

NEWARK TEACHERS UNION UPDATE

June 7, 2019

Stopping NJ's Scheme To Destroy Your Pension



Colleagues,

Trenton is battling over the budget and the enemies of public employees are down there in full force. Help us tell your legislators:

* To say 'No' to increased health insurance contributions. Ch 78 is killing us!

John M. Abeigon

jabeigon@newarkteachersunion.com

* To say 'No' to weakening the pension system, 'Yes' to retirement with dignity.

You can help us and yourself by filling in this petition (it goes straight to your state legislators based on your zip code), two or three clicks and you're done... <http://aftnj.org/topics/news/aftnj-news/2019/please-sign-and-share-for-a-nj-that-works/?>

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John".

John M. Abeigon

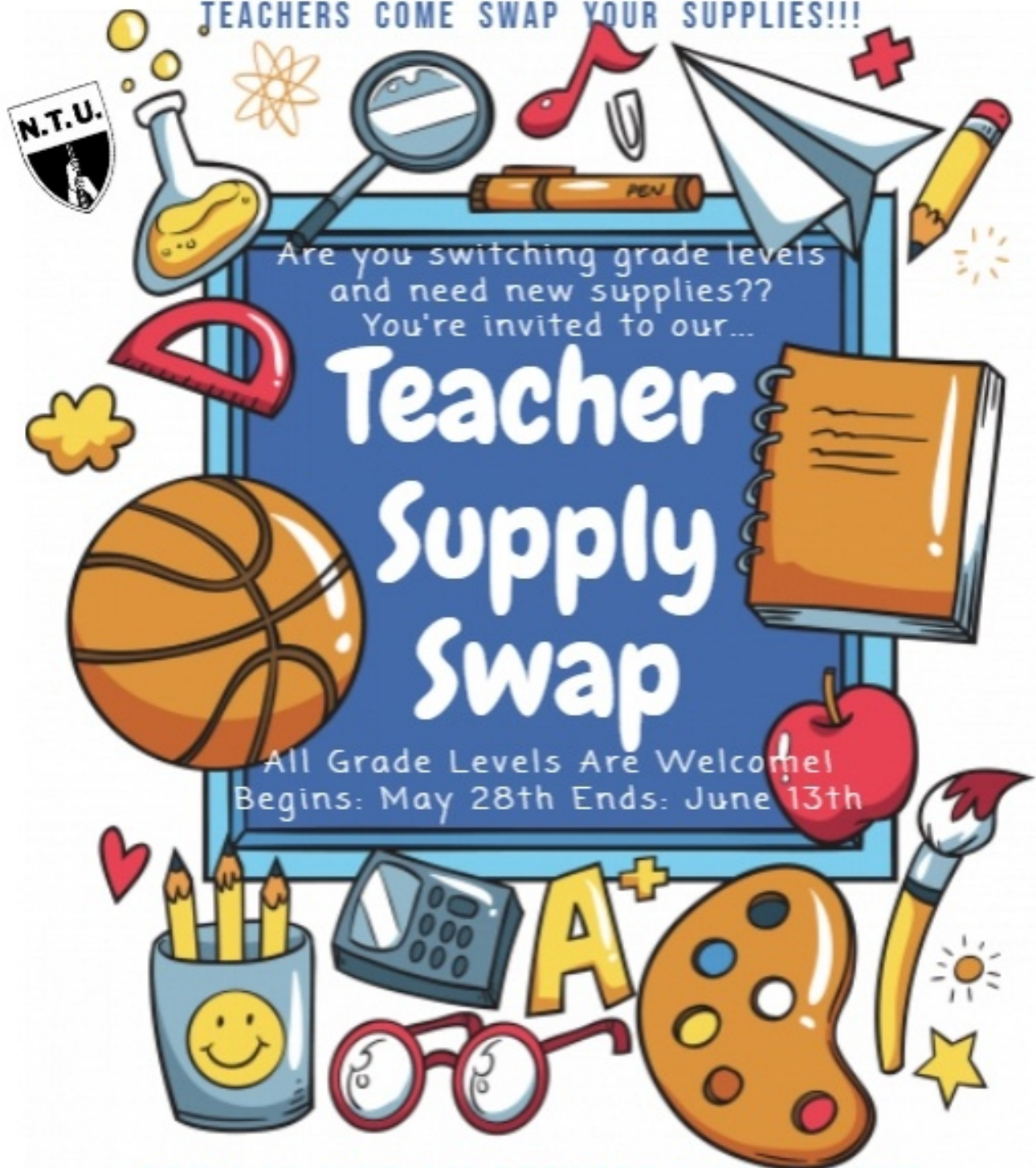
President/Director of Organization

Newark Teachers Union Local 481, AFT, AFL-CIO

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BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE NEWARK TEACHERS UNION
TEACHERS COME SWAP YOUR SUPPLIES!!!



