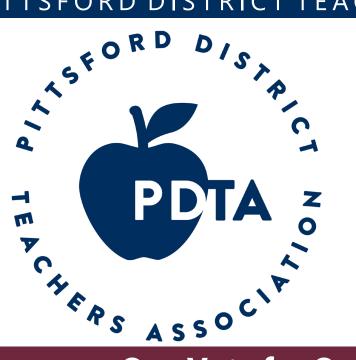
#### NFORMATION, NEWS S AND IJΡ Ρ TSFORD DISTRICT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



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#### As I write this article, we are about to embark

on the most unique and challenging Budget Vote and Board of Education elections season that most of us have ever experienced. The concept of a mail-in vote is unprecedented, raising many interests and concerns for our members and those who are deeply invested in our schools.

As you are aware, the budget for our school district funds every position, program, and student opportunity that we provide. Over the years, we have worked collaboratively to develop an incredible instructional program while simultaneously providing for the needs of the whole child. Most recently we have been able to add full-day kindergarten, modify programs to responsively meet student interests and have

**Dwayne Cerbone, President** expanded support of our student's escalating SEL needs through the addition of numerous student support services. We constantly struggle with imbalanced and limited funding from the state and local taxes, so none of this has occurred without challenges to other services and programs. Without the continued valued support from our community we would not be able to sustain and adapt the programs and services we proudly deliver. My heart hurts when I pause to consider the impact on our students and our staff if our residents fail to pass the PCSD budget. At this time, our students need us and the programs we offer more than ever, for stability and hope for their future. Yet, instead of rallying to lift them up we are in jeopardy of having to consider cuts rather than expansion. Could you imagine returning to school following this closure with a reduced budget

**One Vote for Our Students** 

for technology, lost course offerings, elimination of student activities and/or a reduction of mental health services? We all acknowledge our students individual and corporate needs when we return in the fall will be significant and they deserve our support!

I struggle asking any of you to do one more thing amid the challenges you have already taken on during this COVID-19 closure. Yet, if we fail to act now, we risk losing all that we have been fighting for and working toward. Please join us in our fight for public education, the fight for our students and our schools. Vote Yes on your school budget and for the Union endorsed candidates for your school district's Board of Education.





## PCSD 2020-2021 Budget Vote and BOE Election Stephanie Warchol, Executive Vice President

Like so much this spring, there are substantial changes to the budget vote and

board of education election process. In accordance with Executive Order 202.26 issued by NYS Governor Andrew Cuomo, this year's school budget vote and board of education election will be conducted entirely by absentee ballot. Currently, the proposed budget of \$140,328,172 is balanced with the best information known at this time, based on the Enacted NYS Budget. The proposed budget serves as a base that provides the greatest flexibility from which to address future challenges.

The 2020-21 proposed budget is balanced, remains within the Property Tax Cap (3.76%) and preserves current programs and services. Pittsford Schools' budget keeps the tax levy growth within the Monroe County average despite receiving the lowest Foundation Aid per Pupil in the County. Per NYS law, school boards can submit a budget to the voters a maximum of two times, then a "Contingent Budget" must be implemented. If the proposed budget is defeated once, the Board may conduct a revote or go straight to a Contingent Budget. NYS law requires that a Contingent Budget not include certain non-ordinary contingent expenses AND that the new budget must have a Tax Levy that is not greater than the previous year's Tax Levy. The Board of Education is charged with determining a Contingent Budget. A Contingent Budget would result in an almost \$3.9 million budget gap, requiring a reduction in services and programs.

Additionally, there is one bus proposition on the ballot that will NOT impact taxes and will generate State Aid if approved by voters. The District is seeking authorization to purchase twelve replacement buses, per the District replacement schedule, and one utility truck, at a total cost of no more than \$1,517,553 (less trade-in allowance) from the existing capital reserve fund (savings account). Using reserves for this purchase will generate approximately \$926,000 in State Aid to replenish the account.

There are two members of the Board of Education whose terms are expiring this year. Long-time and devoted Board Vice President Kim McCluski is stepping down. Two term incumbent and PDTA endorsed Board Member **Ted Aroesty** is seeking re-election. Current PTSA President and PDTAendorsed candidate **Robin Scott** is running for her first term on the Board. Sareer Fazili is the third candidate running to fill two open seats.

