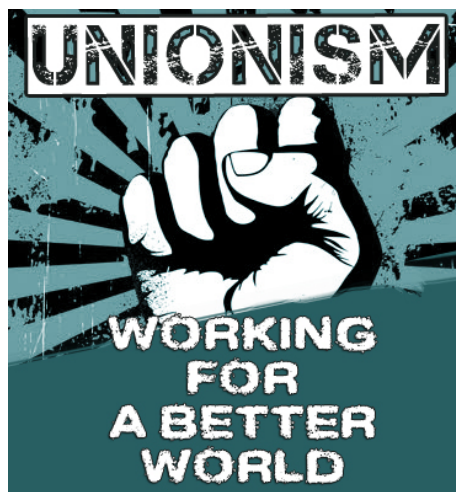
### **Answers**

- 1. 10 years**
- 2. 90 days**
- 3. 7 hours**
- 4. 4 preps**
- 5. 5 observations**
- 6. yes**

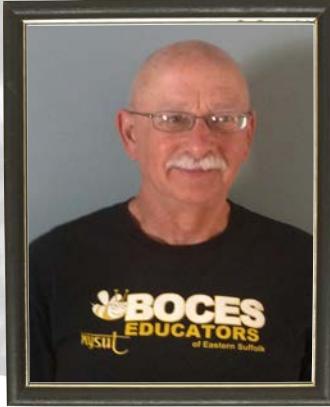
There are a lot of things you should know about your contract because the best way for the union to protect your contract is for you to know the union — and the provisions and protections that are negotiated on your behalf.

Remember, you should contact a union representative immediately whenever something doesn't seem right or if you have a concern, problem, or question about any aspect of your work.

Attend your Union meetings! Get involved because YOU are the UNION!



# BOB LOVE ~ MEMBER BENEFITS OFFICER



## It Benefits You to Know

I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy the holiday recess. By the time you read this, the year will be halfway over and the time to elect your Executive Board members will be fast approaching. In these difficult times, we need to show unity and strength, so please take the time to know the candidates and vote.

### **Maternity Leave – Not**

We do not get “maternity” leave. We get Sick Leave; we get Personal Leave; we get Temporary Leaves of absence with Pay (conferences/meetings/school visitations, child communicable disease, bereavement/critical illness, military, jury duty, & legal appearance); and we get Extended Leaves of Absence without Pay (military, child bearing/rearing/adoption, personal, and other).

When you go out due to a pregnancy, you are out on medical disability. If you have accumulated sick or personal time, you can use it to stay on payroll. How long you can be out depends on the type of delivery and/or other extenuating medical reasons. You are also eligible for unpaid child bearing/rearing leave for up to two years.

There are several factors that will affect the time you are out, your return, and the continuation of your benefits, they are:

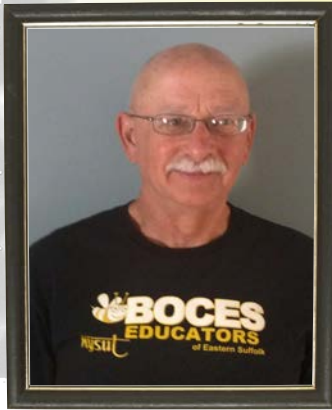
- ⌚ The date you are going out
- ⌚ The amount of sick leave you have accumulated
- ⌚ The type of delivery
- ⌚ Your eligibility for coverage under FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act)
- ⌚ How long you plan on being out
- ⌚ The date you plan on returning
- ⌚ If you are paying for or dropping your insurance coverage once your benefits expire

The spouse/domestic partner of the expectant mother is also eligible for child rearing leave. They can also use their personal time. They can request conversion of sick time to personal time in the case of serious illness, or an extraordinary and/or unusual event.

To determine the type of leave and the amount of time you are entitled to you should contact human resources at least 60 days before you anticipate going out. You should also contact human resource to determine the effect of the leave on your benefits, seniority, and retirement. Basically, when you are on a paid leave, you continue with your benefits (health insurance, dental, etc.), and you continue to accumulate seniority. When you are on an unpaid leave, your benefits will end and you no longer accumulate seniority.



