

Colleagues,



1) **Membership meeting:** On Wednesday, February 28 starting at 4 PM, we will be holding an NTU Membership meeting at Oliver Street School. On the agenda for this meeting we will discuss:

- Contract Reopener for School Year 2018-2019
- Observations and Evaluations
- NTU Recommitment Campaign (What is Janus and how can we best prepare for Janus's impact?)
- Building Rep Reorganizing
- Local Control – Next Steps

**The Union is the Voice of its members, let us hear from you!!**

**BREAKING NEWS! INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT ROBERT GREGORY WILL BE JOINING US ON WEDNESDAY TO ADDRESS THE MEMBERSHIP AND TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE!**

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- 2) **Rebuttal Tips: IMPORTANT!!** It is vital that if you receive a bad evaluation or observation that you disagree with, **YOU MUST WRITE A REBUTTAL!** Refusing to sign your observation or evaluation is not the same as writing a rebuttal! Without a rebuttal, the record has nothing to show except that you agreed with this negative assessment of your performance. **[The NTU has prepared some tips on the best way to go about writing your rebuttal.](#)**

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- 3) **Flu Concerns:** We have heard concerns from our members about the possibility of getting infected with the flu virus. There have already been 30+ childhood flu deaths nationwide so far in 2017-2018. Educators, parents and staff can help slow the spread of respiratory illnesses like colds, and influenza (flu). The **[Center for Disease Control](#)** has information on preventing the flu as well as materials and tools for schools. **[Click here](#)**

These resources include **[everyday preventative actions that help reduce the chance of infection.](#)**



**4) Special Education Assistance** - The NTU has an email set up for members to get assistance with special education questions and issues: [NTUSpEd@NewarkTeachersunion.com](mailto:NTUSpEd@NewarkTeachersunion.com). We are also working on getting a Special Education Council in place to review bigger issues regarding Child Study Team and Special Education Issues. More to come.

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5) **Member Services:** Members should never hesitate to communicate with us by phone, email, etc regarding any of the issues we handle at the Newark Teachers Union.

- Supplemental Fringe Benefits
- Planning for Retirement
- Pension & Buy Back Issues
- ER+D Staff Development
- AFT Membership Benefits
- FMLA and other leaves of absence
- Assistance with Evaluations and Observations
- Disciplinary Hearings
- Labor Relations & Payroll
- Legal Representation
- Workers Comp
- Tuition Reimbursement



Call [973-643-8430](tel:973-643-8430) or visit our website <http://newark.nj.aft.org/> to address these or any other concerns you may have.

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**NTU Outreach – Don’t forget to visit our website (<http://newark.nj.aft.org>) and follow us on Facebook for updated information, forms, and resources!**

## Your Union in Action: what was going on at NTU this week?

- **NTU began our outreach to Agency Shop members as part of our NTU Recommitment campaign.**
- **NTU selected members to be involved in the Newark Superintendent Search.**
- **NTU and NPS are approaching a final draft on our contract book. The digital version should be available on NPS and NTU's websites early next week!**
- **NTU Executive Board Meeting with Robert Gregory on Wednesday, February 21:**  
Many of our newer members have known only one thing -- and that is animosity and a strained relationship between corporate reformers and the Newark Teachers Union. So we invited Interim Superintendent Robert Gregory to a Q & A with our Executive Board, mindful of the past, mindful of our often brutal history, but focused on the future -- with mutual respect towards each other we may regain our professional dignity and advance together.



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### **Important dates:**

- **NTU Membership Meeting** – Wednesday, February 28 – Oliver Street School – 4 PM - 86 Oliver St.
- **Newark Board of Education Business Meeting** - Tuesday, February 20, 2018 - 5:30 p.m. - 765 Broad Street, Lower Level Conference Room
- **Newark Board of Education Meeting** - Tuesday, February 27, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.- West Side Campus, 403 South Orange Avenue