



NYSUT CERTIFICATION ASSISTANCE

NYSED certification system can be complicated and confusing. NYSUT offers free live webinars designed to help manage your certifications.

<https://www.nysut.org/resources/special-resources-sites/certification/webinars>

NYSUT Fact Sheet

https://www.nysut.org/-/media/files/nysut/resources/2022/2022_03_02_factsheet21_13_teacher_certification_nys.pdf

NYSUT TASK FORCE HIGHLIGHTS SCHOOL SAFETY

The goal of **NYSUT's Safe Schools for All Task Force**, made up of educators from across our state, is to put together a list of recommendations for national, state and local leaders to best support safe public schools at the heart of every community

<https://nysut.docsend.com/view/jhcbf9sxxe63kqcv>



RECENT BARGAINING

O/N BOCES purchased a weapons detector and established a single point of entry at Niagara Academy for the 2022-2023 school year. We wanted to update you on some things going on behind the scenes regarding the implementation of this new security equipment.

On September 21st, we reached out to BOCES with questions regarding the implementation and the role our members would be directed to perform; BOCES responded on September 30th. Based on their response, we requested a formal meeting to discuss this matter further. Their intent is that teachers would operate the machine and perform searches of students' bags or other belongings, essentially becoming security guards at the school entrance. With Niagara Academy being the first site to have these detectors installed, we know what is put in place here will set the precedent for all our sites. BOCESTA spoke to teachers' unions from our surrounding area, any school who had similar equipment said they are operated by trained security personnel. Officers of BOCESTA met with BOCES on October 6th to discuss our concerns. We made it abundantly clear that we are thankful for the added security measures. However, there is a difference between previously established hallway duties and implementing & operating security searches. On October 7th, we received word that at this time our members will not be asked to perform such duties. We did request that if they intend on having any BOCESTA member participate in any duty related to the new weapon search protocol, that this directive is placed in writing to the impacted member. Please contact your building representative if you receive such correspondence.

Happy Hour

November 4th @
3:30pm

NYBP

Retiree Info Meeting

October 26th, 4-6pm
Conference Center
RSVP to Faith Albert
716-471-2265
dawnfp@verizon.net

Meat Raffle

Save the date:
March 25th
Locations TBD

HOW DOES VOTE-COPE HELP EDUCATORS AND UNION MEMBERS IN OUR STATE?

VOTE-COPE is the best way to protect the things that matter to all of our members:

- Protect pensions
- Protect tenure
- Protect collective bargaining
- Protect our contract and salaries
- Protect our academic freedom

VOTE
COPE

SUPPORT EDUCATORS

HELP OUR STUDENTS

PROTECT OUR RIGHTS

ADVANCE DEMOCRACY

UNITE OUR NATION

Union Victories

The Vote Cope Annual summary regarding NYSUT's victories this past year may be found here: <https://nysut.docsend.com/view/vy5aerttjh8xv9r6>

AAP Chronic Condition Management in Schools Community Grant Opportunity

Application deadline: October 21, 2022

Download the application [here](#)

Chronic health conditions, including asthma, diabetes, obesity, food allergies, mental health, tooth decay, and seizure disorders, affect more than 14 million school-aged youth (almost 20% of the school-aged population), with approximately half of these being moderate or severe. Given the rising chronic condition prevalence and the linkage between health and academic performance, schools play an important role in helping students manage their conditions.

With funding made possible through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Healthy Schools Branch, the American Academy of Pediatrics will launch a Chronic Condition Management in Schools Community Grants Program. Up to 10 Community Grants, each worth up to \$12,500, are available to qualified applicants. Grantees will be funded for a 6-month project period, November 1, 2022 through April 30, 2023. This program will provide small grants to plan and implement collaborative projects to advance chronic condition management in schools. Funded projects must establish teams that include representatives from the following sectors: (1) schools and/or school districts and (2) local pediatrician and/or pediatric resident. Community organizations/local health departments are invited to apply as well and must include the above two sectors on the project team.

