



WFL Association of School Support Personnel

The Supporter

December 2016

Officers

President: Donna Arno

1st Vice President: Susan

Cristantello

2nd Vice President: Amy Owens

Secretary: Gail Gligora

Treasurer: Diane Smith



President's Notes

Greetings Everyone,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. It was so nice to see everyone at All Staff day.

Many of you took the opportunity to stop by our SRP table and get some books that were left over from our First Book drive. They will make great Christmas gifts. Congratulations to the winners of the raffles... Nortex Basket - donated by: Emily Asare, Christmas Bench -donated by: Business Ventures, Date Night Basket and the Lottery Wreath, both of those items donated by the executive committee. Thanks to everyone's generosity we raised \$950 dollars. Some of the proceeds went to Santa's Hat Society and some went to our Angel fund. Please take a minute to read about the Santa's Hat in this newsletter.

As we end the first half of the year the executive committee is very busy finishing up building meetings, getting in some training through NYSUT and gathering information from everyone's wish list for the new contract. We will be sending out the official survey by the middle of January so please be watching for it. Our LRS will be meeting with the committee in January and after the surveys are finished we will start negotiating soon after. We will keep you posted as much as we can. If you haven't already given your building rep your contact information with your personnel email please do so. That is the way we hope to communicate with you to keep you as up to date as possible.

I hope everyone takes the time during the coming holiday season to relax and have some fun with family and friends!

In Solidarity,
Donna Arno

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Santa Hat Society

The Association made a \$400 donation to the Santa Hat Society with some of the monies raised at all staff day this year. Thank you to everyone that bought tickets at all staff day. The Santa Hat Society has been fundraising in order to buy Christmas gifts for families facing the loss of a parent or child, a serious illness or other financial challenges. If you look them up online you can make your own personal donations if you are interested.



Custodial/Maintenance Staffing Issues

Over the years, custodial/maintenance staff have faced several problems that have led to doing more with less:

Downsizing: shrinking school budgets and academic pressures have resulted in layoffs and shrinking building maintenance budgets.

Building additions, without staff additions: many schools have added new wings/classrooms, creating thousands of square feet of additional building space without adding staff.

Years of deferred maintenance: many districts have not kept up with needed structural and system maintenance in large part because the state reimbursement process only gives significant monies for replacement of systems or buildings, not for minor maintenance. Additionally, communities are not approving large capital projects as they did in the past and now there is tremen-

dous need to fix what's broken without the staff to do it.

Reductions of trades titles: Over the last two decades, districts have eliminated trades titles like plumbers, masons and electricians. Remaining in-house custodial and general maintenance workers may not be able to do as much as those with specific qualifications/licenses.

As school districts seek to cut expenses and staffing, custodial workloads increase to the detriment of the schools. Cleaning cannot be done as thoroughly with fewer workers. It also poses a safety risk to the workers as they try to keep the same level of cleanliness with fewer workers. Short staffing can result in taking shortcuts on safety precautions because of the pressure to get the job done. Custodians already face significant job hazards like musculoskeletal injuries from heavy lifting, mopping, wiping surfaces, scrubbing and chemical exposures from cleaning and maintenance products.

nance products.

Article found on:
<http://www.nysut.org/resources/all-listing/2013/september/fact-sheet-13-11-custodial-and-maintenance-issues>



Personal Information

If any of your personal information has changed since you have filled out your membership form, please contact Diane Smith, Union Treasurer. NYSUT needs this updated information to make sure you get all of the member benefits information, full membership credits, and much more. Personal information would qualify as change of address, your last name has changed, phone number update. You can contact Diane Smith via email at dsmith@wflbores.org.

WE HAVE A WEBPAGE

We now have a webpage for our Association. The link is: <http://wflclassp.ny.aft.org/>

We have been working very hard at communicating with our members and have listened to your

suggestions. You can now find the Executive Items from our monthly meetings on our webpage under "Publications and Reports" on the "News" tab.

Our webpage is constantly being

updated and we welcome any suggestions you may have. Contact your Building Representative with any pertinent suggestions and information.



SRP Day

November 15 was School Related Professionals Day. The Association would like to express their gratitude for everything you do on a daily basis. You have a huge impact in the Districts that you work in. Districts wouldn't be able to do what they do everyday without us. So take that moment and pat yourself on the back. This is for all support staff and there are so many titles to mention that we won't try because we don't want to miss anyone. A big thank



Cookies with Santa Cancelled

Santa has had a run in with the reindeer this fall and is recovering from his injuries. He feels if he cancels our cookies with Santa he will be ready to fly on December 24th.

Santa looks forward to seeing you all next year at this event.



Building Representatives:

Cheryl Shields - FLTCC

Amber Wiebeld - REC

Cindy Lee - NEC

Bea Knowlton - Red Jacket

Dean Ginder - LeRoy

Donna King - NEC

Penny Vanderlinde - MEC

Billie Brinkerhoff - Edutech Shared Staff

Nicole Dann - FLSS

Carol Wright - MEC

NYSUT MEMBER BENEFITS ANNOUNCES 4 NEW ENDORSED PROGRAMS!



Office Depot/OfficeMax

This program offers NYSUT members & their families the opportunity to save up to 80% on almost 100,000 products in all Office Depot/OfficeMax locations or online through the company's website; the average savings on items is approximately 30%. NYSUT members can save on school supplies, office supplies, ink & toner, copying & printing, and much more.

Tunstall Medical Alert

Tunstall offers a variety of medical alert products that ensure NYSUT members and/or their family members living alone can get quick assistance when they need it; the majority of Tunstall's products have a lightweight, waterproof activator that can be worn around the neck or wrist.

When pushed, the Tunstall activator signals a base unit that in turn communicates directly with the Tunstall 24/7/365 Emergency Response Center. Tunstall offers personal emergency response systems for both traditional landline and cell phone users that directly connect with the Tunstall Emergency Response Center when the activator button is pushed.

Premier World Discovery

This program offers a variety of group tour vacations designed for active adult American travelers specializing in domestic and international worldwide tours. NYSUT members & their family members who use the Premier

World Discovery program can save \$100 per person on specific tours and cruises.

Since the company's inception in 1999, Premier World Discovery has developed a lineup of more than 70 travel programs around the globe, including fully-escorted tours, unique rail tours, private-chartered European river cruises, festive holiday and New Year's getaways, and more.

Abenity Discounts

The Abenity discounts program gives NYSUT members access to approximately 290,000 exclusive member discounts across 10,000 U.S. cities, including discounted tickets for entertainment & sporting events; a variety of travel opportunities; and numerous local deals.

With the Abenity discounts program, you'll be able to enjoy substantial savings on tickets to the latest blockbuster movies or theater events, theme parks, museums & attractions, zoos, major appliances/televisions, restaurants, groceries, gym memberships, and much more!

NYSUT members can utilize their Abenity discounts program on any mobile device and gain access to exclusive local deals no matter where you are. Purchase tickets to more than 3,000 movie theaters and theme parks. There are no hidden fees and you'll receive electronic tickets immediately!

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call **800-626-8101**.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.