As part of the required absentee ballot process, two ballots and two postage paid return envelopes will be mailed, with instructions, to every PCSD household. Households where a resident has turned 18 vears of age since the last vote, will receive an additional ballot. Eligible voters must meet the following legal requirements: at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States and a legal resident of the District at least 30 days immediately prior to June 9, 2020. Additional ballots for gualified voters can be requested by contacting the District Clerk at Deborah Carpenter@ pittsford.monroe.edu. Residents are asked to return their ballots by mail. using the prepaid envelopes. Only one ballot per envelope is allowed. All absentee ballots must be received in the District Clerk's office by 5 p.m. on June 9, 2020.



**ENDORSES Ted Aroesty and Robin Scott.** 





### **Resolutions Specialist** Kim Chesko

As we end this very challenging school year, we are looking forward to another that

will most likely also be different to say the very least. I would like to look ahead to some contractual considerations we usually make for summer, and update you as much as I can about what we know, and what we are still working on.

#### **Moving Classrooms**

PDTA realizes that many teachers will be moving to different classrooms next year, especially due to our recent boundary reassessment. Please check your contract (section 1-8-1) to see if your move qualifies for a paid summer work day, as not every move does.

If you already know that you are scheduled to move classrooms (in or between buildings), please work with your building principal to determine when and how the move can be made. This should include time to do so and the ability to follow recommendations regarding COVID-19 from the District and Monroe County Health Department.

Please know that our PDTA Health and Safety Committee is actively discussing summer moves with the District to create a plan that ensures that they are done efficiently and safely.

#### Summer Professional Learning

Our 12-hour Professional Learning requirement for certificated staff is a contractual provision that takes the place of two traditional work days. As such, this requirement cannot be waived due to current circumstances. Fortunately, in Pittsford we have a dedicated Teacher Center, directed by Julie Barker – who is passionate about each and every member receiving PL that is relevant and informational.

The Teacher Center is still running and planning PL to begin as soon as the school year ends. Check the Teacher Center catalog on Wincap throughout June and into the summer to register for workshops.

#### **SRP Summer Days**

Because buildings are still largely closed to staff, we are unsure of how the SRP summer workday requirement will look this year. Lorinda Spring has been working tirelessly with the District as your PDTA representative to develop a plan for the execution of this contractual requirement. The safety of our SRP staff is of the utmost importance and in the forefront of all planning. Please continue to check your district email throughout June and into the summer if necessary, as PDTA and PCSD will be communicating the plan for summer work days as soon as an agreement is reached.

I'd like to close by assuring you that although we may be facing many changes as we look ahead to this summer and next school year, your Union is still here. We are working every day to represent you and uphold our contract – even when the structure of school itself is uncertain. We have never been more fortunate to be a part of a Union and I hope that you will go into the summer as proud as I am that we are **#PDTAStrong**!



PDTA T-shirts have arrived, and will be distributed when we return to our buildings during the last week of school. If you ordered a shirt in February, be on the lookout for it then!



## **Professional Learning Update** Julie Barker, Teacher Center Director

Important Information for Summer Professional Learning

Planning for summer professional learning is currently underway. As you can imagine, things are going to look and feel different than in previous summers. The majority of our workshops will be offered online with the hope that some may be face to face, as permissible, later in the summer.

The Professional Learning Catalog for summer is being released soon. Look for it on June 5th!

When you receive information about the summer catalog, and are enrolling in activities, please pay careful attention to details that are provided because they will alert you to how each activity is going to be delivered.

#### Activities this summer will be offered in one of four formats:

- SYNCHRONOUS these sessions will be held live via a video conferencing platform and credit will be awarded for attending.
- ASYNCHRONOUS these sessions will be completed on your own and at your convenience during

the window of time indicated. Completion of these activities will require submission of a formative reflection for credit to be awarded.

- BLENDED these sessions will be a combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning. The dates and times shown in WinCap PD are for the synchronous sessions only. Details regarding the window of time when the asynchronous learning should take place will be listed in the activity description. Completion of the asynchronous hours will require submission of a formative reflection for credit to be awarded.
- FACE TO FACE these sessions will be taking place in person in one of our buildings. It is possible that circumstances may cause face to face sessions to change to an online format so please look for email messages with any updates.

