

# NEWARK TEACHERS UNION UPDATE

## October 30, 2020



John M. Abeigon  
jabeigon@newarkteachersunion.com

Colleagues,

As promised, we're test piloting a private NTU Bulletin Board on Facebook. We created this private group (NTU MEMBERS ONLY) as a support for our members in the teaching of any curriculum subject, assignments & revision resources, peer tutoring & support...basically, to make life easier for teachers & staff.

It can also be used as informal support for projects and other activities. Graduated Kean in 2009 and want to connect with classmates at another NBOE location? Need help with 3rd Grade Curriculum? You'll be able to create a room for that. Got some great 5th Grade Science activity you want to share? Go for it.

It's a baby group so we're going to hold each others hands as we cross over into this new project. We are sure there will be some growing pains, but we are committed to making this a terrific resource for all NTU members! Click on this page to register!

## How do I know if I am an NTU Member?

The easiest way is to check your paystub. If it says "Union Dues/NTU" under "After-Tax Deductions" then you are a NTU Member! Not being a member is like expecting a piece of teacher's lounge pizza without contributing to the pizza party!

If you are not a member, reach out to Subrina Screven at [sscreven@newarkteachersunion.com](mailto:sscreven@newarkteachersunion.com) immediately!

**In Solidarity,**

**John M. Abeigon**

**President/Director of Organization**

**Newark Teachers Union Local 481, AFT, AFL-CIO**

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## Let's Welcome our Newest NTU

### Executive Board Member, Love Gaillard

Love M. Gaillard started her career with the NBOE as a substitute teacher in 1997. She served as a long termed substitute teacher for William H Brown Academy; Weequahic; and Malcolm X Shabazz high schools.

Love went on to earn her Masters in Social Worker degree from Rutgers University in 2005. Her only career focus was to rejoin the NBOE as School Social Worker!

Love has been on the Child Study team now for 15 years. She has served PreK through high school. Love has been involved heavily with Inclusion and transition support and development. Love has also served as an NTU Building Representative and continues supports her coworkers with union matters.

Love is also involved with various community projects which help foster relationships outside of the NBOE with other stakeholders to ultimately share with families. Love continues to enjoy her work supporting students, parents, and coworkers with enthusiasm.

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## Health Benefits

Reminder—Open Enrollment Starts on Monday. The NTU will be sending out an update early next week devoted to the changes to the health benefits and the district's new health benefits portal.

OPEN ENROLLMENT RUNS FROM NOVEMBER 2 TO NOVEMBER 30. That doesn't mean you must have it done on that first day. There is no prize for getting yours in first. Wait until you have all the information you need to make an informed decision.

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## NBOE STAFFING SURVEY—LAST DAY!

[Attention! We updated our COVID-19 FAQ's to address the revised NBOE Staffing Survey.](#) Issues like FMLA, 504, Child Care Leave, and a full list of your rights under COVID-19 are available on our website. You should review this before filling out the [NBOE survey](#) due October 30. MAKE SURE YOU INCLUDE COMMENTS!

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We continue to get a lot of questions about what the next few months will look like. FOLLOW THE TIMELINE THE SUPERINTENDENT SENT OUT!

## Newark Reopening Plan Timelines

October 19-30: The Newark Reopening Plan Survey needs to be completed by 10-month employees at the schools and Parents/Guardians of every student.

November 2-December 23: School Site Visits and Readiness Checks. In addition to the district continuing to conduct school site visits, instructional staff at the schools who have not done so already, will need to conduct at least two school visits to assess any additional needs for in-person (hybrid model) instruction. Please remember that you must follow all of the district's protocols when entering any of our locations.

January 4-8: COVID-19 Testing Days. This is the window during which all staff are to be retested for COVID-19 (nasal, oral, or saliva swab). Please remember to submit negative results through the Employee Self Service system prior to your return to work. Central Office and schools will operate remotely during this time period.

January 11: Central Office Staff and School Administrators Resume In-person Operations.

January 19: Instructional and Support Staff Report to Schools. This week will afford school-level staff the opportunity to acclimate themselves to district protocols and to deliver instruction from the school.

January 25: In-person (Hybrid Model) Instruction Begins for Students.

## Union Plus—Bundle up with fall savings!



The October Union Plus Digital Toolkit:  
The October Digital Toolkit will provide you with digital resources to share with your members, including Union Plus Hardship Help Benefits, and the real discounts and savings they need as we all continue to navigate this difficult time. These valuable resources are here for you to share on your union's website, via email and/or on your social media.

