

# NEWARK TEACHERS UNION UPDATE

## February 26, 2021



John M. Abeigon  
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Colleagues,

As we get closer to our presumptive return to in-person instruction on April 12th, the NTU continues to meet regularly with the Superintendent and his staff to discuss the concerns of our members.

- **Updated Surveys for Staff and Family**— Next week, surveys will be going out to staff and students to assess their willingness to return to in person instruction. As we have said numerous times, fill out these surveys and encourage your students' families to fill them out! They make a huge difference!

- **Non-Compliance**—Any student that refuses to comply with district, state, and CDC guidelines regarding social distancing, masking, etc will have to do remote instruction for the rest of the school year. We will be monitoring this situation closely to ensure that there are no loopholes or exceptions.
- **Student COVID Testing**—We continue to be active working with the district and community to put in place student testing procedures.
- **Individual School Procedures**—Your administrator should be in contact with you soon in regards to scheduling, ingress and egress procedures, and other issues. Please let us know where questions or problems seem to be coming up. We will be doing dress rehearsals prior to reopening so it will be done right the first time!
- **Building Walkthroughs**—We will be working closely with the Superintendent and Facilities office to ensure that all schools are as safe as possible by April 12th. More info to come on how these walkthroughs will work. We want to be thorough without putting staff in unnecessary risk.

We are also meeting regularly with our colleagues in the AFT to discuss best practices and what has worked (and not worked) throughout the country. Please continue to seek out, register and get the vaccine as soon as possible!

**In Solidarity,**

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

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## NTU WINTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Tuesday, March 2, 2021  
at 3:30 PM

[Click to Register](#)

Only Dues Paying NTU Members will be able to attend. If you are not an NTU Member, email [sscreven@newarkteachersunion.com](mailto:sscreven@newarkteachersunion.com)

### Agenda:

- Returning to Schools
- Vaccines
- Reminders

Rebuttals, Mandates, Employee Assistance Program, Credit Union, Union Plus

- Q+A



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### 2021 NTU Scholarships and Hall of Fame Inductees

The NTU Education Foundation is proud to announce its 2021 Albert Shanker Scholarship Awards and Hall of Fame Induction.

In 2019, twenty students received academic scholarships, including two Presidential Awards in the amount of \$2,500.00, four Executive Awards in the amount of \$1,750.00 and the rest in the amount of \$1,000.00.

This year, we will be inducting Steve Adubato into the NTU 2021 Hall of Fame, and Senator Ronald Rice will be receiving our NTU Legacy Award. Both men have a long history with the Newark Teachers Union and the city of Newark.

We are relying on your continued support and good will to continue this worthy endeavor. More information will be coming in the next few weeks on how you can support our students and your fellow staff. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Johanna Rios at (973) 643-8430 or e-mail [ntuscholarshipawards@gmail.com](mailto:ntuscholarshipawards@gmail.com).

[Click here for Scholarship Application](#)



### Did you get your vaccine?

In our efforts to both promote the vaccine and instill confidence in our return to in-person instruction (for our visual learners), the NTU has produced buttons for NTU members who have gotten their vaccines! Send an email with your name, address, and proof that you are vaccinated (vaccine card or email confirmation) to [sscreven@newarkteachersunion.com](mailto:sscreven@newarkteachersunion.com), and we will get one out to you!

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## Around the district....

**At Dr. William H Horton School, Elena Larranaga invited Olympic Swimmer Katie Ledecky to virtually visit her students about STEM careers.**



**What is an I.E.P.?**



**I.E.P. = Individual Education Program**

The Individualized Education Program/Plan, often called the IEP, is a legal document under United States law that is developed for each public/private school child in the U.S. who needs special education. It is created through a team of the child's parent and district personnel who are knowledgeable about the child's needs.

**Love M. Gaillard, MSW and NTU Vice President provides resources to parents regarding Black Boys and Special Education at the Eta Pi Chapter Single Mothers Raising Boys Forum. Real Parent Engagement!**

**Mentoring Works. Click to see the video!**

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## Around the district....

NTU VP and Avon Avenue teacher Timothy Carr continues to bring in much deserved attention for his work in student engagement using awesome superhero inspired TikTok videos. This week Pix 11 covered his incredible story!