Since the catalog for this summer will look different than in previous years, **it is important to read the activity description that is provided**. Details regarding how to access files, due dates for assigned tasks, and other important information will be included in the description for each activity. You can access the description for an activity by clicking on the title of the workshop in the catalog.

We may also send information via emails from WinCap Web. Please look for messages from WinCapWeb AutoAdmin in your school email inbox as they will contain important information about activities in which you are enrolled.

As we navigate these new delivery formats, I ask for your patience and understanding. Along with you, we are learning to deliver professional learning in an online format for the first time and I anticipate there will be bumps along the way. In the end, however, I am confident that you will continue to have opportunities to engage in high quality professional

REMINDER: All professional learning hours for the 2019-2020 school year must be completed by May 31st. Be sure to email all evidence of completion to the Teacher Center ASAP.

Please contact Julie Barker if you have any questions.

learning alongside your colleagues.

As always, if you have any questions, please let me know.

Wishing you all a safe and happy Spring! - Julie



**Cindy Merrifield** PDTA Vice President for Negotiations

In my wildest dreams I would never have imagined how our year has played out. PDTA kicked into high gear in early March insuring that all unintended consequences due to our school closure were addressed with the best possible outcome for our members. If you have any questions or concerns as we move forward, please reach out to your building representative. You can always access our current contract (in a clickable format) on the PDTA website in the documents section. In addition the APPR Large Group has ended for the school year. We look forward to continuing our work in the future.

### To all: stay healthy and well!





# Political Action

### **Karen Grace**

### Your Vote Is More Important Than Ever

In an effort to keep New Yorkers safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo issued an executive order delaying school board elections and budget votes statewide until June 9, 2020. The school board elections and budget votes will all be conducted by mail and all qualified voters will be sent an absentee ballot with return postage paid. Please be aware when returning your ballot that only one ballot per envelope is allowed.

"At a time when resources are limited, it has never been more important for voters to stay engaged in and support our public schools, our students and our dedicated teachers by voting yes for their school budgets." NYSUT President Andy Pallotta said.

With the potential for a greater voter turnout by mail, your yes vote is more important than ever in supporting the school budget, as well as supporting our endorsed school board candidates too. No matter where you live, please vote yes for your school budget and vote for your locally endorsed school board candidates as well.

Brighton Central School District	Endorsed by:
Larry Davis Susan Gasparino Julene Gilbert	Brighton Teachers' Association
East Irondequoit Central School District Jill Ricci	Endorsed by: East Irondequoit Teachers' Association
Greece Central School District Sean McCabe John Siwicki James Sawers William Maloney	Endorsed by: Greece Teachers' Association
Hilton Central School District Maryanne Chaffee Brian O'Connor	Endorsed by: Hilton Central Teachers' Association
Penfield Central School District Shaun Hakiel Lisa Benati-Chidsey	Endorsed by: Penfield Education Association
Pittsford Central School District Ted Arcesty Robin Scott	Endorsed by: Pittsford District Teachers' Association
Rush-Henrietta Central School District Douglas Rivers Jennifer Laird	Endorsed by: Rush Henrietta Education Association
Spencerport Central School District Dave Gibbardo Mike Mayer Kate Czarnecki	Endorsed by: Spencerport Teachers' Association
Waterloo Central Central School District Erin Brown Ray Grifa Josh Mull	Endorsed by: Waterloo Education Association
Webster Central School District Shanna LaDelfa Jennifer Birdsong-N Janice Garritano-Richardson	Endorsed by: g Webster Teachers' Association
West Irondequoit Central School District Ann Cunningham John Vav	Endorsed by: W. Irondequoit Teachers', Maintenance Employees & Educational Secretaries



## Health and Safety Emily Natoli-Burns

Your mental and physical health are extremely important to us. During this closure safety representatives from each building are working with PDTA building representatives and

building principals to ensure that re-entry to each building is safe and meets the requirements of the Monroe County Department of Health.

Listed to the right is each building's safety representative. If you have any safety related questions or concerns, please connect with these individuals. Heartfelt thanks to everyone who has worked on the plans to re-enter buildings. Your time and indepth understanding of your buildings and roles of members have been essential.

