



Spencerport Teachers Association

Member
Newsletter

Volume IX, Issue 4
June 2025

President's Message

Congratulations, Retirees!

As I looked across the room at our yearly STA Retiree celebration, I saw many smiling, excited faces. I also saw past retirees looking years younger than they had when they actually worked in our district, which always seems to be the case. To our retirees, I just wanted to give you a heartfelt thank you for all of the years you have dedicated to our students, the district, and our union. I have personally worked with several of you, while others I may not know as well; regardless, it's professionals like you that make me proud to say that I work in Spencerport. I hope that all of you truly enjoy the freedom that retirement can bring, and while I would say that none of you look a day over forty, I look forward to seeing you looking like a bunch of thirty-year-olds the next time our paths cross.

Negotiations

Leslie Stein, who was the STA president when I was hired back in 2005, always was adamant that our negotiations team be called the “Professional Advancement Committee,” or PAC. Her reasoning was that we are professionals, and that through negotiations, the STA should strive to ensure that we are treated as such. When I took over as president for Joe at the end of last year, I briefly considered a title change to the committee so that it didn’t get confused with being a “Political Action Committee.” However, as our PAC began the negotiations process, poring over survey data and meeting with members in person to gather feedback to take to the negotiations table, it became clear that everyone in our union across our diverse positions was just asking to be treated like professionals. Leslie was right.

Our larger PAC is made up of one member from each building, and our negotiations team consists of me, Sue Chatterton, Jackie Lanpher, and Dave Calogero, our NYSUT Labor Relations Specialist. Our negotiations team has met with the district eleven times so far this year, and we have met with, emailed, texted, and called each other countless times. Clearly, this hasn’t been a quick or easy process, but nothing worthwhile ever is. We are doing our best to address as many needs as we possibly can, and we have made great progress. Our 12th negotiations session with the district is scheduled for this coming Thursday, June 26th, and we are close to having a draft proposal to bring to the PAC for feedback and approval.

In a recent email, I shared the possibility that we might not be voting on a contract by the end of this school year, and that looks to be the case. However, once we have a draft agreement that the PAC supports, we will be spending time this summer crafting new language and finalizing any changes before we bring it to our membership for a vote in the fall.

This week, you will receive salary agreements for next year that won’t reflect raises due to the fact that a new contract hasn’t yet been finalized. For those of you new to the district, once we come to an agreement and it’s approved by membership, you will receive new salary agreements that will include any retroactive pay from our negotiated raises.

We truly appreciate your patience and support throughout the whole process.

Cell Phones

As you are probably aware, in the state budget, Governor Hochul passed a bell-to-bell cell phone ban in K-12 schools across New York State. I, and several other STA members, have been serving on a committee where we have discussed implementation of the law for this coming fall. There are still some logistics that need to be worked out, but once we figure out the details, we really need to come together as a district to support implementation of this new policy. Cell phones, and social media, have been a major source of anxiety, mental health issues, and behavioral and academic issues for many of our students. Kids are averaging 7.5 hours per day in front of screens for media based entertainment NOT INCLUDING SCHOOLWORK DONE ON LAPTOPS. If properly and consistently implemented, this new law will hopefully provide our students a much-needed break from their anxiety-inducing devices that could truly benefit them, as well as us, for years to come.

Looking Ahead

As I mentioned in a previous newsletter, at the NYSUT Representative Assembly, we put forth various resolutions that NYSUT will focus on in the future. Some of the most important (in my opinion) resolutions included Resolution 12: Recess Revolution: Why Playtime Matters for Student Success, Resolution 18: Ensure Equitable Funding and Resource Allocation for Career and Technical Programs, Resolution 29: One Job Should Be Enough, and Resolution 32: The Future of Teacher Prep: Addressing NYS's Teacher Shortage.

During our lunch sessions, we also heard speakers such as Regent Wade Norwood, as well as a representative from Rochester's Healthy Kids Coalition, speak to the importance of free, unstructured play. Play as instruction leads to innovation and creativity, and our lowest performing schools in Rochester also have the least amount of play built into their school days. Currently, there is no law around required play in our schools, but hopefully that will change with our union's advocacy.

