

Jason Carter (FE), President
Barb Thiele (OP), Internal VP
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Lisa Twitchell (HS), Treasurer
Martha Hanley (FE), Secretary
Doug Casey & Bob Berkowitz (HS),
Retirement Delegates



President's Message

The end of the year always seems so busy, especially as we approach the holidays. It has certainly been busy on the political front.

The state recently passed a law creating a **new Tier V in the TRS system**. The gist is that Tier V members will be required to work until the age of 57 as opposed to 55 in Tier IV. Tier V members will also have to pay 3.5% for their entire career, as opposed to 3.0% for the first 10 years for Tier IV. Vesting in TRS has also been increased from 5 years to 10 and the 2% final average salary calculation has been increased to 25 years, up from 20 in Tier IV.

A good thing that has come out of this law is that the state is committed to

offer a retirement 55/25 early retirement option during a 3 month window in 2010. We will not know the specifics until the state acts, but will let you know as soon as they do.

It also appears that the federal government is actually going to pass a health care bill before the end of the year. While we won't know the details until the bill is actually passed, I have heard some people express concern over what is being called a tax on union health care plans. The proposed amendment in the bill would effect insurance plans that are often referred to as "Cadillac" insurance plans and insurers would face a tax of 40 percent on policies worth more than \$8,500 for individuals and \$23,000 for

families. While NYSUT opposes such taxes on union plans, it is important to note that regardless of whether or not this ends up in the final law, it would not impact Wayne CSD plans as they are not even close to those amounts described as "Cadillac" plans.

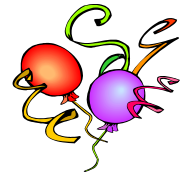
January also brings the start of filing personal income taxes for the 2009 fiscal year. If you claim your dues on your taxes, you can determine the amount paid for the fiscal year by looking at the year to date column for dues. If you were here full time for the entire **2009 fiscal year your dues amount is \$632.18**

Happy Holidays,
Jason Carter

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CELEBRATE !

Congratulations to:

HS: Mark MacMillan on his new administrative position at Rush Henrietta. He will be Director of Social Studies and LOTE

Brad and Jen Daly who gave birth to baby Madison on, December 18th. Talk about the best Christmas gift ever. . .

MS: Alan Etkin, a 6th grade social studies and ELA teacher. For being recognized with the Golden Apple Award from channel 8 news!

Kathy Perconti (HS) and Brett Bastian (MS) on their lead performances in *White Christmas*.

OE: Dawn Pressimone, librarian, was awarded the Genesee Valley PTA Educator of the Year for 2009. She is only the 2nd librarian to ever receive this award!

Betsey Irvine from just became engaged to Chris Reynolds And **Beth Hackett** is also recently engaged! . . . and I thought those were holiday bells ringing!?!

OP: Carrie and Paul Eldred are the proud new parents of Hannah Mae Eldred, born September 23, 2009.



The Weisenreder Way

WTA's Weisenreder Memorial Fund was established to aid families experiencing financial difficulties due to critical and chronic illnesses or crisis situations. Richard Weisenreder was a teacher at the Wayne Central School District for many years. His caring and compassionate demeanor made him a re-

spected and admired teacher in this district.

To that end every year the Weisenreder committee, with your help, reaches out to WCSD families in need with gift cards to help make their Holiday a bit more enjoyable. This year's contribution totaled \$2,280 of charitable giving and reached 48 families!

With your continued donations and the support of local companies like TOPS we can continue to support our families and our communities through the Weisenreder Memorial fund! Thank you!



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

WTA 10 Minute Meeting: Thursday January 21st!



Issues currently being discussed /explored:

- Team leaders and pay equity K-5
- Building project proposal
- 6:1:1 and 15:1:1 and highly qualified teacher status

Issues acted upon/resolved:

- Conducted and approved WTA fiscal audit for 2008-09
- Voted to support 9 resolutions submitted from retirees council at NYSUT annual Delegate Assembly.

Rule of thumb #59: “As we celebrate the Happy New year, remember every day is a new beginning!”

Dates to Remember:

Wed, Dec. 23rd—global compliance completion target deadline.

Mon., Jan. 4th WTA Rep council Mtg—

www.wayneta.org/webmail stay current !

Your user ID is the same as your WCSD user name with @wayneta.org, your password is your NYSUT member ID #.