BRING IN SUPPLIES BETWEEN 3:00 -5:00PM
@ NTU CONFERENCE ROOM

1019 BROAD STREET NEWARK, NJ 07102



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Membership Has Privileges....

As part of the Newark Teachers Union, our members have access to a variety of discounts. Check your NTU calendar book for the full list, but here are some of June's featured Member Privileges. Click on the links below for call 1-800-472-2005 for registration and more information.

Book with Budget and Return with Stories to Share



Get ready for your summer road trip with Budget and save up to 25% off base rates* PLUS enjoy a FREE SINGLE CAR CLASS UPGRADE.**

Create New Memories for Father's Day

Give a Father's Day gift that combines quality time AND fun with a **Unique Experience Gift** from Union Plus Deals. Get discounts on a wide range of experiences including:



- City tours
- Dinner cruises
- Exotic car experiences
- Flying lessons
- Golf
- Helicopter rides

- White water rafting

Ticket Discounts for Summer Movies



Summer movie season has begun and you can save up to 37% on movie tickets at AMC, Marcus, Regal and Cinemark Theaters nationwide.

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N.J. finally has graduation rules for freshmen and sophomores, and students probably love them

By Adam Clark | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com

New Jersey's long debate over graduation requirements for current freshmen and sophomores finally appears to be over, and students won't have to pass the standardized test formerly known as PARCC in order to graduate from high school.

The state Department of Education on Wednesday announced it resolved a legal challenge by agreeing to extend the graduation rules for juniors and seniors for two more years.

The move allows current freshman and sophomore students to pass an alternative exam in math and English, such as the SAT or ACT, rather than the state standardized test, which is now called the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) but closely resembles the controversial PARCC tests.

Students who pass NJSLA tests can also use them to meet the state's standardized testing requirement.

The decision creates continuity through the Class of 2022 as Gov. Phil Murphy's administration continues to search for a new standardized test and considers the role of testing in graduation standards. It also resolves a legal challenge from the Education Law Center and American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, which successfully had the state's graduation requirements struck down by a court last year.

"(This) will provide clear pathways to graduation for all current high school students," the Education Law Center said in a statement.

For now, the agreement brings peace to what has been a highly contentious issue that angered parents and confused both students and school officials.

State law says all students must pass a standardized test in English and math during 11th grade in order to graduate from high school. New Jersey administered such an exam for years but stopped when the PARCC tests debuted during former Gov. Chris Christie's administration.

Christie's state Department of Education announced students would eventually need to pass PARCC exams in Algebra I and 10th-grade English to meet the graduation testing requirement. And it created a "menu" of other tests, such as the SAT, that students in graduating classes through 2020 could use as the state transitioned to the new assessments.

The problem was none of those exams were exclusively given in 11th grade, and the state law was never changed to reflect what the state Department of Education was mandating.

The Education Law Center and ACLU sued on behalf of several civil rights groups and won, putting the state on the brink of a graduation crisis: It had a rule on the books but no test in place to enforce it.

State officials came to a compromise in February for the graduation rules for juniors and seniors prior to the agreement announcement Wednesday for freshmen and sophomores.

The deal was approved by the Superior Court, Appellate Division, according to the Education Law Center.

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EUGENE G. LISS

Attorney-at-Law
92 Main Street
1st Floor

Little Falls, New Jersey 07424

Tel: 973-890-1819

Fax: 973-785-4053

lisslaw@hotmail.com

STATEHOUSE

Bill would erase N.J. pensions for certain crimes

Samantha Marcus *For The Star-Ledger*

A bill headed to Gov. Phil Murphy's desk would strip public workers and elected officials of their pensions if they're convicted of certain sexual misconduct offenses or corruption in connection with their public employment.