- AC Michele Riedl
- JR Cathy Anstrom
- MC Elizabeth Mitchell
- PR Laura Penkitis
- TR Anne Rizk
- **BRMS** Elizabeth Willis
- **CRMS** Diana Page
- MHS Joani Moffett
- SHS Ben Winter & Emily Natoli-Burns
- PDAA Mike Falzoi

## **Building News:**

- MCE: We have two members who had babies during our building shutdown, Kerri Hastings and Steve Marriott. Congratulations!!
- PRE: Jeannine Galusha welcomed a baby boy. Allison Luta welcomed a baby boy. Katie Burch was married on New Year's Eve. She is now Katie Greco. Kim Falzoi's father-in-law passed away.
- ACE: Kelly Coiro's mother passed away on January 24, 2020. Karen Wilson's father-in-law passed away on January 24, 2020. Michelle Bryson's father passed away on January 30, 2020.





## **Chrissy Doggett** PDTA Public Relations

Happy May! Skip the home cooked meal on Thursday, June 4th and get a delicious BBQ Chicken or Pulled Pork dinner sponsored by our very own PDTA! This is a huge fundraiser that normally happens on the day

of the budget vote. The Pittsford Pub and The Basin Pub have come together to work as one to help us raise funds for the Barb Shapiro Scholarship Fund. The Pittsford Pub has graciously offered to host this event! Please call or e-mail me with any questions that you might have!

#### Stay safe and stay healthy!! Chrissy





## **Board of Education Candidate Statements**

In advance of the upcoming election, PDTA asked each of the candidates to respond to the following:

In addition to some background information and your qualifications, please answer the following questions in a bulleted format:

- o Why do you desire to serve on the PCSD BOE?
- o What are our school district's greatest strengths, and opportunities for improvement?
- o What do you see as the major challenges facing public education and our school district in the next few years?
- o In this role, how will you address the current fiscal realities while continuing our commitment to excellence?

Here are their unedited responses:



**TED AROESTY PDTA** endorsed candidate Why do you desire to serve on the PCSD BOE?

I am seeking a third term on the Pittsford Board of Education in order to continue to assist the great tradition of exceptional education in Pittsford. Over the past six years it has been an honor to work with the entire Pittsford Educational Community to maintain high quality standards while balancing financial sustainability and remaining child focused. I believe that my extensive background in accounting and business management has proven to be useful while serving on the Board. Additionally, I believe that I am uniquely qualified to serve given my background in public safety as a 34 year volunteer fireman and Executive Director of the Brighton Fire District. I bring an important and relevant background in health, safety and security to the Board of Education.

What are our school district's greatest strengths, and opportunities for improvement?

I am proud of how our team is always committed to continual improvement, never settling for the status quo. I am also very proud of what I call Pittsford's "secret sauce", collaboration. Collaboration is what I believe has helped our district excel in so many

ways. I enjoy the good times, like achieving FDK. However, when things don't go our way, or we face a challenge, I am always proud of how we roll up our sleeves and resolve the problem together. One recent example is the District equity work. I really appreciate the time I spent working with our District leadership team and Generation Ready. I know that I personally grew through the experience. As a district, there has been significant growth with respect to equity in our schools, and we have a great opportunity to continue to be a leader in this area through continued professional development.

What do you see as the major challenges facing public education and our school district in the next few years?

Looking ahead there is a very uncertain, critical issue facing our district, COVID-19 and the unanticipated consequences on our overall budget. The hardest part is that the time table and decision makers are vague and outside of our control, and the final parameters surrounding the issue are unclear and fluid. At this point, what we must focus on is what we do know, education must continue! This requires that we plan to be able to respond in multiple ways, or even in a combination of ways. Our response to date has been nothing short of amazing. That does not mean, however, that we don't have room for improvement. Another substantial challenge we will face will be bringing students and staff back together in the school setting, where they feel safe. What social emotional issues will we be dealing with? What questions can we anticipate? We will need to be ready.

In this role, how will you address the current fiscal realities while continuing our commitment to excellence?

Ultimately to embark on any of the initiatives I mentioned, we have to be able to have the financial resources. Unfortunately, we are not in the position of being able to just print more money when we want it. As BOE members, we are accountable to the community and subject to the NYS Tax Cap. I do believe that with prudent planning and prioritization on our students' needs, we will continue to be able to meet our objective moving forward. I am concerned however by recent comments by the governor, the mid-year cuts to our already reduced aid are within the realm of possibility. To that end we are working on advocacy with not only state legislators, but more importantly our federal representatives. I will always remain student focused, but I firmly believe we can not spend money that we do not have.