202-224-3121 is the number for the Federal House of Representatives switchboard - please call to voice your concerns and opinions regarding the White House proposal regarding retirement benefits

Check out www.nysut.org and see Betsy Hennessey listed in the NYSUT article “National Board Certification: 117 More Earn Teaching’s Gold Standard”



Retirement MOA

The WTA is expected to sign an MOA regarding a retirement incentive. This gist of this MOA is that it allows members with at least 10, but less than 15 years of service in the district the choice of retiring under the previous or current contract language.

The reason for this is that the previous contract required at least 10 years of service with the district to qualify for the incentive and the current contract requires at least 15 years of service. While the current contract provides a higher incentive amount, there are several people between 10-15

years who would have qualified under the previous contract for the incentive, but now don't under the current contract's at least 15 years requirement.

The requirement to receive 100% health care of a single health insurance contract under both the previous and current contract is 15 years of service in the district. That is not effected by this MOA, as the MOA address the retirement incentive.

The deadline for declaring your retirement, if effective the end of this school year, is February 1 if you are retiring under the previous or cur-

rent contract language for the incentive.

If you have questions regarding TRS, you may also contact Wayne CSD's representative to TRS, Doug Casey and Bob Berkowitz.



Yoga in the classroom!

Dromedary Delight, Eagle, Moo-Meow. If you hear strange animal sounds coming from the campus of OP, it is because thirty teachers at OP participated in a two-part training called YogaKids during the month of November. Heidi Kaufman, a certified trainer and owner of Kids Yoga Studio in Rochester, taught them in easy ways to improve students' readiness to learn. Staff members learned poses and breathing exercises which they can use to

improve flexibility, strength, stamina, and focus in the classroom.

While Yoga has been around for thousands of years, the Yogakids program was specifically designed by Marsha Wenig in 1986 for children and is based on Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences. Its breathing and movement activities are easily integrated with classroom curriculum. Ms. Kaufman will be going into a number of classrooms and PE

classes to assist teachers implementing the activities.

The training is partially funded by the OP/OE PTA.



Stay informed with NYSUT Member Benefits ***free*** online services

Are you aware of the various ways you could save money through NYSUT Member Benefits? With more than 30 endorsed insurance, financial, legal and discount plans, it's hard to keep track of what is available to you.

If you have access to e-mail, consider joining MAP, Member Benefits' Member Assistance Program. Once every three weeks, you'll receive a brief e-mail message. It may be an advance notice of a change in an existing plan, an announcement of a new endorsement or a reminder about an endorsed program. These e-mail messages are immediately recognizable by the subject line: MAP Alert.

You have the option of reading each brief text message in an e-mail format or in a Web page format that includes eye-pleasing colors and graphics.

Occasionally, MAPers are asked for their opinions. Sometimes "MAP Alerts" include the opportunity to win valuable prizes offered by Member Benefits or providers of its endorsed programs.

Since MAP Alerts are sent from Member Benefits, your e-mail address is not shared with any outside parties.

If you haven't yet joined, simply complete a brief sign-up form on the Member Benefits Web site, www.memberbenefits.nysut.org, and within three weeks, you'll start to receive MAP Alerts.

If you participate in any Member Benefits-endorsed voluntary insurance and legal programs, you have a new online capability available.

For information about these programs or about contractual expense reimbursement/endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please call NYSUT Member Benefits at 800-626-8101, visit www.memberbenefits.nysut.org or refer to your NYSUT Member Benefits Trust Summary Plan Description.

Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

This service, called **My Program Participation**, allows you to look up information about the endorsed programs you participate in at any time, day or night. Information includes the payment methods you are eligible for as well as the method used (payroll/pension deduction or direct bill); deduction amounts; premium amounts and coverage information if provided by the vendor to Member Benefits; and phone numbers for the vendors.



In addition, if you are covered by a Member Benefits-endorsed Group Legal Service Plan provided to you by your local association, benefit fund or employer, this information will also be displayed.

My Program Participation offers convenience and is especially beneficial if you participate in multiple programs through payroll or pension deduction. Your check stub shows one total deduction amount. With MPP, you can immediately see the individual amounts that comprise the total deduction.

Go to www.memberbenefits.nysut.org for the My Program Participation navigation bar on the left-hand side of the home page. Because MPP is housed in a password-protected area of the site, you will need to do an initial login to establish your account. Due to privacy issues, you will be asked to create your own enhanced security code to access the look-up service. Instructions are on the Web site.