In closing, I just want to say thank you for all that you do. Our union isn't a President, or PAC Chair, or Building Rep. Our union is each and every one of us, and it's our collective voice that gives us our strength. We have all agreed that what we do has

value, and that we will stand together as brothers and sisters to make sure that we are treated as professionals. Over the course of this past year, several members have approached me asking how they could get more involved and make a difference.

If any of the resolutions that I just mentioned sound as meaningful to you as they did to me, I would strongly encourage you to start donating to VOTE-COPE if you don't already do so, and if already you do, to increase your donation when we do our VOTE-COPE drive in the fall. NYSUT cannot use union dues for any kind of political action, including fighting to Fix Tier 6 or advocating for our RA resolutions, but donating to VOTE-COPE is a great way to help NYSUT fight for these important changes. Additionally, the STA gets 40% of our contributions back for local action, such as supporting budget and capital project votes, endorsing board candidates, and paying for leadership training for our union officers, so your donations can have a powerful impact on us here in our own community.

You could also consider running for a union position in the future (we still have one open rep spot at the high school!). Many of the retirees once served in one capacity or another on our Executive Council, and if you have any desire to take on a more active role in our union, I strongly encourage you to consider running for a position. We would also love to have you join us for a union event like a happy hour or book giveaway in the future.

If you stuck with me this long, thank you! I wish you a restful, fun-filled summer, and I look forward to seeing you in the fall!





Annual STA Food Drive

Our annual food drive was another great success this year! We were able to donate two carloads to the Spencerport Ecumenical Food Shelf.

Thank you to all that donated!



STA Book Giveaway at the Spencerport Fireman's Carnival

The STA gave away hundreds of books again at the Fireman's Carnival this year! Thank you to the following volunteers that helped set up the event and/or helped to pass out books to all the families: MaryJean McQuilkin and her husband Rich, Katie Allen, Sara Stocker, Heather Shaw, Maddie Shaw, Jackie Johnson and her son Isaac, Nancy Knight (retiree), Rob Allen and Jeanne Marron (my mother).



Retiree Celebration

The STA held our annual Retiree Celebration on June 9th. Current STA officers along with the retiree officers celebrated the newest class of retirees and made introductions all around. It was a great afternoon.

Thank you to all that were able to join us!





STA Scholarship Winners

Each year, the Spencerport Teachers Association conducts a scholarship drive to raise money for deserving seniors who have chosen to continue their studies. Overall, this year's campaign raised more than \$8,800. Scholarship recipients are chosen by a committee composed of STA members from all buildings within the district. They are assisted by members representing administration, the Board of Education, the Spencerport community, and the Spencerport Central Retirees' Association. This year, the STA was able to give away 4 scholarships. Thank you to all that contributed, and congratulations to the following SHS Seniors!

Juan Green Jordan

Joelina Pecoraro



Tea Weinstein

Alena Zaher

Respectfully submitted,
Jacquelyn Lanpher
First Vice-President



Robin Allison
Michelle Buffa
Ellen Borraccia
Beth Brooks
Cynthia Connor
Judy DeAngelis
John Deserto
Christine Falbo
Janeen Henry

Shelli Lefebre
Tim Lloyd
Sandy McGreevy
Cynthia Montanez
Jennifer Ophardt
Kathleen Straub
Kim VanDeWeghe
Ray Rossiter
Judy Taylor



Robin Allison

Special Education

High School

When did you join the district? In what role? I started with the district in 1994. I was hired as one of the 8:I:I teachers at the High School. I did that for about 5 years, then switched to teaching I5:I, Resource Room and CT. As a Consultant Teacher, I worked mainly with the English and Social Studies departments, but also spent some time in Math, Science, and Second Language classrooms.

