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President's Message

This month kicks off our VOTE COPE drive. Please consider signing up for payroll deduction and donating a \$1 per paycheck. I could list thousands of reasons why it is so important. In the section below is one from our building reps, Cathy Crable, at FE that clearly captures one way VOTE COPE is actively working for you.

Regardless of whether you are in your career VOTE COPE works for you. Even after you retiree and are no longer teaching. VOTE COPE has

fought to get cost of living increase for retirees.



Photo: WTA receives the Abel Blattman VOTE COPE award from NYSUT

Do you want your summative reports released to the *public*?

Would you like **parents** reading *your* evaluations?

If teachers are rated and ranked by New York State, would you like those rankings and ratings **released** to the public?

This is something which may be happening! Right now there is legislation regarding making private evaluations and files such as these available to the public.

What can be done? Blocking the legislation through Political Action Committees and support legislation backed by NYSUT that protects teacher privacy.

How are the committees financed? Through **VOTE-COPE**.

Next Steps: If you already donate through payroll deduction-**NOTHING**. **YOU ARE ALL SET!** If you have donated in the past by check, or have not contributed to VOTE-COPE, you will be receiving some information as well as a visit from your building rep.

No twisted arms! No threats! No dirty looks!!!! Just begging!

If you already donate through a single check, please consider payroll deduction. It's fast, easy, and we will never bug you again!!

Thanks everyone! We hope to have 100% participation!!!! Help make that happen!

Volume 2 Issue 7

May 2012

Inside this issue:

3 R's	2
Trivia from "The Trout Pond"	2
Updates	3
News from	3
WTA Election Results	3
NYSUT Member Benefits Trust Ad	4
NYSUT Darien Lake Day	5

WTA Officers

Jason Carter (FE), President
Barb Thiele (OE), Internal VP
Kim Schultz (OP), External VP
Lisa Twitchell (HS), Treasurer
Faye Eaton (MS), Secretary



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

Dates to Remember:



Monday, June 4th —
Rep Council at HS

Saturday, June 9th—Wheels for
Weisenreder Bike Ride

Wednesday, June 20th Last Day
for Students (K-8)

Friday, June 22nd - Last Day
for Staff!

Issues Currently Being
Discussed/Explored

*APPR

*Work Load

*Class Size

*Assessments

*State Mandates...

Will we be ready?

*Transfers

Education should be
Endless...K. Schultz

I am so clever that
sometimes I don't
understand a single
word of what I am
saying.

- Oscar Wilde

Remember Charity Begins at Home

Please consider supporting The Wayne Soccer Alumni Fund. 100% of all profits go back to the Boys and Girls Soccer teams at Wayne. **Event is open to all staff or anyone connected in any way to Wayne Central.**

Trivia

Finally a New Question
Why you ask???? I won the
last one! Congratulations to
me.

By what date must
every school district
submit and have ap-
proved its collectively
bargained APPR to
New York's SED?

Contact Jeff Trout with
the correct answer will
receive a \$15 Lowes Gift
Card. 585-454-5550
jtrout@nysutmail.org



Acronym of the Month SLO

What is an SLO anyway?

A [Student Learning Objective \(SLO\)](#) is an academic goal for a teachers' students representing the most important learning for the semester or course. SLOs must include baseline performance data for each student, benchmarks to assess progress, and growth goal targets. SLOs are developed collaboratively between principals and an individual teacher, or groups of teachers, and should be based on district, school or grade level objectives that are aligned to New York State's Common Core, national or state standards. Teacher's effectiveness scores for this component of their evaluation will be based upon the degree to which their goals are attained.

This document, [available for download](#), is designed to summarize SED's guidance on SLOs and provide advice to local leaders.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Brad Daly who just received his National Certification! The official title is "Nationally Certified School Psychologist" or NCSP. Nice Job Brad!



Congratulations to Tim McBride and his wife, Jaime, who are now are the proud parents of a baby boy. Ronin John was born Saturday May 12 at 10:53 pm and weighed 8 pounds 10 oz.



NYSUT Action Center

Take action to protect the privacy rights of teachers with respect to your personnel records. NYSUT has declared that its statehouse priority is to get legislation that would remove any opportunity for the media and the general public to have access to teacher evaluations and other personnel information.

In the waning days of the legislative session, time is becoming a factor. Direct your members to the [MAC site](#) where they can send a letter to the governor and lawmakers. This is the only way to prevent a repeat of the media exploitation of teacher evaluations witnessed recently in New York City tabloids. The wholesale public release of evaluations runs contrary to the legislative purpose of Education Law 3012-c - the APPR law -- which is to improve student learning and teacher and principal effectiveness.

See Ad for how to win a prize!



