

NEWARK TEACHERS UNION UPDATE

March 12, 2021



Colleagues,

Back in December, the district had surveyed staff about staff willingness to receive a COVID-19 vaccination. Working with the district, city and community partners, we have been able to start getting Newark school staff vaccinated. The first round of vaccines are going to staff who said “yes” on the earlier survey. If you get a call from an unknown Newark phone number. ***Please do not ignore the call!***

John M. Abeigon
jabeigon@newarkteachersunion.com

For those who said “no” to the survey, a registration link will be sent to you as soon as it becomes available. If you have already gotten your vaccine, check out page 2 of this update to get a NTU “I Got Mine” Button. This button was developed by the NTU to promote the vaccination of as many staff as possible and to install confidence in our return to the classroom.

SPRING BREAK REMINDER

Some staff have asked us about what happens if they travel during Spring Break. NJ guidelines say:

*Travelers and residents returning from **any U.S. state or territory** beyond the immediate region (New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Delaware) should self-quarantine at their home, hotel, or other temporary lodging following [recommendations from the CDC](#):*

- *If travel is unavoidable, travelers should consider getting tested with a viral test (not an antibody test) 1-3 days before the trip and again 3-5 days after the trip.*
- *If travelers test positive, they should **self-isolate for at least 10 days and should postpone travel during that time.***
- *If travelers test negative, they should **quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.***
- *If testing is not available (or if the results are delayed), travelers should **quarantine for 10 days after travel.***

Please note that if you travel during Spring Break, your quarantine would NOT be covered under the quarantine days provision of our contract, and you may have to use your days to cover it.

In Solidarity,

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

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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 us at (973) 643-8430 or e-mail 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, and we will get one out to you!

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COVID Tax Update for Educators

The IRS recently posted some guidance on what items educators can deduct on their taxes due to COVID. The NTU is posting this for informational purposes only. Consult with your accountant or financial advisor to see how this applies to you.



SAVE THE DATE

- **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**
- **Friday April 2—Friday April 9—Spring Recess**

Please note that April 1 and April 10 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.

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Around the district....



Weequahic Teacher and NTU Building Rep Joicki Floyd was featured in Chalkbeat this week because of her dedication to teaching and her students in this difficult time. Joicki is a true role model and inspiration to her students.

Bard High School teacher Jazmin Puicon was recently selected as a Pulitzer Teaching Fellow for the Spring 2021. "Out of a national pool of applicants, I was one of 17 selected nationwide for the honor! Students in my classes at Bard HS Early College will be exploring with me the Pulitzer Center's track "Stories of Migration: Going Beyond the Headlines" this Spring. Our work in the classroom will be shared on the Pulitzer Center's website as well at the end of the fellowship."



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!

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AFT Announces 2021 Share My Lesson Virtual Conference

March 23—25



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 pre K-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>

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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

NTU Staff

Editor/Director of Research
and Communication

Mike Maillaro

mmaillaro@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

3rd Floor

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

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Silvia Pereira

Noor Alam

Marisa Rodriguez

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Yvette Jordan

Kathleen Murphy-Butler

Justin Petino



This issue of the NTU Update is dedicated
to our dear friend, Clarence Jones III.

April 14, 1951- March 7, 2021



Dr. William H. Horton School Teacher
NTU Building Rep
NTU Vice President