Do you have a "favorite" to share? My favorite unit to teach was Shakespeare, especially Macbeth, although it was not necessarily students' favorite. Some of my favorite memories otherwise include a former principal accidentally swearing over the PA system during an Open House, Brian Buckner dressed as Cousin Eddie on Halloween, Doug Hanson's obsession with spam (the food) and his occasionally taking over a colleague's account to send hilarious emails of questionable taste to the entire high school staff, and the way that our building came together and supported each other during times of both national and personal tragedy.

What are you looking forward to in retirement? The thing I'm most looking forward to in retirement is my nephew's wedding that I'll be officiating later this summer. After that, I hope to start fostering dogs through National Great Pyrenees Rescue, where I got my two dogs. I am most looking forward to having the time to see friends and family more often, to spend more time working in my garden and yard, and just having my time be my own. A friend who is already retired recently told me, "I think you're gonna really love your new boss."

What words of wisdom do you have for new teachers? My words of wisdom, such as they are, would be to take some deep breaths when you need to and don't hesitate to ask for help. Also remember that you are doing a really important job, and doing it much better than most people could, no matter what the world tells you sometimes.

Ellen Borraccia

Teaching Assistant Taylor

When did you join the district? In what role? I started in the district in September of 2005 in the high school as a I:I aide to an eleventh grader. A position opened up in the Taylor Library, and I transferred there in November. I loved working in the library! I worked there for 4 years when in September of 2009, a Teaching Assistant position opened up, and I jumped at the job. I was a business major in college, and my former careers included Sales and Management in a personnel placement firm, as well as a Human Resources Specialist for an electronics company.

Nothing really prepared me for teaching! My wonderful reading team colleagues trained me, and I absolutely loved it. The Taylor family took me in, and I got to see my kids every day!

Do you have a "favorite" to share? It is hard for me to narrow down a favorite memory. I love all the laughs I have shared with my colleagues, especially my reading team. I love looking back on the fun times we shared such as Halloween dress up days, staff luncheons and Christmas parties. I will never forget the feeling when a child finally "gets it" and they become confident readers. Working with students year after year and seeing the look on their face when they realize they are reading on grade level will always stick with me.

What are you looking forward to in retirement? I am looking forward to many things in retirement. For starters, I am looking forward to not waking to an alarm clock and the amazing feeling of freedom that inspires! My husband and I plan on taking many wonderful trips, such as hiking out west, and trips to Europe, including Portugal this fall. I am looking forward to spending time with our children and our extended families. I plan on coming back occasionally to sub in the reading department.



What words of wisdom do you have for new teachers? Teaching is a very rigorous profession, so my advice is to support each other and help each other any way that you can. Take time for yourself to recharge! Good luck!

Beth Brooks

Special Education

High School

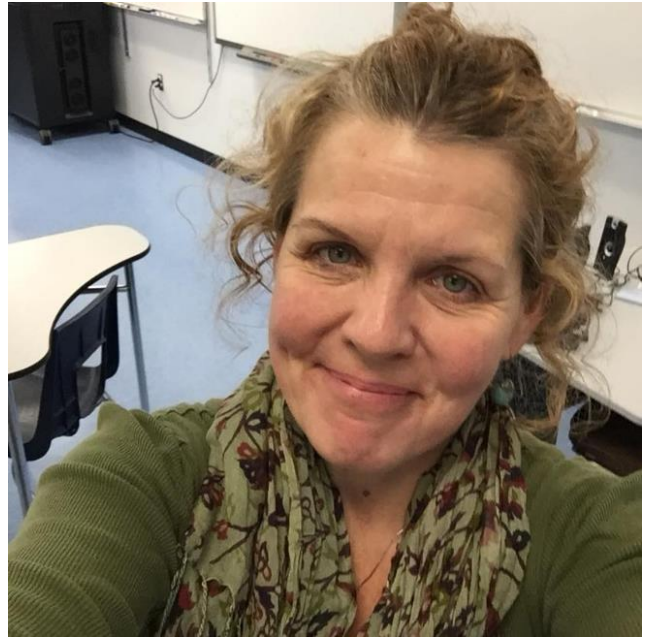
When did you join the district? In what role? I was a long-term sub for the special ed departmeny at the high school—mainly RR and 7th grade Math with Christine Limina.

