As we head into the last week before Winter Break, it feels like we are all dealing with more than ever. Just to name a few: COVID outbreaks, threats of violence in the schools, understaffing leading to the rest of us being overworked. It's endless—we hear you.

On the positive, we are starting to see some important shifts in the right direction. Today the NTU Evaluation Committee met with the district on Frameworks (see page 2). Earlier this week, our NTU Child Study Team Vice Presidents had a very productive meeting with the Office of Special Education. They will be sharing results with you soon. The state is FINALLY taking a closer look at everything going on in our schools. In February, we have several Arbitration Dates to deal with some long outstanding issues. Progress can sometimes feel absurdly slow, but it is happening.



NTU VP's Jennifer Ramos, Love Gaillard, and Josephine Donnelllan meeting with Assistant Superintendent Carolyn Grenato and Director Marilyn Mitchell

I saw a terrific quote this week, that all school staff need to memorize "You are not required to set yourself on fire to keep other people warm!" PeerFit, AbleTo, and Employee Assistance Programs are just some of the free behavioral & wellness resources available to us, and we need to take full advantage.

And don't forget about the RSVP to Mandates Process!

We want to wish you and your family a healthy and relaxing Winter Break. We know there is a lot of anxiety and confusion about what is happening with school opening in January. Stay tuned to NTU social media & email, as soon as I know something, you'll know. We have all worked hard this school year, and you should just enjoy the Break.



In Solidarity,

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

From the Desk of the Secretary Treasurer



Michael R. Iovino miovino@newarkteachersunion.com

We pushed for it and we got it!!

The NTU Evaluation Framework Committee is going to meet with the NBOE Framework specialist and will be trained on the frameworks exactly how administrators are.

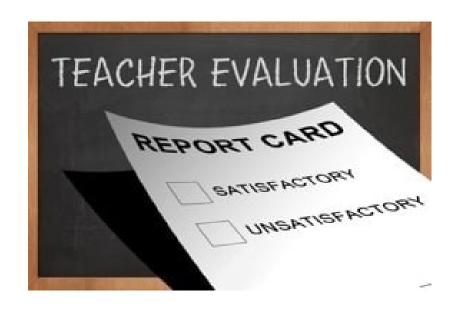
This will give us exact descriptions of what administrators are told to look for and expect when they do observations. We will turnkey that information to our Reps and directly to staff in a building currently without a Rep.

This is an important step in restoring observations

and evaluations back to being a tool for instruction and not a tool for destruction.

The NTU Framework Evaluation Committee members attending this meeting are Michael Iovino, Silvia Pereira, and Ronnie D Carney.





EUGENE G. LISS ATTORNEY AT LAW

92 Main Street, Little Falls, New Jersey 07424 Phone 973-890-1819 / Fax 973-785-4053 LissLaw@hotmail.com

Dear Teacher, Aide, and Clerk:

The most important thing you can do for yourself as a teacher, aide, or clerk is to ensure that you keep for yourself a copy of every letter, reply, e-mail, fax or note that you send or received relative to your position. Place them in a secure place. You never know when you will need the writing to support a position you have to take to protect yourself, your reputation, and your position.

There is nothing more frustrating than when a teacher, aide or clerk says, "I replied in writing" and there is nothing to back to up because you didn't make a copy. If you are in a situation where you are spoken to verbally, make sure you write it down and keep a record of what you are told or what you believe your discussion with an administrator was about. Write what you said for your record.

Remember, that is what your administrator does when they speak to you! Keep records of what you say and what is said to you. Safe keep your records! Keep accurate records! Talk this over with your fellow teachers, aides, and clerks. The job you save may be your own!

Eugene G. Liss

NTU General Counsel

Essex-West Hudson Labor Council Scholarships

Every year, the Essex-West Hudson Labor Council gives out scholarships to the children of the affiliated unions. This year, 10 \$1000 scholarships will be awarded!

Please use the linked application, the deadline is April 15, 2022!