Thanks for the opportunity to respond to your questions. I am humbled to be part of such a great team and hope to continue to represent the entire Pittsford Educational Community.

Ted Aroesty tgaroesty@gmail.com

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May 2020 - Speak Out!

## **Board of Education Candidate Statements**



It is my pleasure to submit this piece in support of my candidacy for Pittsford School Board. I would be honored to follow in the footsteps of those who have set the standard by which the Pittsford School district is defined. Excellence breeds excellence, and it will be my unstinting duty to continue our district's reputation as we move through these unanticipated times.

I grew up in Western New York, the son of immigrants. I earned my B.A. in Economics at the University of Rochester. I went to graduate level courses at SUNY Buffalo before earning my law degree. I have been a litigator for over 20 years.

We moved to Pittsford on the basis of Pittsford's schools reputation. We have three kids in the schools, one at each level. I have been an advocate for our kids since my arrival. For years I worked with then Assistant Superintendent for Schools Michael Pero and current Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Michael Leone on the Religious Observance Advisory Committee (ROAC). ROAC was the precursor to the current

Inclusivity and Diversity Committee. Currently I serve as the President of the Pittsford Youth Services, and Vice-President of the PACK swim team of Pittsford. I am the immediate past President of the Islamic Center of Rochester. I have always tried to serve the community wherever I felt my skills could help. Service is my motivation.

My unique skill set and perspective would provide a measure of review yet unseen in the district. My focus is on our kids' complete student experience. All kids, regardless of economic, residential, health or other disparity, must be treated equally and provided every resource to succeed. Simultaneously we must continue investing in our faculty and staff. They deserve every support to engage and nurture their students. An increased focus on technology, professional development and alternative educational methods is the need of the hour. Our students' academic, athletic and arts achievements are unmatched locally. It is due to their hard work, family support and unparalleled administrative and faculty guidance. That cannot change.

Increased investment in our students' mental health and social needs is crucial. Social and emotional support needs will increase. Our dedicated faculty and staff must have a support-based structure in place. We must be prepared for anticipated NYS cuts to our already underfunded budget. My experience will help us identify areas of economic inefficiencies. We will collectively lobby all levels of government to ensure that our students' needs are met. Economics, state support and a healthy return to the "new normal" will be our largest challenge in the coming years.

I offer experience in orienting students of different backgrounds to the system. I did it. I will advocate tirelessly for our academic community. And I will do so by keeping economics at the forefront of our collective effort.

Vote Sareer Fazili for Pittsford School Board. Visit Elect Sareer Fazili for Pittsford School Board on Facebook.

### Board of Education Candidate Statements



Background information: Robin Scott currently serves as President of the Pittsford Central Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA). Past PTSA offices and roles include President-Elect, Vice President of the Education Council, Chair of Enrichment Grants, Central PTSA Secretary and Thornell Road School Building Chair.

Mrs. Scott also participates in PCSD shared decision making with active involvement on the District Planning Team, the Generation Ready equity and inclusion training and Inclusivity Advisory Committee. Past PCSD committee service includes Code of Conduct Review committee, Teacher Center Policy Board, interview committees for the District's high school and middle school administrators as well as the Inclusivity Advisory committee community interviews. Robin regularly attends Board of Education meetings.

Robin Scott is community focused and has volunteered or elected to lead in multiple organizations among them Rochester (NY) Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated Rochester Chapter, and Girl Scouts of Western New York. This year she received NY State PTA's Honorary Life Member Award and she is the 2010 recipient of Rochester Jack and Jill's Distinguished Mother Award.

Continued next page...



## **Board of Education Candidate Statements**

Finally, Mrs. Scott holds a B. A. cum laude in International Studies from Rhodes College in Memphis, TN and a M. A. in Near Eastern Studies from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. She is married and has one child who attends PCSD schools.

Why do you desire to serve on the PCSD BOE?

