



Vol. 38 No. 4 December 2013

MEMBER RECOGNITION

Brothers and sisters, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize all of you for your hard work and professionalism during this extraordinary time in education's history. It is a difficult time to be an educator and member of a union. There is a great deal of controversy in the media regarding our evaluations, testing, and the overall quality of public education, not to mention the advantages of union affiliation: benefits, wages, retirement plans, and a greater political voice. And all of these are under intense public scrutiny, even downright attack in the current environment. Nevertheless, we have the means to fight back, to resist the naysayers and to keep our focus straight and firm.

Throughout the year you have stepped up and helped out. In April you wore Red For Public Ed and handed out flyers to parents. In May you pitched in at the school budget phone banks. You came out to the rally in Carle Place and the public forum with Commissioner King in Mineola. You sent letters to Regent Tilles and signed on to the NYSUT MAC app and sent our representatives faxes about various legislative issues. In house, you attended negotiation input meetings and you wore blue on December 9th for the National Day of Action. You volunteered to take part in district committees, hiring committees, NYSUT workshops, and served as TRS delegates. You have chosen to act as department liaisons for your building reps, and you ran for positions on the SFT Executive Board.

With all that you have done and continue to do, please know that it is greatly appreciated. Every contribution, big or small, benefits us all. No one is expected to do everything; but everyone must do something. In 2014 we must all continue to pitch in. In every *Intercom* report there is at least one action that must be taken. Do your part, do what you can. Talk to your building reps about different opportunities to contribute and do your share. The strongest unions are those whose members are active, get involved and demand and command respect.

BECAUSE CCLS, APPR RTTT ARE JUST LETTERS...
BECAUSE YOU ARE VALUABLE...

BECAUSE YOU ARE UNIQUE...

BECAUSE YOU TEACH, INSPIRE, MOTIVATE...

BECAUSE YOU ARE MORE THAN A TEST SCORE...

In appreciation of all that you do, in your mailbox you will find a green ID lanyard with the quote

"Learning Is More Than A Test Score"

On behalf of the SFT Executive Board, I wish you a peaceful holiday season and a wonderful New Year with those you cherish.

In Unity,

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These pictures were submitted to NYSUT for the National Day Of Action! Thank you for participating.









Officers:

President: Rosanne Mamo (x5070) Treasurer: Bart Curcio (x9326)

Vice President: John Koscinski (x2696)

Secretary: Jennifer Gordon-Tennant (x9223)

Building Reps:

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HFC: Steve Carpaneto (x9439), Kathleen Muller (x9422)

FPM: Tom Burke (x9332), Karen Caporale (x9308)

NHP: Joe Grossi (x9525), Sean Karabuber (x9530)

SEW: Mary Anne Contarino (x9639), John Reagan (x2680)

Committee Chairpersons:

Legislative:Craig Barbieri (9562), Tom CookPublic Relations:Shirley Pincay (x9525)Grievance:Christine Plackis (x9352)Nurse Rep: Lenora Elliot (x9254)Health & Safety:Chris Mayer (x9430)T.A. Rep: Ruth Ehrlich (x9232)

Teacher Liaison: Kevin Kowalczyk (x9531) **Retiree Reps:** Maddy Maffetore, Anna Zurawinsky **Internal Communication:** Chris Brustman (x2681)