Do you have a "favorite" to share? My favorite is my dept. I love them. 25 years of the best people to work with, and the

support and friendships mean the most. Second, are the friendships made with students who inspired me to be a better teacher. Watching someone grow and fulfill their goals through realizing they had the power the whole time and they didn't need me.

What are you looking forward to in retirement? Use the bathroom when I have to. Getting up when my body is rested.

What words of wisdom do you have for new teachers? Always start each day a fresh start for yourself, your colleagues, and your students. Rest the brain so information can be filed. Movement is necessary for proper brain function. If the students don't have a growth mindset, learning will be a struggle—start there. Start with becoming a master learner. Remember we are all teachers and learners as we walk our own paths. Laptops are both a distraction and a learning tool—I think a mantra is needed, such as 'healthy use only.'



Michelle Buffa

Music

Cosgrove

When did you join the district? In what role? I joined in 1999 (I think 🤔) as a music teacher in two buildings—the middle school and high school.

Do you have a "favorite" to share? My favorite thing about teaching is seeing my former students in the real world doing great things. I have 35-year-olds I still connect with. I love how happy they are in their lives as adults. I love my work colleagues across the district, but my Cosgrove colleagues are most special to me. ❤️ I will miss them!

What are you looking forward to in retirement? In retirement, I plan to enjoy my hobby farm, raising beef cows. 🐄

What words of wisdom do you have for new teachers? Have fun with your colleagues, even when things are tough. Don't let the days go by without a good laugh. Enjoy your time.



Judy DeAngelis

Teaching Assistant

Bernabi

When did you join the district? In what role? I began subbing as an aide and teaching assistant in SCS in 2005 when my children had all entered school, and I was looking for a way to fill my days. Who knew that I liked kids enough to spend all day with them? I



formally joined SCS in 2008 as a teachers' aide at Bernabi Elementary School. In 2012, I signed on to become a teaching assistant in the Bernabi Math Center, where I stayed for 3 years before moving into the Reading Center for the next ten years before returning to the math center to fill an open rec. As you can see, while I've stayed in the same building, I have filled several different roles over the years.

Do you have a "favorite" to share? One of my favorite memories happened many years ago while I was working with a group of fifth grade boys. We were reading *Bridge to Terabithia*. The boys were so engaged, wanting to read ahead, arguing about the reasons behind the characters' actions. Not to be a spoiler- but when one of the main characters dies, one of my students jumped up and stormed around the room, refusing to accept the author's decision to kill off the character. That's when I realized just what a difference, we as educators can make. This boy hated to read, but after that book, he was hooked.

What are you looking forward to in retirement? In retirement, my husband and I plan to travel and reconnect with family and friends who live around the world.

What words of wisdom do you have for new teachers? My words of wisdom for new hires is to be flexible. You never know when a move or a change in assignment will bring you happiness and introduce you to lifelong friends.

John Deserto

Social Studies

Cosgrove

When did you join the district? In what role? I started in 1989 in a long-term sub position in the high school for a special education teacher on maternity leave. Over the next few years, I went from teaching a single Global Studies class and a business class, to teaching several Global 2 classes at the high school and Global 1 and 7th Grade



Early American History at the Middle School. Back then, the high school and the middle school were in opposite buildings. The middle school was 7-9th grade, high school 10-12th grade. When the buildings flip-flopped, the two full-time 8th grade teachers retired. I don't think they wanted to move their stuff, so I went full time 8th grade.

Do you have a "favorite" to share? Favorite memories are the old Gamma Team Meetings with Julie Fish (math), Nancy Knight (ELA) and both Jason Swain/Phiny Fox (Science). It was a great blend of solving academic issues, fixing student problems, planning, co-planning and blowing off steam time. We were professionals and were allowed to do our jobs without micromanagement.