The application period will be open from Monday, October 3, 2022, through Friday, October 21, 2022. For more information, contact Courtney Day, Manager, Community Health and Partnerships at cday@aap.org or apply online [here](#).

APPR Hardship Waiver

NYSED has approved the APPR hardship waiver for the 2022-2023 school year. This waiver eliminates the requirement for the unannounced observation to be conducted by an administrator outside the building you are assigned.

NYSUT LEARNING CENTER

The Western New York Regional Office is pleased to be joining with the Rochester Regional office to offer free professional development sessions in the upcoming months from NYSUT's Education & Learning Trust (ELT). There are sessions available at no cost for teachers and SRPs who are NYSUT members.

To register and see the list of classes just click on this link: [NYSUT Learning Center](#). The majority of the sessions are remote through Zoom. Some sessions may be designated for new members but if you are interested in any of them feel free to sign up for it regardless of how long you've been working in the profession.

NEW NYSUT LABOR RELATIONS SPECIALIST

Jeffrey Dabill will be retiring the week of Thanksgiving. Our new NYSUT Labor Relations Specialist will be Terri Lyman. She joins us with 15 years of union representation experience. We are excited to gain her experience and knowledge to our team. She will be taking over as our lead negotiator for contract negotiations.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the members of our negotiations team for the amazing job at the negotiations table so far. The endless hours and unyielding positivity you have each given has greatly been appreciated. We have a large team working hard to settle our contract. Thank you again for all your effort!

The team started pre-negotiations meetings in October of 2021 and has met numerous times as a team. Since January of 2022, we have had 10 sessions at the table with representatives from BOCES. The team even continued to meet over the summer. History has proven that negotiations is a time-consuming process that regretfully tends to take longer than we would hope and often requires actions from our members.

We currently have been working through 22 proposals on the table from BOCESTA and 19 from BOCES. Reminder: We are working without a contract. Continue with past practices, but we should not be taking on NEW tasks. If you are asked to do so, ask for it as a written directive.

Current BOCESTA Proposal Topics: Salary Schedule, OT/PT Integration, Extra Stipends, Workers Compensation, IEP Working days, Dental, Professional Licenses/Fees etc., Appropriate Workspace, Loyalty Stipend (perfect attendance), Work Year, Teacher Transfer (voluntary & Involuntary), Posting of Job Openings, Health Insurance Upon Retirement, Planning Time, Service Beyond the Regular Teaching Year (summer school, orientation), Testing Requirements/Conditions of employment, Duplicate coverage and Alternative to Health Insurance, Annual Sick Day Buy back, Flexible Work Schedule, Association President release time, Differential Pay

Healthcare Workers Bonus Program Information

Earlier this year, New York established a Healthcare Workers Bonus (HWB) program which provides compensation for employees in certain health-related titles. Eligible workers who earn less than \$125,000 annual, who remain in their positions for at least six months and who work during vesting periods between October 1, 2021 and March 31, 2024 may be able to receive up to \$3,000. Not all workers will qualify for this benefit.

School districts are identified as qualified employers under this program. Certain titles, including registered nurses, are listed in the eligible worker title table [see: [eligible worker title](#)]. The initial period for providing information began on October 1st and closes October 31st. It is important that eligible members complete their portion of the necessary information.

Members who believe they are in an eligible title should complete the “Employee Attestation Form” and deliver it to the Superintendent/HR. If an employee in an eligible title is denied benefits under this program, please let us know.

Helpful Information:

- [Healthcare Workers Bonus Program](#)
- [Information Needed for Eligible Educational Entities to Submit Claims for Employee Health Care Worker Bonus Payments](#)
- [Employer Attestation Form](#)
- [Employee Attestation Form](#)

Please see the most recent FAQ from NYS Dept of Health on the Health Care Worker Bonus Program:

https://health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/providers/hwb_program/hwb_program_faq.htm