### NEW for you and your members: The Union Plus Prepaid Debit Card!

Introducing the new Union Plus All-in-One Prepaid Visa® Debit Card. Encourage your union members to take control of their finances and avoid debt while enjoying the safety and flexibility of a Visa® Card. Getting one is easy and the card is packed with Union Plus exclusive benefits. Union members can enjoy the freedom of managing money online anywhere and anytime with nationwide access to a large network of free ATMs. It's an all-in-all smart move.

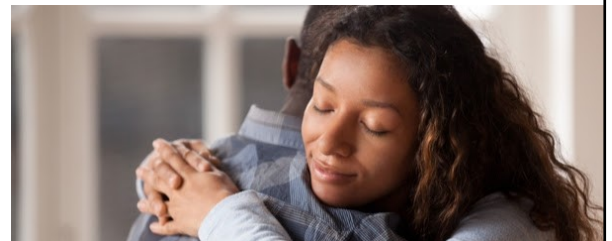


### You May Be Eligible for a \$500 Disaster Relief Grant from Union Plus

If you are a union member who participates in certain Union Plus programs and have been affected by the recent natural disasters in Alabama, California, Iowa, Louisiana, Oregon or Tennessee, you may be eligible for financial assistance through the disaster relief program.

### Union Plus Hardship Help We're here when you need us.

Participants in our Union Plus Mortgage, Credit Card, Personal Loan or supplemental insurance programs may be eligible for additional hardship assistance through our Mortgage Assistance Program or other Union Plus hardship assistance programs.



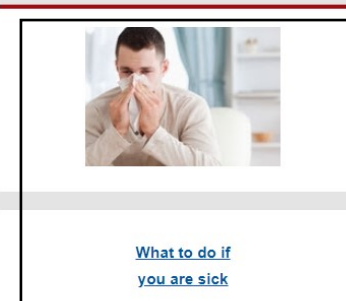
### Helpful Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



[FAQ's on Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)



[How to  
Protect Yourself](#)



[What to do if  
you are sick](#)

VISIT [CDC.ORG](#)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

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## October 30, 2020

Union Plus—Bundle up with fall savings!

**Fall and Winter Sale  
at the Union Store!**



Get 20% off your order of 100% union-made Fall and Winter apparel!  
Offer ends January 2, 2021.  
Use promo code: HOLIDAY2020.

**Free + low cost virtual activities  
for stir-crazy families!**



Virtual activities help give families more outlets for creativity and fun. Choose from virtual cooking classes, games and so much more!

**Be a Hero — Keep Essential Workers Safe!**



Pledge to #ShopSmart to protect yourself and others during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Watch the Video

## AFL-CIO Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resource Page

The AFL-CIO has compiled a **Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic resource page** with valuable information and updates. In addition, please check out **your union's website** as they may have additional information and resources.

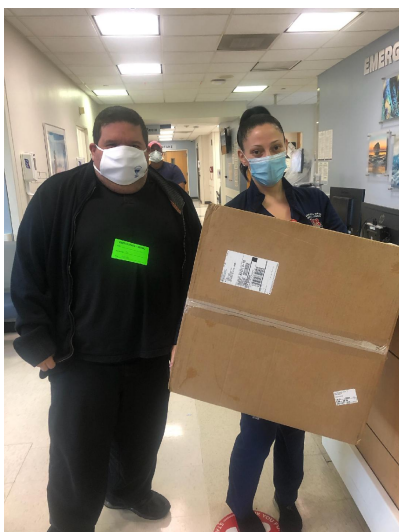
**VISIT THE  
AFL-CIO RESOURCE PAGE**

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### Our cup runneth over

Everything that has to do with Education is our Domain, that means we must do our part in insuring that our neighbors, especially those in the medical service industry, are supplied with lifesaving equipment when they risk their own lives to treat our community.



Towards that end we continue to distribute face mask and shields to our Newark community and interfaith service providers.



Yesterday, NTU President John M Abeigon delivered 100 face shields & 2,000 face masks to Rev. Louise Scott-Rountree, Director of Newark Clergy Affairs & Interfaith Alliance to share with some of the needier ministries. Today, Mike Maillaro and James Santiago delivered 300 face shields to Newark's three hospitals for their Emergency Room staff; St Michaels, Beth Israel & UMDNJ.

