



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

**3rd Thursday,  
April 27th**  
**Topic: Merger—  
changes that effect us.**



- ◆ Membership issue resolved.
- ◆ Contractual committees (stipends, supplemental benefits and professional conduct) members appointed.

ings have recently been posted for special education, coaching positions, and summer employment.

- Check out [www.nysut.org](http://www.nysut.org)

## Issues currently being explored:

- ◆ Harassment issue
- ◆ Certification areas.
- ◆ MS scheduling

**Rule of thumb #30:** “NEA, NYSUT, AFT, AFL-CIO = working together—and together we are stronger.”

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## Issues acted upon/resolved:

- ◆ Long term sub vs. unencumbered position issue resolved.
- ◆ Speech therapist assignments clarified.

## Don't forget to:

- **VOTE** for your next WTA officers on Wednesday, **April 26th!**
- **Check the school bulletin board**—a number of job open-

A great letter to the Buffalo News from a NYSUT local president. Subject: *Like charters? Try charter police or fire departments.* . . . <http://www.buffalonews.com/editorial/20060407/1039928.asp>



## Delegate Assembly!

On Friday, April 28th, the NEA—NY state Delegate Assembly will begin right here in downtown Rochester. It is destined to be a historic event as on Saturday the final vote regarding the merger with NYSUT will be held.

NEA-NY has been charged by past Delegate assemblies to continue on this path of unification. This vote that will be taken on Saturday will determine whether this plan will lift-off or die. If all goes according to the wishes of previous Delegate Assemblies, the vote will be in favor of the bylaws and constitution that have been drafted and NEA-NY will unify with NYSUT this summer.

So what does all this mean for us? There will be changes and some things will stay the same. There are always tradeoffs. Most importantly

we will be maintaining the health and quality of an educational state union.

### What stays the same:

- Our NEA national affiliation will still be there for us. Any benefits you currently have through NEA you will continue to keep.
- NEA-NY elected officers will join the newly merged organization as board members of the new union—continuing to be there for us and represent our concerns
- Jeff Trout will continue to be our uni-serve rep!

### What changes:

- We must change our WTA constitution and bylaws to be consistent with the new organization.
- Union ways of doing business at the regional and state level may vary from our old ways.

- NYSUT offers many services, trainings, etc that we can take advantage of right here locally through the downtown Rochester office (on Union St. you may have seen it!).
- Dues will be higher, but increases will be less drastic as adjustments are made to bring us all in line.
- Quantity of personal service may change as Jeff will have many more locals to represent.
- Lobbying power in Albany will be greatly enhanced as we move forward with a single voice for education.

This year 6 WTA delegates will be attending the State Delegate Assembly and making history. They are: Lori Sensenbach, Maureen Doyle, Beth Peters, Marc Binsack, Erin O'Brien, and Jason Carter.

## WTA Constitution and Bylaws to Change!

Assuming that the merger vote will pass at both the NEA—NY and NYSUT Delegate assemblies we will be charged with updating our bylaws and constitution prior to June 30th. Therefore, the WTA constitution committee has met to review the recommendations made by our state organizations and to role these changes out to you.

We have written and presented to the rep council the, “*Authorizing amendment to local affiliate's constitution and bylaws to effect change of New York State affiliate of the Wayne Teachers' Association.*” It was accepted unanimously and will be presented to the membership next month for a secret ballot vote. It is the topic

of discussion at this Thursday's 10-minute meeting.

*WTA Bylaws, pg 9, #107 Bylaw 12—Amendments, Section 1 &2: Amendments shall be submitted to the Rep council in writing. . . (and voted on), a majority of the active members casting secret ballot votes shall be necessary for the adoption of the amendment. . .*