My favorite students are the ones who've continued on to successful in this profession of both teaching and history. I still touch base with a student who's now a professor of History at Georgetown.

My favorite time teaching was when I was able to "loop" with my students. We started in 7th grade, and I had them again in 8th. I knew them and they knew me, and the subject area never got stale because next year, I wasn't teaching that.

What are you looking forward to in retirement? Going to the bathroom whenever I need to. Going on vacation when I want to (Hello Croatia in September). Sipping coffee under my pergola, smelling the wisteria, reading a history book and understanding the true meaning of tranquility.

What words of wisdom do you have for new teachers? My first and best Principal, Ed Przybycien told me to save all the positive note you get from students, parents, other teachers and administrators. Keep them in handy in your desk because you will have horrible days where someone else's nasty comments might make you doubt yourself, you must read the things you saved, because those are the real truth.



Christina Falbo

Special Education

High School

When did you join the district? In what role? After teaching 5 years in another district, I came to Spencerport HS in September 2000. I started out teaching 8:I:I Social Studies and Math. Since then, I've taught CT, I5.I, I2:I:I-Green, and Resource. My content has mainly been US History and Gov't, but I've also taught every Social Studies Course as well as Algebra I and PFL.



Do you have a "favorite" to share? One of my favorites from my career include celebrating successes with my students. It's so wonderful to see students celebrate their academic, athletic, and other achievements. I've appreciated the opportunities to attend various events outside of the classroom with my students.



Another top favorite is being a member of two superb departments here at SHS. Our Special Ed Dept is amazing! So many teachers and staff that truly care about our students. They go above and beyond not only for our students, but for each other. We've been able to educate and love hundreds of students, all while making sure our staff's emotional and educational needs were also addressed, helped, and supported.

I've also been blessed with having a great Social Studies Dept here at SHS. Again, these professionals have taught and guided many students through academic, social, and emotional life as teenagers. In addition to being role models for our future generations, they are the best, funny, caring people to be around. They have helped me through many crises in the last couple decades. I will truly miss the thousands of lunches and other activities that we've enjoyed over the years.



I will miss discussing history with my students (and friends and colleagues). There have been so many! It's so fulfilling to educate our youth to utilize various sources and people to learn about our past and current history and then formulate their own opinions.

What are you looking forward to in retirement? In retirement, I look forward to spending more time with my 4 grand-angels and other family members, working with friends and family at our American Legion, reading, traveling, and spreading smiles around our nation.

What words of wisdom do you have for new teachers? It's so hard to narrow down 30 years of educational wisdom, but I will suggest I thing for future (and current educators). Make a "smile" or "praise" folder or box. Any time you received a letter, picture, note, or email that acknowledges, appreciates, or thanks you- KEEP IT! I have one at home and one in school. On those dark, crappy days, look in it. Even if you only have time to read a couple praises, it will help you to remember what an impact you have on others and how worthy you are in life!

Janeen Henry

Special Education

Cosgrove

When did you join the district? In what role? I began my journey in education in the fall of 1993 as a substitute teacher. I received my "combat training" working in the city, where every day brought new challenges and valuable lessons. That same school year, I had the opportunity to take on two long-term substitute positions within the Spencerport School District.

The first was at Munn Elementary, where I had the privilege of working under the guidance of Bonnie Seaburn. Bonnie quickly became one of the most influential people in my life. Her mentorship and encouragement helped shape the educator I would become.



Later that year, I stepped into a second long-term sub position at Cosgrove Middle School—and it was there that I found my second home. Not long after, I was hired as a Special Education teacher for what was then known as the STEP department—Spencerport Transitional Education Program. I've been at Cosgrove ever since. Some of my favorite memories come from the incredible people who took me under their wing—those who taught me the ropes, shared laughter and tears, and helped me find my footing along the way. I lovingly refer to some of these remarkable women as my STEP sisters—Deb Yeara, Carol Lennon, Teresa Trujillo, Dawn Murphy Bruton, and Theresa Dils, just to name a few. Their support and friendship have meant the world to me, and I'm forever grateful to have walked this journey with them by my side.