NYSUT is planning a special congressional primary endorsement conference in Albany May 21-22 to coincide with the Committee of 100. The special conference is necessary because the primary is June 26. The regular endorsement conference is slated for Aug. 13-14

Excerpt from JOURNAL NEWS 05/14/12 FOR-PROFIT TESTING IN SCHOOLS FACES BOYCOTT FROM PARENTS

The Nyack mom especially has her sights set on a state-required, not-for-credit field test that's going to be given this month and next, barely a month after elementary and middle school students spent six days in science, math and English language arts state tests.

[Click to Read Full Article](#)

News From NYSUT

Chancellor Tisch condemns testing mistakes, but results will still count

The furor over the state's ELA and math assessments continued this week as SED acknowledged even more mistakes: There were 20 translation errors on the foreign-language versions of state math tests. Pearson, in its first year of a \$32 million five-year contract, was already under fire for a reading passage about a talking pineapple and numerous other questions that had to be thrown out. [Click here](#) for SED's most recent scoring guide to see the testing gaffes.

Meanwhile, NYSUT has forwarded a [formal letter](#) and a copy of the RA resolution "Student Assessment: Getting it Right" to the Regents. In the resolution, delegates call for the state to scrap its current testing system and place less focus on questionable standardized tests. To help make the case, NYSUT is seeking feedback from members. We're analyzing results from phone surveys just completed by NYSUT's calling center and will share results shortly. We have also set up an [online feedback link](#) for both the math and ELA state assessments. Click here for a [sampling of some of the news reports](#)

WTA Election Results effective July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2014

Building Reps

High School: Jackie Leszyk, Jay Marino, Kristina Stiles, Rebecca Walzer

HS Alt Reps: Brian Grayson, Patricia Brennan

Middle School: Jenn Cotton, Heather Estabrook, Jenny Wing

Freewill Elementary: Cathy Crable, Sarah Lohr

Ontario Primary: Ann Marie Evans, Becky Groff

Ontario Elementary: Jen Becker, Carla Herbst

Negotiators

At Large: Marc Binsack - MS

At Large: Michele Farley - OE

At Large: Heather Herendenen - OE

Building FE - Cynthia Rutan

Building OP - Eileen Zilliox

Building OE - Phil Corletto

Building MS - Jay Gauthier

Building HS - Patricia Brennan

Attention Locals: Don't miss out on a special prize drawing!

We know that your Local Association's newsletter is a great vehicle to find out what is going on in your region, meet the members of your local and learn about exciting opportunities available to you.

Along those lines, we have a great opportunity for you! NYSUT Member Benefits has launched a special prize drawing for all NYSUT members in an effort to encourage greater participation in our free MAP Alert email service.

MAP Alerts are sent approximately once every three weeks to your email inbox and contain information about new endorsed Member Benefits programs, changes to current programs and reminders about existing programs. And, you have our word that you will not be bombarded with email messages.

You will receive one entry into the drawing for every MAP Alert that you open and read before August 15. Winners will be announced on August 16 on the Member Benefits website!



If you are not already a MAP member, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org and click on the MAP graphic in the upper right hand corner of our homepage to join this free service.

Please note that you must be a NYSUT member to be eligible to win any of the prizes in this contest. Only one prize per winner. Current or retired NYSUT employees, NYSUT Member Benefits vendors, or their family members are not eligible to win.



All current and new MAP members who open at least one MAP Alert before August 15, 2012 are eligible to win the following prizes:

<u>Grand Prize</u>	<u>First Prize</u>	<u>Second Prize</u>	<u>Third Prize</u>	<u>Fourth Prize</u>
Bose Home Theater System	iPad	Kindle Fire	Bose Noise-Canceling Headphones	\$50 Powell's Books Gift Card

For more information about this drawing, call 800-626-8101 or visit the Member Benefits website at memberbenefits.nysut.org.

For information about programs or 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.





Exclusive discount days
for
NYSUT members only.
This is one offer
you don't want to miss!

July 13-20, 2012



With your NYSUT
ticket you get
TWO parks for
less than the price
of one!



USE THE ORDER FORM BELOW TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

YES! Send me _____ Darien Lake **NYSUT DAYS** tickets at \$19.99 plus tax (\$20.39 total)
valid any one day July 13-20, 2012.

Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed business-sized envelope.
Tickets will not be mailed unless the envelope is enclosed

a check made payable to Darien Lake or credit card information

NAME _____ School Name _____

ADDRESS: _____ Phone: (____) _____

CITY: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

Credit Card Type: _____ Credit Card #: _____

Exp. date: _____ Amount Enclosed _____ Signature: _____

Mail your order to: Darien Lake, ATTN: NYSUT Days, PO Box 91, Darien Center, NY 14040
Or Fax order to: (585) 599-4053 (Credit Card Orders Only)