## Peerfit

Stressing?



**Put on a few extra pounds during lockdown?**

Check out Peerfit! This is a free program offered through your health benefits provider and all NTU members should take full advantage!

Enroll at [peerfit.com/sponsored](https://peerfit.com/sponsored) using the Newark Board of Education email address and the information you have on record with HR. If you have any questions or trouble signing up, please contact [support@peerfit.com](mailto:support@peerfit.com). If the problem persists please contact [benefits@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:benefits@nps.k12.nj.us).



# SETON HALL UNIVERSITY



## Are you Ready to Lead?

Learn more about Seton Hall's nationally recognized M.A./Ed.S./Ed.D. programs in Education Leadership, Management & Policy.

Dear Educator,

Do you want to pursue a leadership position in K-12 education? Now more than ever, K-12 education needs innovative educators.

We are looking to accept approximately 16-20 highly qualified candidates who aspire to advance to a supervisory or administrative position. [Learn more »](#)

**You are Invited to attend a Virtual Information Session**

**Thursday, November 17, 4:30 PM**

**Register Today!**

For more information, please contact Dr. James Corino or Dr. Al Galloway at Seton Hall University:

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**SAVE THE DATE**

- **Thursday Nov. 5 – Friday, Nov. 6 — NJEA Convention—SCHOOL CLOSED FOR 10-MONTH STAFF ONLY**
- **Monday, November 9—Veteran’s Day– SCHOOL CLOSED**
- **Tuesday, November 10—Puerto Rico Heritage Day—SCHOOL CLOSED**
- **Tuesday, November 17—NTU Executive Board Meeting, 3:30 PM**
- **Wednesday November 18—NTU Building Rep Meeting, 3:30 PM**
- **Tuesday, November 24—NBOE Meeting, 6 PM**
- **Wednesday, November 25—Early Dismissal**
- **Thursday November 26- Friday November 27—Thanksgiving Holiday—SCHOOL CLOSED**

Please note that November 4th November 11th, November 25th and November 30th are work days before or after a holiday. To ensure that you get paid for the holiday weekend, you must take a personal day if you are going to be absent on any of those days.

You can take a sick day on those days as long as it is part of an approved medical leave. Unless it is part of an extended FMLA, you must submit a medical certificate to NBOE Office of Administrative Services within 3 days of your return to work.

**AND DON'T FORGET TO  
VOTE ON  
ELECTION DAY,  
NOVEMBER 3rd!!**



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## NTU Education Resource Center

**Unfortunately, the NTU's Education Resource Center will not be available. There was no way to reopen following CDC Guidelines. We will send out updates if and when the situation changes.**

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## 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.

- Planning for Retirement
- Pension & Buy Back Issues
- ER+D Staff Development
- Health and Supplemental Benefits
- 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 [mmailaro@newarkteachersunion.com](mailto:mmailaro@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](https://www.instagram.com/newark_teachers_union/?hl=en))

**Under the current situation, it is vital to stay informed! If you have changed your address, phone number, or location, please reach out to [sscreven@newarkteachersunion.com](mailto:sscreven@newarkteachersunion.com) to let us know. Also, if you don't get our weekly updates, send an email to [mmailaro@newarkteachersunion.com](mailto:mmailaro@newarkteachersunion.com) to make sure you are on our mailing list.**

# NEWARK TEACHERS UNION

## NTU Staff

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and Communication

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Johanna Rios

Marivelle Ocasio

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Part-Time Staff Reps

Robert Palumbo

John Alvino

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Security/Maintenance

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## Executive Board

John M. Abeigon, President/Director of Organization

Michael Iovino, Secretary/Treasurer

## Vice Presidents

Victor Afonso

Kathleen Murphy-Butler

Noor Alam

Justin Petino

Cristina Balboa

Silvia Pereira

Chris Canik

Marisa Rodriguez

Ronnie D. Carney

Jennifer Ramos

Timothy Carr

Ryan Sandor

Donna Charles

Larry Sullivan

John Cunha

Cassandra Talmadge

Josephine Donnellan

Neil Thomas

Love Gaillard

Tennille Wasek

Francisco Garcia

Carmen Lopez Wolf

Nancy Gianni

Clarence Jones III

Yvette Jordan

Jerry Moore