Cosgrove has always felt like a second home to me. When I first began walking into other people's classrooms as a CT, it was intimidating—but that feeling didn't last long. EVERYONE was so welcoming, flexible, and supportive. Being in this role throughout my entire career gave me the privilege of working alongside creative, talented people who taught me so much. That alone speaks volumes about the incredible family Cosgrove has always been. The amazing colleagues (too many to name) I've worked with over the years made coming to work something I genuinely looked forward to. Their kindness, humor, and dedication helped create a workplace filled with both purpose and joy. For that, I am deeply grateful.

Do you have a "favorite" to share? Over the years, there have been so many unforgettable moments—some touching, some hilarious, and all part of what made this career so special:

- Teaching the children of former students... a real “how did I get this old?” reality check!
- Teaching with former students who once walked our halls—a full-circle experience.
- Thanksgiving celebrations that brought our team together in the best way.
- Huge happy hours—oops, I mean “book club” gatherings.
- Introducing new teachers to the ancient art of the film strip (yes, we really used those!). Sue Lombardo teaching me the Riot Act—a lesson I won't forget!

These moments, both big and small, are what have made my time at Cosgrove truly unforgettable.

What are you looking forward to in retirement? As I look ahead to retirement, I'm especially excited for a few things:

- Sunday nights, finally free of that familiar anxiety about the week ahead.
- Traveling during the off-seasons, with more freedom.
- And most importantly, spending more time with my family.

What words of wisdom do you have for new teachers? I'm not sure I'm the best person to offer words of wisdom, but if I've learned anything, it's this:

- Laugh often. Laugh at yourself. Allow yourself to make mistakes.

- Lean on each other.
- Get involved—proctor the dances and events, join BPT, go on the trips. Being a bus leader on the DC trip was truly one of the best experiences of my career.
- Share ideas and materials.
- Be an active member of our union. You do have a voice! It’s one of the strongest teacher unions in the county, and I am so thankful for the guidance and support fellow union members have provided throughout the years.

To everyone who has touched my life at Cosgrove—thank you. You’ve made a lasting impact, and I will carry these memories with me always.

Shelli Lefebre

Reading

Canal View

When did you join the district? In what role? I began my journey in Spencerport in 2000 as a reading specialist at Munn Elementary. When Canal View opened in 2003, I made the move and have been a reading teacher there ever since.

Do you have a “favorite” to share? It’s nearly impossible to choose just one memory—there are so many special moments at Canal View that I will always hold close. One tradition especially dear to

me is Secret Santa, where each year we’ve come together to donate toys to local charities like the Ronald McDonald House and, for the past eight years, to the Willie Bee Foundation. The annual ornament exchange also brought so much laughter and joy. Above all, I will cherish the friendships I’ve built and will miss seeing my wonderful colleagues every day.

What are you looking forward to in retirement? In retirement, I’m excited to spend more time with family and friends. The arrival of my first grandchild in May has brought so much



joy, and I can't wait for our weekly visits. I'm also looking forward to traveling with my husband and making more trips to Boston to spend time with our daughter.

What words of wisdom do you have for new teachers? Stay true to who you are. Strive for a healthy work-life balance and invest in building friendships with your colleagues—it truly makes the journey that much more meaningful and enjoyable.

Tim Lloyd

Social Studies

High School

When did you join the district? In what role? I joined Spencerport CSD in 2000 as a long-term Sub in Social Studies (4 section) & Business (1 section). I've been full-time Social Studies ever since...mainly 9th & 10th grade. (Global I, Global II & AP World)



Do you have a “favorite” to share? One of my proudest moments as an educator was during the global pandemic, aka Covid. Although scary, dark & depressing at times, it amazed me that an organization of our size was able to, seemingly over-night, pivot on a dime, & find a way to continue our connections/teaching of the students & families of Spencerport. I witnessed, in my colleagues, a remarkable degree of thinking/acting on the fly, dedication and putting the needs of our students first. It truly made me proud to say to the outside world that I was a part of this.