From Superman to Thor, in a time when we could all use a superhero, New Jersey art teacher and football coach Timothy Carr has transformed into one on Tiktok every day.

**Newark Educators! We need to get more comfortable showing off all the great things we are doing in the city of Newark!**

**Have something you would like to share?**

**Email: [mmaillaro@newarkteachersunion.com](mailto:mmaillaro@newarkteachersunion.com)!**



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## AFT Announces 2021 Share My Lesson Virtual Conference

Welcome to Share My Lesson's 2021 Virtual Conference! This is our ninth annual virtual conference; we've been running virtual conference events in our PJs, yoga pants, and work mullets (business attire on the top and PJs on the bottom) long before it was cool. We've worked hard with our Share My Lesson partners and presenters to make this year even better than the last, with even more ways to access the free, high-quality professional development that educators come to expect when they visit Share My Lesson.



Last year, our virtual conference came at just the right time as nearly 70,000 preK-12 teachers, school staff and parents joined us looking for support on how best to navigate online learning as the COVID-19 pandemic forced lockdowns around the world. This year, we have a remarkable lineup of webinars to support your upcoming needs, including how best to reopen schools safely, support social and emotional recovery and learning recovery, strengthen a foundation of anti-bias education, increase civic engagement and incorporate trauma-sensitive practices.

<https://sharemylesson.com/vc2021>

**SAVE THE DATE**

- **Tuesday, March 2—NTU Membership Meeting**
- **Wednesday March 10—Staff Development Day**
- **Tuesday, March 23—NTU Executive Board Meeting—3:30 PM**
- **Tuesday, March 23—Newark Board of Education Business Meeting—6:00 PM**
- **Wednesday, March 24—NTU Building Rep Meeting—3:30 PM**
- **Thursday, March 25—Newark Board of Education Business Meeting—6:00 PM**

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## Member Benefits

Through the [AFT Plus/Union Plus program](#), Union members receive discounts on everything from car rentals to hotels to pet insurance. This is a terrific benefit that more people need to utilize. Just some examples:

- **[Financial products](#)** We offer union members and their families a wide array of financial products for each step of your financial life including — the [Union Plus Credit Card](#), [prepaid card](#) and [personal loan](#) programs.
- **[Home and auto programs](#)** We offer exclusive union member savings and discounts for all your your home and auto needs, such as [auto buying](#) and [mortgage](#).
- **[Insurance products](#)** Our insurance products include plans from brands you know and trust and feature [home](#), [auto](#), [retiree health](#), [life](#) and even [pet insurance](#).
- **[Health plans](#)** Our health plans include union member discounts on [dental](#), [vision](#), [hearing](#) and even [alternative healthcare](#).
- **[Education](#)** Our education programs help you avoid student debt and earn your degree for free when you enroll in our [Free College](#) and [Bachelor's Degree](#) programs. If you're already enrolled, apply for our [Union Plus Scholarship](#) to help get you to the finish line.
- **[Shopping and Discounts](#)** Save one everyday expenses like your [monthly wireless phone bill with AT&T](#), [every day purchases](#), or even going to the [movies](#).
- **[Travel benefits](#)** Our travel benefits are here to make travel cheaper with exclusive discounts on [car rental](#), [vacation tours](#) and even [hotels](#) and [attractions](#).
- **[Hardship Help](#)** Above all other benefits, we're most proud of our hardship help benefits. Hardship Help benefits are designed to help union members when they've fallen on hard times, such as when their union goes on [strike](#), they get [laid off](#), or even [disabled](#).



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](mailto:sscreven@newarkteachersunion.com) to let us know. Also, if you don't get our weekly updates, send an email to [mmaillaro@newarkteachersunion.com](mailto: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](https://www.instagram.com/newark_teachers_union/?hl=en))

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## 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

## NTU Staff

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## Executive Board

John M. Abeigon, President/Director of Organization

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## Vice Presidents

Victor Afonso

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Noor Alam

Silvia Pereira

Cristina Balboa

Marisa Rodriguez

Chris Canik

Jennifer Ramos

Ronnie D. Carney

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

