

NEWARK TEACHERS UNION UPDATE

November 13, 2020



John M. Abeigon
jabeigon@newarkteachersunion.com

Colleagues,

In our efforts to support Mayor Ras Baraka in our fight against COVID-19, we are begging all instructional staff to stay out of these buildings, we don't need anyone extra travelling to/from the city.

All non-instructional must do what they have to do to keep themselves and their families safe. Send an email to your councilman, school board president, Superintendent León, etc.! Document and report to us violations of safety protocols in your building immediately. This issue was brought up by NTU and CASA at yesterday's Reopening Task

Force, and we will be continuing to push the district towards doing the right thing.

Any NBOE employee doing visits can come to the NTU to pick up free face shields, face masks and sanitizer. 1019 Broad Street.

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 immediately!

In Solidarity,

John M. Abeigon

President/Director of Organization

Newark Teachers Union Local 481, AFT, AFL-CIO

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UPDATED! Health Benefits FAQ's

- [Active Enrollment Website](#)
- [Updated FAQ's from NBOE](#)
- [Medical Benefit Comparison](#)
- [Prescription Benefit Comparison](#)
- [Chapter 44 Contribution Chart](#)



How do I access the Employee Health Benefits Portal?

HRconnection is a one-stop shop for plan summaries, health and fringe benefit plans, premium rates, and other important information. For security reasons a **Guest Key Passcode is required to log onto the website.** Please email benefits@nps.k12.nj.us from your district email account to request that passcode.

What is a Flexible Spending Account?

[We posted a terrific YouTube video explaining FSA's. on our YouTube Channel](#). You must be signed up during open enrollment as it becomes effective Jan 1, 2021. If you don't sign up now you have to wait until the following year. The limits for 2021 are \$2750 for health costs and \$5000 child care costs.

If I move to the NJEHP, what happens to my prescription?

IMPORTANT! Anyone who selects the NJEHP will have to take the NJEHP Prescription Plan as well. There are some big differences with the prescription plan including co-pays, so take that into consideration when making your decision.

If I am currently waiving my benefits or want to stay on my current plan, do I have to do anything?

YES!! The default for everyone will be to move to the new NJEHP plan. If you want to waive your benefits or move to a different plan, you must select that during the open enrollment period from November 2 to November 30.

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Executive Board Meetings

Tuesday, November 17, 2020—3:30 PM

Tuesday, December 15, 2020—3:30 PM

Tuesday, January 26, 2021—3:30 PM

Tuesday, February 23, 2021—3:30 PM

Tuesday, March 23, 2021—3:30 PM

Tuesday, April 20, 2021—3:30 PM

Tuesday, May 25, 2021—3:30 PM

Tuesday, June 22, 2021—3:30 PM

NTU Executive Board

Under the NTU Constitution, Executive Board Meetings are open to the membership, except for when in Executive Session. Currently, the NTU is doing virtual meetings, so we are asking members who wish to attend the meetings to fill out the attached information, and we will send you a link to the meeting. All requests must be in by close of business on the day before the meeting (for our November 17, 2020 meeting, that means all requests must be in by 5:00 PM on Monday, November 16).

For security reasons, please use your NBOE email, and you must be an NTU member to receive a meeting link.

We will set aside some time at the end of the meeting for members who would like to address the Executive Board.

SAVE THE DATE

- **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 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.



SETON HALL UNIVERSITY



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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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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.

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 mmail-lero@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)

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 to let us know. Also, if you don't get our weekly updates, send an email to mmaillaro@newarkteachersunion.com to make sure you are on our mailing list.

NEWARK TEACHERS UNION

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Executive Board

John M. Abeigon, President/Director of Organization

Michael Iovino, Secretary/Treasurer

Vice Presidents

Victor Afonso

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Silvia Pereira

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Marisa Rodriguez

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