What are you looking forward to in retirement? In retirement, I most look forward to focusing on the next chapters of my life. Having lost two brothers at 60 & 62, I concluded that nothing is guaranteed in life & we as individuals have to decide when the "time is right." With that, I look forward to focusing on projects around the house, travelling (West Coast, Prague, Wales) & doing things I want to do, on my own timetable.

What words of wisdom do you have for new teachers? As for words of wisdom for future teachers, I would say it's most important to be yourself, to take care of yourself physically & emotionally, and surround yourselves with people who you respect and want to emulate. As for your main focus, your students, be genuine and humble. As has been said before, "Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care."

Sandy McGreevy

Math

High School

When did you join the district? In what role? I originally became involved in the district as a volunteer in my children's classes at Bernabi! I served on the district's gifted honor's task force as a parent then started substitute teaching here about 1996. In 1998, I was hired as a math teacher.

Do you have a "favorite" to share? I loved dressing up as Professor Gottfried Leibniz for my calc class each year. He was an angry substitute teacher for Mrs. McGreevy. He was angry because Newton was trying to take all the credit for inventing calculus when he also invented a good chunk of it. The whole lesson was without power (no lights, phones, calculators, computers, etc.. I even had a fountain pen with ink to write my notes.) I had the kids break up in groups from different countries inventing calculus in different ways, to show them how discoveries happened without mass communication.

What are you looking forward to in retirement? Time. Time for sewing, really organizing my house but mostly time for my family (especially Jane and Spencer, my two grandkids!) We also have a 12-night Baltic Cruise planned!



What words of wisdom do you have for new teachers? There will be hard days ahead. You will do things wrong. If you are like me, you might even cry. But remember you can do it. Don't be afraid to ask for help and guidance. Don't be afraid to not do it all. You will grow each year and become better each year. One place that helped me grow was going to outside seminars, workshops and conferences. You learn priceless practices from your colleagues here, but you can get new insights from others and then share that information back here. I attended many summer institutes at Brockport, RIT and AP workshops. I also attended two National AP conferences. They were priceless.

Judy Taylor Teaching Assistant Taylor

When did you join the district? In what role? I started my career in the district at Munn in 1996 as a paraprofessional for the 5th grade blended class with Leslie Stein and Don Wierzchowski. I learned so much from these phenomenal teachers for two years, and then the blended program ended. The special education department was going to pilot the Wilson Reading System program at Terry Taylor School using a Teaching Assistant, and I was selected to teach this program as a Teaching Assistant in 1998. I taught Wilson and also became part of the Reading Center team since that time.



Do you have a “favorite” to share? I have many wonderful memories of my career. My favorite memory at Munn was our class cooking events at the end of each social studies unit. Every student participated in some way, and we would then feast together. Teaching using the Wilson program has hands down been my most rewarding memory. It was always

thrilling to see children who had previously struggled with reading find that they could decode and read words following the rules of the program. Terry Taylor School has become a second home to me. I love walking through the doors and feeling such a sense of family. My reading team has helped me grow as an educator, and made each day a true team experience. Lori Richardson and I have been roommates for most of my career. It is a sisterhood that I will always cherish. We even would accidentally twin so many times!

What are you looking forward to in retirement? I look forward to not having to get up at 5:30 in the morning to run before school. We are looking forward to traveling during the shoulder months when school is in session, and to be able to see our children and granddaughter without having the constraints of the school schedule. We are hoping to have lots of fun times together!

What words of wisdom do you have for new teachers? Listen to your students' needs. Smile a lot. Tell children they can do it. Children need to hear that. Then help them accomplish that goal. Learn from your colleagues. Sharing experiences and lessons will keep you fresh. Love what you do!