The bill (A3766) passed by the state Senate, 37-0, on Thursday adds sexual assault, sexual contact, lewdness and public corruption to the list of existing offenses that can cost employees their retirement benefits.

"Anyone who has the audacity to use their taxpayer-funded position of power to assault a coworker doesn't deserve a state pension," Sen. Kristin Corrado, R-Passaic, said in a statement. "Public service is about helping people and making the state you work for a better, safer place for all. Anyone who commits a crime that is contrary to that mission, whether it's an ethics violation or a sex offense, shouldn't be paid by the state for life."

Some crimes that could already result in a worker forfeiting their pension include money laundering, extortion, bribery, perjury, official misconduct and tampering with public records. These offenses must also in some way be tied to an individual's public employment.

The bill has been amended from its original version, which included harassment as a crime warranting a forfeited pension. The original version also did not include the public corruption offense.

Assemblyman Michael Patrick Carroll, R-Morris, had expressed concern with attaching such a severe penalty to an offense like harassment, which is typically classified as a petty disorderly persons offense — and not a crime — in New Jersey.

The final version of the bill includes convictions of public corruption of public resources in the first degree, which it defines as "when a person knowingly uses or makes disposition of a public resource valued at \$500,000 or more for an unauthorized purpose..."

The state Assembly passed the bill 79-0 in September.

Dear Newark Teachers, Aides & Clerks:

For decades, the NTU has told you "don't touch", "hands off", "don't get personal", "stay professional at all times."

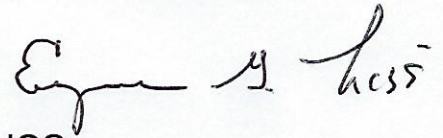
Touching students endearingly is the most dangerous of habits!!

Everything is misinterpreted and teachers and aides become the victims.

Now, by law, pensions can be forfeited!!

Please, hands off except to prevent harm to yourself or a student and only when absolutely necessary.

In solidarity,



EUGENE G. LISS

General Counsel, NTU

P. S.

Be on guard. Don't let students bait you. The forfeiting of pension is a serious matter. Don't be a June statistic. The year is almost over.
Steve

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End of the Year Evaluations

If you disagree with your Annual Evaluation, it is important to write an appeal to NPS's Evaluations Office and the Peer Oversight Committee. Email your appeal to evaluations@nps.k12.nj.us.

Make sure you include all evidence you can provide that the evaluation is not an accurate representation of you! [NTU has put together some rebuttal tips we hope will assist you in this effort!](#) If you need help on your appeals, reach out to mmaillaro@newarkteachersunion.com and miovino@newarkteachersunion.com.

Also important, IF your personal days or FMLA days are being counted against you on competency 5, LET US KNOW IMMEDIATELY!

If you are already on a CAP and received a Partial Effective or Ineffective on your Annual Evaluation, you may be facing tenure charges! CALL THE NTU IMMEDIATELY!

SAVE THE DATE

- **Tuesday, June 11—NTU Executive Board Meeting**
- **Wednesday, June 12—NTU Building Rep Meeting**
- **Thursday, June 20—Last Day of School**
- **Tuesday, June 25—NPS Board Meeting**

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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 Cristina Balboa at yesntu@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

NTU Staff

Editor/Director of Research
and Communication

Mike Maillaro

mmaillaro@newarkteachersunion.com

Assistant Director of Research
and Communication

Cristina Balboa

yesntu@newarkteachersunion.com

Assistant to Secretary/Treasurer

Subrina Screven

sscreven@newarkteachersunion.com

General Counsel

Eugene Liss

Education Resource Department

Johanna Rios

Marivelle Ocasio

Part-Time Staff Reps

Robert Palumbo

John Alvino

Security/Maintenance

James Santiago

Newark Teachers Union

Local 481, AFT, AFL-CIO

1019 Broad Street

Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: 973-643-8430

Fax: 973-643-8435

Fax: 973-242-5880

<http://newark.nj.aft.org>

Executive Board

John M. Abeigon, President/Director of Organization

Michael Iovino, Secretary/Treasurer

Vice Presidents

Victor Afonso

Alicia Malave-Diaz

Noor Alam

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Juan Alvarez

Anthony Moreno

Cristina Balboa

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