ESSEX-WEST HUDSON LABOR COUNCIL AFL-CIO

"The Union Label Is Protective To All, Unjust To None"

THOMAS P. GIBLIN President Phone: (973) 244-5801 Fax: (973) 227-1868 11 FAIRFIELD PLACE WEST CALDWELL, NJ 07006 WALTER V. GENUARIO Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Essex County Labor Scholarship Application 2022

Scholarship Criteria for High School Seniors

> To be eligible for an Award, the recipient must be a **High School Senior** and be <u>accepted</u> at an accredited college or accredited post-high school education program. The **guardian must be a member** of a **local union affiliated** with the Essex-West Hudson Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING WITH THE APPLICATION BELOW:

- A 250 word written statement explaining why you qualify for the award as well as your commitment to the Labor Movement.
- 2. An Official Transcript from the applicant's high school.
- 3. Any Community Service/Extracurricular activities.
- 4. An official acceptance letter from your school of choice, post high school.

10 \$1000 SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE AWARDED FOR ONE ACADEMIC YEAR

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2022

MAIL TO: Essex-West Hudson Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO 11 Fairfield Place, West Caldwell, NJ 07006

ESSEX COUNTY LABOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION (TYPE or PRINT)

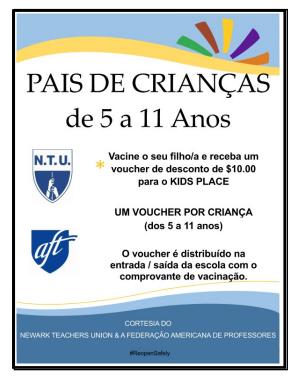
Applicant's NameStreet Address:			Relationship to Member	
			City	
State	Zip	Phone (Day)	Phone (Cell)	
Educationa	al Institution Desired			
Jnion Affiliation			Local #	
Union Representative			Union Phone	
СНЕСК І	LIST: Essay 🗆	School Transcript	Acceptance Letter □ Activity List □	

Student Vaccine Campaign

We continue to give out Kids Place vouchers for our parents who get their children vaccinated. The flyer has been translated into Spanish and Portuguese. Click on the flyers below for larger printable versions you can give your students and parents.







Prudential Center - Disney on Ice and Monster Jam

We reached out to Prudential Center, and we were able to get a group rate discount on tickets to Disney on Ice and Monster Jam in January.

To access these tickets, click on the follow Ticketmaster links and enter "NTU481" when you click the Unlock button. See below:



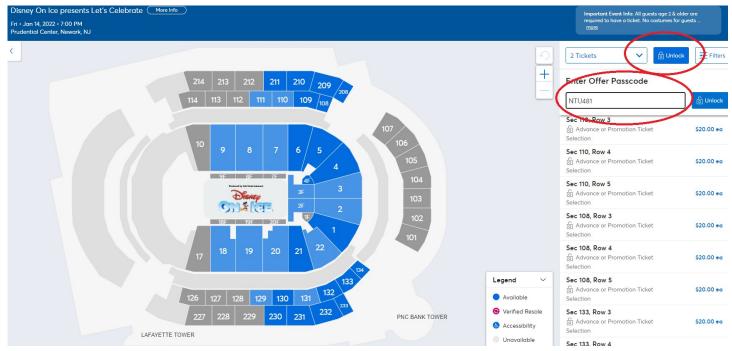
Disney On Ice:

- Friday, January 14th @ 7PM
- Saturday, January 15th @ 7PM
- Monday, January 17th @ 1PM

Monster Jam:

- Saturday, January 29th @ 1PM
- Saturday, January 29th @ 7PM
- Sunday, January 30th @ 1PM

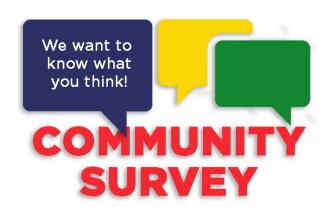




Community Survey on Mental Health

The Alliance4NPS has asked us if we can distribute the link to their latest community survey on mental health. They will be sharing with us all of the non-confidential portions of the survey responses.

Fill it out yourself and pass on to the community!





- Tuesday, December 21—Newark Board of Education Meeting
- Thursday, December 23—Early Dismissal 1 PM
- Friday, November 24— Christmas Eve Holiday (School Closed)
- December 27-December 31 Winter Recess

Twelve Month Employees are off December 24, 27, 30, and 31 for Winter Recess.

Please note that December 23 and January 3 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.

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)

If you are not an NTU member, make sure you fill out a membership application on our website!

NEWARK TEACHERS UNION

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