2024/2025 Executive Council Meeting Dates

Meetings begin at 4:00 in the Cosgrove Faculty Lounge

~~September 12~~

~~October 10~~

~~November 21~~

~~December 19~~

~~January 16~~

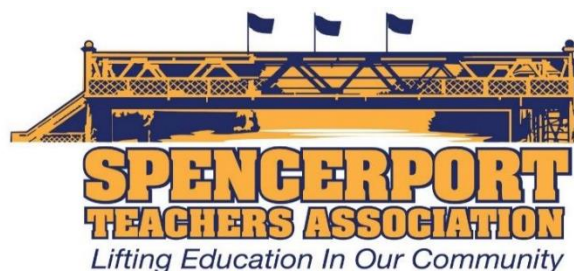
~~February 13~~

~~March 20~~

~~April 24~~

~~May 15~~

~~June 13~~



Executive Council 2024-2025

Officers:

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------|------------------|
| ● President | Rob Allen | ● PAC Chair | Sue Chatterton |
| ● 1st VP | Jacquelyn Lanpher | ● Secretary | Amanda Van Huben |
| ● 2nd VP | Bridget Herrmann | ● Treasurer | Frank Cafarella |

PAC Representatives:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| ● Bernabi | Laurie Palmateer |
| ● Canal View | Sara Stocker |
| ● Munn | Stacy Lonardo |
| ● Taylor | Danielle Blossom |
| ● Cosgrove | Janeen Henry |
| ● Wilson | Dan Pincelli |

Delegates to the NYSUT Representative Assembly:

- Rob Allen
- Sue Chatterton
- Jacquelyn Lanpher
- Laurie Palmateer

Building Representatives:

Bernabi:

- Tammy Lopatka
- Jaclyn Neusatz

Canal View:

- Erin Fredereksen
- Deanna Mendoza

Munn:

- Matt Fink
- Colleen Lachance

Taylor:

- Danielle Blossom
- Rob Pursel

Cosgrove:

- Theresa Dils
- Robin Hondorf
- Anita Miller
- Emmy Thevanesan

Wilson:

- Kristin Cocchiara
- Steve Kelley
- Andy Pacitto
- Dan Pincelli
- Rachel Sherman

Nurses:

- Mike Steinman

TAs:

- Tina Pocock

Building Planning Team Representatives:

Bernabi:

- Laurie Palmateer

Canal View:

- Sue Chatterton

Munn:

- Matt Fink

Terry Taylor:

- Danielle Blossom

Cosgrove:

- Emmy Thevanesan

Wilson:

- Steve Kelley

Social Media Coordinator:

- Bridget Herrmann

Newsletter Editor:

- Emmy Thevanesan

Webmaster:

- Bryan Swanson

Political Action:

- Stacy Lonardo



LET MEMBER BENEFITS HELP YOU PLAN FOR RETIREMENT



If you recently retired or plan to do so in the near future, it's important to prepare for the transition from in-service work to retirement.

Maintaining NYSUT membership in retirement is crucial, especially if you're currently participating in a NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed program(s) and would like to continue doing so. This can be accomplished in one of two ways:

- 1** Continue membership within your local if retiree membership is offered. Contact your local to find out if any retiree membership requirements are in place. You must comply with these requirements to continue your membership in NYSUT along with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and National Education Association (NEA).
- 2** Continue as an at-large member of NYSUT through the Retiree Council in your region. Contact your local to ensure you will be reported as retired to NYSUT. This will provide you with membership in the Retiree Council in your region along with NYSUT, AFT, and NEA. If you have questions about maintaining NYSUT membership or would like more information about NYSUT retiree programs, you will want to contact the NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant serving your region. You can find this information at nysut.cc/retireeconsultants.

More than a dozen of the endorsed programs offered by Member Benefits can be purchased through either payroll or pension deduction. These convenient payment methods offer reduced premiums or the elimination of service fees in many instances. An active NYSUT membership is required to participate in payroll or pension deduction. If you're currently participating in one (or more) of our endorsed programs, we encourage you to look into switching to pension deduction after you enter retirement.

Learn more about continuing Member Benefits-endorsed programs or the pension deduction process by scanning the QR code, visiting memberbenefits.nysut.org, or calling 800-626-8101.



May/June 2025