As a resident of Pittsford for 15 years, I am running for school board because of my passion for all children and interest in continuing the work of building global, successful and caring citizens. My professional, volunteer and life experiences have prepared me for service on the Pittsford Board of Education. I currently serve as the President of the Pittsford Central PTSA where my responsibilities ready me to serve as a PCSD board member. The President's position involves commitment and service on many PCSD committees which incudes but not limited to our District Planning team that advises our Superintendent, the Generation Ready equity and inclusion training, the Code of Conduct Review committee, and the Inclusivity Advisory Committee, just to name a few. I also regularly attend Board of Education meetings. Because of my ongoing involvement with our school district, it's a natural fit to continue my service as I formally seek candidacy for the Pittsford Central School Board.

What are our school district's greatest strengths, and opportunities for improvement?

Our school district's greatest strength is included in our PCSD mission and tagline--"Excellence today and tomorrow," and "our community works collaboratively to inspire and prepare students to be their best, do their best and make a difference in the lives of others." As a parent stakeholder on the District Planning Team, I'm proud to be a part of a district that includes parents on key planning committees. At that same table are administrators, teachers, staff, and community members. The DPT committee is just one example of our school district's commitment to collaboration. Our opportunities for improvement include ensuring that our students are culturally proficient and have awareness that allows them to function as global citizens. Our training with Generation Ready is staging us to complete our aspirations in that area.

What do you see as the major challenges facing public education and our school district in the next few years?

The major challenge facing us right now is pandemic preparedness and contingencies. As we address multiple scenarios and contingency plan after contingency plan for returning our children to physical building school, we must continually consider the safety, security and mental wellness of our students, staff and families. At the same time, we must continue the work we were involved prior to the pandemic and forge ahead to address and advocate for challenges of state funding, equity and inclusion vision training and practices, state formula updates for our kindergartners being recognized as a full day vs. half day students, mental health supports, teacher and bus driver shortages and in-school physical safety for all.

In this role, how will you address the current fiscal realities while continuing our commitment to excellence?

Even in the face of this pandemic, our 2020-2021 school budget is one that is fiscally prudent, student-centered and meets established guidelines. Additionally, our Aa1 bond rating and contingent reserves place us in a budgetary position that sustains us and sets us apart from neighboring districts. As a school board member, I will work as a team to adopt a fiscally sound budget that adjusts to annual and varying circumstances.

# VOTE!

## for PITTSFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD

#### Vote for leaders who are ready to lead our schools.

People understand the vital role schools and educators serve in our community. Our schools feed our students, help their families deal with economic and social needs, and support entire communities.



Receive your election ballot mailed to you by the school district



**VOTE YES** for the budget and **VOTE YES** for the endorsed candidates above



Place your ballot in the postage paid envelope provided by the district



Place your ballot in the mail immediately to assure it is received no later than 5:00PM on June 9<sup>th</sup>



# Your Reps:

### Building Representatives:

Stephanie Barg, AC Julie Shaw, JR Jennifer Villareale, MC Karen Socker, PR Lisa Mauger, TR Kristen Dolan, BR Melissa Althouse, CR Paige LaBarr, MHS Lynne Drake, SHS Lorinda Spring, SRP

### Assistant Building Representatives:

Kathy Rudd, AC Elizabeth Kramer, JR Patty Mayer and Trisha Sullivan, MCE Jill Pink, PR Amy Adams, TR Liesa Ehrlich, Rhonda Matthews, Tammy Cole, BRMS Chrissy Doggett, Heather Trapiss, CRMS Dave Larson, Tom Kennell, Paula Fink, MHS Marc Hellems, Brian Shafer, Amanda Marshall, SHS

### SRP Representatives:

Cathy Anstrom, JR Lisa Backscheider, SHS Kristi Kelley, JR Kristina Otto, MHS Radhika Ramesh, TR Janet Realbuto, SHS Jenny Telek, MCE Rebecca Tan, MCE

# Vote YES for the PCSD Budget and BOE Candidates

## **Ted Aroesty & Robin Scott**

## New York State Teacher Centers

A RESOURCE FOR EDUCATORS ... A PROMISE FOR STUDENTS

#### nysteachercenters.org



#### New York State Teacher Centers:

#### ADDRESS THE EQUITY CHALLENGES IN SCHOOLS Teacher centers provide necessary professional learning opportunities to educators in under-resourced districts.

#### EQUIP EDUCATORS WITH THE INFORMATION THEY NEED TO ADDRESS THE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS IN OUR SCHOOLS

Teacher centers are committed to creating and maintaining safe and supportive learning environments for all students by building the capacity of educators to support their social-emotional learning.

