

Jason Carter (FE), President  
Julie Diffenderfer (OE), Internal VP  
Elizabeth Peters (FE), External VP  
Lisa Twitchell (HS), Treasurer  
Martha Hanley (FE), Secretary  
Doug Casey & Bob Berkowitz (HS),  
Retirement Delegates

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## President's Message



### FAIR Plan - For Who?

As many of you have heard the F.A.I.R. plan in Monroe County has been a source of controversy. The plan calls for a 50 percent reduction in sales tax revenue to school districts to pay for the county's portion of the state Medicaid bill. It was passed without public debate and will leave school districts with budgetary problems that may result in the cutting of programs and staff layoffs. NYSUT, along with the Wayne Central School District, and many other Monroe County school districts and organizations are currently engaging in a lawsuit against Monroe County.

While the F.A.I.R plan and the lawsuit will have a limited impact on Wayne Central, there is already a buzz that the Wayne County government may look to cut the sales tax revenues that it shares with

Wayne County school districts. This situation is being closely monitored, and if necessary you may be called on for support. The Wayne County Government previously attempted to cut the sharing of sales tax revenues a few years ago, but thanks to the lobbying efforts of NYSUT, NEA-NY, and many other Wayne County educational organizations it was blocked.

### A Winter Freeze on the 403b.

For those of you, who participate in a 403b retirement annuity, you should have received a letter in the mail from the district office regarding a "Temporary Freeze" on 403b account transfers and exchanges. This freeze is expected to be lifted around January 2008 depending on upcoming IRS law changes.

For the most part this

freeze should have no impact on your 403b annuity. The freeze would only affect you if you were planning on switching to a different 403b provider. For example if I wanted to switch my annuity and financial advisor from the vendor Ameriprise to the vendor of Vanguard, I would have to wait for the freeze to be lifted. However, I am free to move my money in my Ameriprise account to any bond, fund, or stock I want as long as I keep Ameriprise as my 403b vendor.

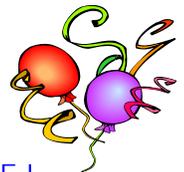
It is recommended that you contact your personal financial advisor if you have questions regarding your 403b account.

Have a great Thanksgiving and enjoy the extended weekend,

Sincerely,

Jason Carter

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### CELEBRATE !

**Congratulations:** Dawn Pressimone (OE) and Debbie Maier(OP) were both recently awarded an Honorary Life Member status in the New York State PTA By the OP/OE PTA for their lifelong contributions to the local PTA.

**Wedding Bells:** Carrie Van-Castle is now Carrie Eldred as she got married October 27th—bet that was a good Halloween party!

**Goodbye and Best Wishes to** Patrice Ott, OP art teacher as she will be moving to Michigan by the end of the month.

### WTA supporting our world community:

**OP** is collecting school supplies for a school in Nicaragua.

**FE** is collecting hats, mittens, socks for the local food pantry.

**HS** is conducting a toy drive for children in Afghanistan.

**Thank you** to our new WTA Audit Committee for meeting to conduct the internal audit: Kathy Uerz (OE), Casha Grisley (OP) and

## Beniversal –more benefit you can use!

The Beniversal card will be easier than ever to use beginning 1/1/08. Local merchants can now use a new Inventory Information Approval System (IIAS).

Across the country, qualified supermarket and discount pharmacy retailers will identify eligible medical expenses upon checkout...making

your card purchases truly paperless! Learn more about the 2008 Beniversal card and qualified retailers at : <http://www.briweb.com/empl/announce/IIAS-list.pdf>

Some of our local merchants utilizing the new system include Wegmans, TOPS, Target, Walgreens and SAMS club.

To see a complete updated list of merchants check out: [http://www.benefitresource.com/Employees/documents/IIAS\\_List.pdf](http://www.benefitresource.com/Employees/documents/IIAS_List.pdf)

If you have any questions, please contact Participant Services at 1-800-473-9595, Monday - Friday, 8 am - 8 pm Eastern Time.