# BOB LOVE ~ MEMBER BENEFITS OFFICER



## It Benefits You to Know

### Final Year's Salary or Final Average Salary

Final year's salary is what's written in both contracts for calculating your retirement leave. Final year's salary is just that, the number that is on the Salary Agreement you receive each school year. Final Average Salary is what is used to determine your pension. Put simply; final average salary could include monies other than your contract salary. It could include pay received during your FAS years from such things as summer school, adult ed., and mentor teacher.

\*I really do mean simply. You need to contact your retirement system to ask what is eligible and what isn't, as well as how your FAS is calculated.

### Retiring with Health Insurance

If you are currently being covered by your spouse's health insurance, either because you have taken the health insurance sell-back waiver or because you are a para educator hired after July 1, 1992, and are retiring this year, make sure you speak with human resources two months before your retirement date and evaluate switching to health insurance coverage. Once you are retired, you cannot pick up health insurance through BOCES. Should your spouse lose their health insurance or pass away and you do not have your own health insurance policy, you will be without coverage.

### Your Retirement

I hope that by now you all have created an online retirement system access account. The NYS Teacher's Retirement System has *My NYSTRS* (<http://www.nystrs.org/>), and the NYS Local Retirement System is at ([http://www.osc.state.ny.us/retire/retirement\\_online/customers.php](http://www.osc.state.ny.us/retire/retirement_online/customers.php)). Both will provide you access to your account and a wealth of information about retirement. You can even sign up for newsletters that will send you current changes and info. Hopefully, you have scheduled your retirement counseling. If you have not done so, and you are within five years of retirement, you should schedule a session by calling – 1-800-348-7298 ext. 6270 if you are in the NYSTRS or – 1-866-805-0990 if you are in the NYSERS.

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

You can contact me at [beesvpcb@optonline.net](mailto:beesvpcb@optonline.net) if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for future issues.

# AL RIOS ~ MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY



## Strength in Numbers

Well here we are half way through the school year heading towards the finish line, and our membership continues to grow. Since the initial 100 plus new members who joined us over the summer, we have had well over an additional 90 members join the BEES in the past few months. This is truly remarkable and a great thing for our local.

Operating our local in a post-Janus world, where anti-union corporations want to divide and conquer us, has made it more difficult to get our members enrolled. We have persevered and have continually strived to figure out new ways to make sure we get to our members. We will continue to explain the benefits and securities we have because we are unionized.

Since the beginning of the year, we have had 4 new hire enrollment meetings at the union office, where members of the E-board were on hand to meet with new employees. The new members were given a brief but informative message about union benefits and Board members answered any questions they had about their positions, responsibilities or how to get more involved with the union.

We have also made several attempts to visit our new members in their respective programs to provide all new employees the easiest access to enroll in the union and have the opportunity to ask any questions or concerns they may have. We plan to continue to look at the benefits of having our new hire enrollment meetings at the union office for new employees to give them the same welcome as we have in the past.

If you have a new member join your program, please welcome them and if they have any questions about the union and the benefits they receive from being a part of us let them know they can find out plenty of information at [www.beesbeacon.org](http://www.beesbeacon.org) or reach out to their Building Representative if they haven't been introduced yet.

I want to personally thank each and every BEES member who stood with us in unity and refused to allow the lies and anti-unionists to persuade them to abandon the union. In unity there is strength, and our members absolutely demonstrated that we are in this together!

It has been a wonderful school year thus far, and I wish you all a safe and happy winter. Let's hope that spring weather is eager to get here.

Best wishes till June!

AL



# BEE Informed



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



# BEES

## BOCES Educators of Eastern Suffolk Executive Board

President.....	James Beck
Executive Vice President.....	Joseph Postiglione
First Vice President.....	Ray Stenberg
Area Vice President Special Education.....	Asha Mazza-Shaw
Area Vice President Para Educators.....	Linda Bufalo
Area Vice President Academy/SCE.....	Rosaria Broesler
Area Vice President SAS - Itinerants.....	Kristin Ericson-Abbruzzese
Treasurer.....	Michelle Tinter
Benefits Officer.....	Bob Love
Membership Secretary.....	Al Rios
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