

NEWARK TEACHERS UNION UPDATE

January 25, 2019

Letter from the President



Dear Union Brothers and Sisters,

Since the return to local control, there have been significant changes at the Newark Board of Education. The most noticeable of all has been the absence of malice towards teachers from the Superintendent's office. While there still remain a few soldiers, the Generals who launched the War on Teachers in the city have left and, like all parasites, found new hosts on which to gorge themselves.

John M. Abeigon
jabeigon@newarkteachersunion.com

Don't misunderstand me; our mortal enemy still heads the USDOE and she would fire every last one of us if she could and have us all working on corporate charter school plantations. The misguided US Supreme Court

Janus decision, meant to debilitate all public workers unions, only made us stronger. We lost two members and gained 400+.

Each day, we are slowly recovering from the PTSD (Post Takeover Stress Disorder) we have been afflicted with after two decades of war. Newer members, may they never have to live through it, encourage us with their youth and vibrancy. Veteran members remind us that only through solidarity and a moral strength of purpose can we survive any assault.

Everything that has to do with Education is our Domain. This is our motto and our shield. When asked "Aren't you here for the kids?" I always reply, "Yes, of course, but the students are here because this is where the teachers are." Teachers and support staff are the district's *raison d'être* whether they know it or not.

During this negotiation season, our team will be seeking Restorative Justice for all our members. I ask you to attend NTU workshops, support your local Building Representative and ScIP member. Do not be arrogant or prideful, but respect yourself. The best way we can help them is by making ourselves relevant once again.

In Solidarity,

John M. Abeigon
President/Director of Organization
Newark Teachers Union Local 481, AFT, AFL-CIO

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NTU Scholarship and Hall of Fame Dinner—

May 15, 2019



The NTU is proud to announce our 21st Annual Albert Shanker Scholarship Award Dinner! Every year, we are able to give out several scholarships to our members' children, our paraprofessionals, and the students of Newark.

This year the NTU will be honoring Mayor Ras Baraka and Martha Nolley as our Hall of Fame and Legacy Award recipients! More information to come next week!



[Click here for scholarship application!](#)

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NTU LEGAL UPDATE— WHY AN NTU BUILDING REPRESENTATIVE AND NTU BUILDING COMMITTEE IS AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY WITHIN EVERY NEWARK SCHOOL AND FACULTY

An NTU Building Representative and NTU Building Committee are an absolute necessity within every Newark school. Every teacher, aide, and clerk must understand they are part of a faculty and must be unified to attain success. In unity of purpose there is collective strength which leaves no faculty member alone and defenseless.

Insure your school has an NTU Building Representative and NTU Building Committee. A faculty is defined as: **A GROUP CONCERNED WITH A MAJOR DIVISION OF KNOWLEDGE AND VIEWED AS A BODY.** (Emphasis supplied)

A school faculty has as its goal the education and welfare of the students in its care. A faculty must be provided the tools to accomplish its mission. (Class size, aides, equipment, prep periods, books, proper classification of students, CST and guidance services, proper environmental conditions, etc.). The Newark Board of Education has the statutory responsibility to provide a faculty with the tools to succeed. Unless the Newark Board of Education knows of deficiencies within schools and is requested to correct them by the NTU the faculty can be held responsible for continuing deficiencies because of faculty inaction as will the school administration who will pass the buck to you! Too often school administrations have blind eyes to what is wrong in the buildings.

Your NTU Building Representative and NTU Building Committee are the initial “go to” people to bring forth the deficiencies which hamper the success of classroom and overall building achievement. Use them. Document, in writing, deficiencies to your Building Rep and keep a copy for yourself.

It does you no good to gripe to yourself or the next door teacher when you haven't taken the initiative to address your issue with your NTU Building Representative who, with your NTU Building Committee, can address your issue professionally and collegially with your administration. Your building faculty must have a “unity of concern” over every school deficiency which can be reasonably corrected and which must be documented in writing or email to your school administration. Remember, if deficiencies are not made known to administration through the NTU Building Representative and NTU Building Committee, you will be told by administration “how are we to know when you never took the time or the effort to tell us” and you could wind up being the fall guy! It happens too often! Insure your school has a NTU Building Rep and NTU Building Committee. Call Michael Maillaro at 973-643- 8430.

Next week: Tips for faculty and NTU Building Representative and NTU Building Committee Success.

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Easy IEP Workshop



On Wednesday, February 6, 2019, the NTU will be providing a workshop for staff looking for more information about Easy IEP. The workshop will be from 3:30 to 4:30 and held at the Newark Teachers Union office, 1019 Broad Street (parking available behind the building on Beecher Street)

NOTE: THIS IS NOT AN EASY IEP TRAINING SESSION; it is designed to help staff already trained in Easy IEP become more fluent in the system. Candace Wells and Ajay Srikanth from Newark Board of Education will be the presenters. If you are interested in attending, reach out to yesntu@newarkteachersunion.com. PD Certificates will only be given to NTU members who RSVP to attend.

SAVE THE DATE

- Wednesday, February 6, 2019, 3:30-4:30 PM—Easy IEP Workshop, Newark Teachers Union. 1019 Broad Street
- Tuesday, February 19, 2019, 4:00 PM—NTU Executive Board Meeting, Newark Teachers Union, 1019 Broad Street
- Tuesday, February 19, 2019—5:30 PM—Newark Board of Education Business Meeting, 765 Broad Street
- Wednesday, February 20, 2019, 4:00 PM— NTU Building Rep Meeting, Newark Teachers Union, 1019 Broad Street
- Tuesday, February 26, 2019, 6 PM—Newark Board of Education Meeting, South Street School, 44 Hermon Street

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RENEW STIPEND UPDATE

The NTU has been in communication with Newark Public Schools as far back as September about the Renew Stipend for staff working at Sussex Avenue School and the staff who worked some of the Summer Program and/or extended hours at others Renew School before the Superintendent closed the program.

Typically, this stipend comes out in Mid-To-Late January, but as of press time, the Newark Board of Education has not given us a date. As soon as we get an update from the Superintendent, we will send it out. We have already discussed further action that could be taken if they continue to delay. More to come.



LAST CALL! Prudential Center Tickets

The NTU still has tickets available for Monster Jam at the Prudential Center!

Just click on the Monster Jam logo for more information or to purchase tickets!

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NTUNIVERSITY

We are looking for Workshops, Presentations, Activities to be presented by our members, for our members. Please reach out to Michael Iovino at miovino@newarkteachersunion.com if you are interested!

MEMBER SERVICES

NTU 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 or visit our website <http://newark.nj.aft.org/> or email mmaillaro@newarkteachersunion.com to address these or any other concerns you may have.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/NewarkTeachersUnion481/>) and Instagram (https://www.instagram.com/newark_teachers_union/?hl=en)



NEWARK TEACHERS UNION

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