

NEWARK TEACHERS UNION UPDATE

February 11, 2021

President's Report



John M. Abeigon

jabeigon@newarkteachersunion.com

Colleagues,

A few days ago, we were speaking to the President of another local teachers union, and that conversation helped put into perspective some of the successes we have had in recent years.

1) A terrific five-year contract with no givebacks. In light of how much the world has changed in the last year, having a five year contract with salary increases every year is a huge relief. No one wants to be negotiating a contract in the current climate.

While Congress is still debating the issue, we negotiated for our Per Diem staff to make \$15 an hour since 2018, and got them another increase starting in 2021.

2) During state control, we came under heavy fire from corporate reformers that required us to expend tremendous funds to protect our members' legal and contractual rights. While we won pretty much all those legal challenges, there was still a huge cost. But we tightened our belts and made important changes to make sure that we could give back to the members and the community without having to look at raising Union Dues. The NTU stands stronger today than ever.

3) The NTU has also stood strong to ensure that remote learning continues until April. And we continue to meet weekly with the NBOE to ensure that when we do return to school, the safety of our school staff and students will never be compromised.

4) Expanded our members access to Employee Assistance through our work with HCAMS. HCAMS offers confidential services to individuals with substance abuse and other behavioral health problems that may be affecting their work, health and/or personal lives.

5) Increased member numbers and engagement! When many Unions have been seeing huge declines in membership after the Janus decision, the NTU has worked hard to expand our membership. We also have been putting strong Building Reps and Building Committees in as many schools as possible.

Thank you for your continued trust; allowing us to fight for and represent you. Standing Strong Together.

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RSVP TO MANDATES

During this difficult time of remote learning, we are reissuing the “RSVP to Mandates Memo.” For some background, back in 2011-2012 the Newark Teachers Union filed complaints with the NBOE in an effort to address concerns over the abuse by certain administrators of insisting “district mandates” being due in an unreasonable amount of time.



At the time, then Superintendent Anderson, dismissed this legitimate issue & refused to discuss it. Our response was to produce and distribute the “RSVP to Mandates Memo” effectively absolving you of having to work beyond the workday. The NTU grieved the district’s actions regarding the issue of paying its staff when directed by an administrator to work beyond the workday and won the attached arbitration award.

Before submitting this memo to your administrator, please discuss it with your Building Representative or NTU staff member.

[RSVP to Mandates](#)

[Working Beyond the Prescribed Day: Arbitration Award #4713](#)

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HELP WANTED!



1st Annual “NTU Celebrates Talent” showcase. We are looking for a Production Coordinator!

Responsibilities include:

- Produce the First Annual NTU celebrates Children Talent Showcase (Virtually)
- Identify the Best format to present the showcase
- Set timeline leading to production date
- Identify and contact support for producing in the format
- Create Criteria for Talent to be presented
- Create the initial contact to members asking to identify talent
- Offer timeline/deadline for talent submission
- Collect media (or supporting media) for final product.
- Organize support team for final editing and/or performance “direction” (time needed based on format used).

This position is only available for NTU Members. Thank you!

**For More Information (or to submit your resume), please reach out to
Subrina Screven (sscreven@newarkteachersunion.com)
or Mike Maillaro (mmaillaro@newarkteachersunion.com) at the NTU.**

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NTU Virtual Membership Meeting (Telephone Town Hall)

Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 3:30 PM

More Information to Come!

- **Friday, February 12 — Lincoln Birthday, School Closed**
- **Monday, February 15 — President's Day, School Closed**
- **Thursday, February 18 — Parent Teacher Conference**
- **Tuesday, February 23 — NTU Executive Board Meeting, 3:30 PM**
- **Tuesday, February 23 — NBOE Business Meeting, 6:00 PM**
- **Wednesday February 24 — NTU Building Rep Meeting, 3:30 PM**
- **Thursday, February 25 — NBOE Meeting, 6:00 PM**
- **Tuesday, March 2—NTU Membership Meeting**

Please note that February 11 and February 16 are the 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.

NEWARK TEACHERS UNION UPDATE

February 10, 2021

COVID-19 Resources

"You can't exercise your rights...if you don't know your rights."

~ Terry Livorsi

FOR JOB PROTECTION CALL : 1-888-828-7826

Membership Assistance Services provided for you and your family at **NO COST**

Working in cooperation with your Union, we offer services to deal with many personal issues including:

- [Covid Stress Syndrome/General Stress](#)
- [Anxiety/Trauma](#)
- No cost stress relief workshops and guides
- Job Protective Employee Assistance
- Drug and Alcohol Dependencies
- Depression and Anger Management
- The Families First Corona Virus Response Act, FFCRA 2021 extension (**NEW**)
- Americans with Disabilities Act, ADA
- Chapter 69

*This is a confidential program that is available
24 hours a day, 7 days a week.*



Get your FREE COVID-19 Survival Guide

Email: contact@memberassistance.us

The right to **Recover.**
www.unionsupport.org


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Member Benefits

The NTU is playing Cupid this Valentine's Day! Check out the below offer from Union Plus. For more Union Plus discounts, check out your NTU Calendar Book or visit:

<https://www.unionplus.org/>



CALL US CUPID

Our Valentine's Day collection is sure to make their hearts skip a beat. Get same-day delivery on every bouquet!

SHOP VALENTINE'S DAY



Working hard for
union families
since 1986

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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

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.

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

NTU Education Resource Center

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

NEWARK TEACHERS UNION

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Executive Board

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Cristina Balboa

Marisa Rodriguez

Chris Canik

Jennifer Ramos

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Ryan Sandor

Timothy Carr

Larry Sullivan

Donna Charles

Cassandra Talmadge

John Cunha

Neil Thomas

Josephine Donnellan

Tennille Wasek

Love Gaillard

Carmen Lopez Wolf

Francisco Garcia

Nancy Gianni

Clarence Jones III

Yvette Jordan

Kathleen Murphy-Butler