#### HELP COMBAT THE TEACHER SHORTAGE IN THE STATE

### Investing in our teachers by offering high-quality professional learning and mentoring at a low cost helps to keep teachers in the profession and in our schools.

**PROVIDE FREE SPECIAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATION EXTENSION COURSES** Our Special Education Extension Series provides for more flexible assignments for special education teachers.

**IDENTIFY, DELIVER AND SUPPORT INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR LEARNING** Teacher centers match available instructional technologies so students and educators can achieve the Next Generation Learning Standards.

**New York State Teacher Centers:** Our mission is to provide high-quality professional learning opportunities for educators to enrich their teaching practice and improve student learning and achievement.

## **SPEAK OUT! Ads**

You and your familiy members are invited to place ads in future issues of SPEAK OUT!

Rates for Members and Family (price is for one issue):

1/8 Page: \$12.50 ¼ Page: \$25.00 ½ Page: \$50.00 Full Page: \$100.00

Above Rates are for copy ready advertising. If additional design or set-up is required, an additional fee of \$25 will be assessed. Space for ads is limited per issue. Checks should be made out to PDTA and mailed to the PDTA Office. **Ad PROCEEDS WILL SUPPORT PDTA CHARITABLE EFFORTS.** 

Send copy and questions directly to <a href="mailto:brian\_regan@pittsford.monroe.edu">brian\_regan@pittsford.monroe.edu</a>.





## **Cut and Keep Reminders**

You have rights won for you by your union! Under the law, you have a right to union representation at an investigatory interview with a supervisor if you reasonably believe that the interview will lead to discipline. This right is triggered when you request union representation. The representative must be a union leader. If you believe you may be disciplined, you should ask, "Could this meeting result in discipline? If so, I request my union representative be present." A reasonable period of time shall be afforded to you to obtain such representation. That means you never have to meet with the supervisor right away, and you are also entitled to know the subject of the meeting. These are known as your Weingarten Rights.

Monday afternoons are reserved for PDTA meetings If you are a teacher leader, please avoid scheduling meetings on Monday afternoons to enable our PDTA leaders to attend their meetings representing you and our member's interests. Please share this information with any non-member who desires to schedule a meeting that conflicts with this agreement. Thank you!

All permanently or professionally certified teachers or educational leaders and Level III teaching assistant certificate holders are required to register with SED in the month of his/her birth. This registration process will be done using the State Education Department's TEACH system. These certificate holders will be required to register every five (5) years thereafter.

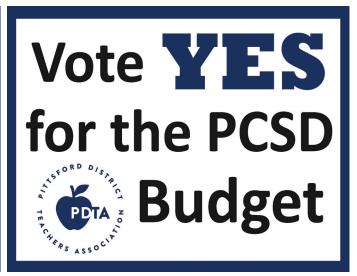
Like us on Facebook (<u>Pittsford District Teachers Association (PDTA) – A Union of Educators</u>) Follow us on Twitter <u>@PDTAUnion</u>

**Employee Assistance:** Life can be difficult but you are not expected to do it alone. Your union is here to support you. Please know you also have a confidential and free service available to you through the Associates in Employee Assistance for any personal need. PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO SET UP AN APPOINTMENT at 585-383-4478 or call toll free 877-327-2278.

**Health and Safety:** In the event that a health and safety issue arises in your building, please know that your union supports you in resolving these issues in a timely manner. To report a health and safety concern, simply go to the <u>PDTA website</u> and locate the green tab labeled documents. Clicking this it will bring you to a menu with a number of document options. Select forms, and find the form labeled health and safety concerns form. Follow the directions on this form, and alert your building health and safety representative. If you are unsure if something is in fact a health and safety issue, speak with your building representative or your health and safety representative.

## **Got Questions? Visit PDTA.org**









During these unprecedented times and in the face of incredible adversity, each of you continue to sacrifice and dedicate yourselves to our children, our families and our communities.

We thank all of the educators, school-related professionals, nurses and other health care workers who continue to demonstrate their unwavering compassion, dedication and commitment to our communities on a daily basis.

## memberbenefits.nysut.org | 800-626-8101





For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

May/June '20



Speak Out is edited and assembled by Brian Regan. Your feedback is welcome at brian\_regan@pittsford.monroe.edu