# The 3 R's: Remarks, Reminders, and Relief!

**3rd Thursday:** November 15th. Topic -TSA Freeze and of course donuts! - Hope you enjoyed them!



- Concerns regarding pre-determined goals on summatives.

## Dates to Remember:

Wednesday, November 28, Weisenreder Committee meeting, 3:30pm at FE.

Friday, November 30, Mike Walker's band the *Earthtones* play at Johnny's Irish Pub from 5-8PM (Culver and Merchant's in Rochester)

**Rule of thumb #43:** "NYSUT union card with member ID—what's in your wallet?"

## NYSUT Field Representative:

Jeff Trout

(585)454-5550 [jtrout@nysutmail.org](mailto:jtrout@nysutmail.org)

Rochester Service Center/Union Place

30 N. Union St.—suite 302

Rochester, NY 14607

## Issues acted upon/resolved:

- 504 Case manager roles an assignment process clarified.

## Issues currently being explored:

## NYSUT moves 2009 convention from Rochester !

*Breaking News today from NYSUT Media Relations :*

ALBANY, N.Y. November 19, 2007 -- In response to management's continuing campaign to deny Crowne Plaza hotel workers their right to join a union, New York State United Teachers said today it will move its 2009 convention from Rochester to Buffalo.

The 585,000-member union had planned to bring its Representative Assembly to the Rochester Riverside Convention Center from April 1-4, 2009. The policy-making convention, which brings some 2,500 delegates to a host city

and books about 4,500 "room nights" in downtown hotels, has a projected economic impact - including meals and other spending - of at least \$5 million. That was the estimated impact on Rochester when the city hosted NYSUT's 2006 convention.

However, NYSUT President Richard C. Iannuzzi said the anti-union campaign by Crowne Plaza management in Rochester against UNITE HERE's organizing effort impelled NYSUT to relocate its 2009 convention - a decision that had to be made now because of the scope and complexity of the event. While NYSUT had hoped the labor dispute would be resolved by now, the need to

firm up plans for the union's three-day convention meant NYSUT had to act. The union has booked the 2009 event into the Buffalo Convention Center on the same dates.

"We had been looking forward to having another wonderful convention in Rochester, which has been a great city for us in the past," Iannuzzi said. "But it's important for us to stand with the Rochester labor community against the unfair campaign waged against workers' efforts to organize at the Crowne Plaza. Our leaders and members in Rochester understand and respect this decision."

*To read more about this and other NYSUT news go to [www.nysut.org](http://www.nysut.org)*



[WWW.WAYNETA.ORG](http://WWW.WAYNETA.ORG)

Have you checked out the new WTA website and e-mail yet? Well I just did and guess what I found! A whole page of useful web-links—all you have to do is click on the logos and there you are right where you want to be! So far we are direct linked to:

**Professional labor and education organizations** (NYSUT , AFT, NEA, Rochester and Genesee Valley Labor Federation, NYS Ed Dept., NY OTI Certification, and National Board for Professional Teaching Standards)

**Health and benefits organizations** (NYS Teacher Retirement System, Benefit Resources Inc, BlueCross/BlueShield, Medicare

Interactive, and Social Security)

**Town resources** (Town of Ontario, Ontario Public Library, Town of Walworth, and Walworth-Seeley Library)

**Educational supports** (WCSD Teacher Resource Center, NY Teacher Resource Centers, ThinkFinity—Marco Polo, Discovery—United Streaming, and Understanding By Design)

**Professional Teacher Associations** (National Council for Teachers of Mathematics, national Science Teachers Association, National Council of English Teachers, and Phi Delta Kappa International)

There is also a H-U-G-E informa-

tion area that is divided into 6 sections:

1. **General Information** with NYSUT members benefits , Dues TAB insurance and Wayne's World links.
2. Documents with direct access to the WTA contract, MOA's, constitution and the district calendar.
3. FAQ's on topics including Adoption leave, Dues schedule, Health insurance, Maternity leave, Retirement, Seniority, Sick bank, Tenure, and VOTE-COPE.
4. Health Care
5. APPR
6. Secure Members' Section

