

BRENTWOOD TEACHERS ASSOCIATION IMPACT

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BTA's Voter Registration Drive



The Brentwood Teachers Association is joining forces with NYSUT on a Voter Registration Project. Your involvement in local and statewide elections is essential to help ensure that individuals elected to office support our agenda and will stand up to protect the rights and benefits of our members who are now under attack. Elections have consequences; remember Wisconsin and Ohio, where union members are still reeling from the results of not supporting pro-union candidates.

As the 2012 legislative session in Albany approaches, we will once again be faced with attacks on our pension and seniority rights. We will undoubtedly have to fight for adequate funding for our schools and fight against giving millionaires an undeserved tax break.

We need to elect advocates who believe the State has a responsibility to fund public education and understand that strong unions are essential for preserving and increasing the middle class. We must have an impact in the 2011-2012 elections. *We lose strength if you do not participate in the electoral process.*

We have a list of 191 BTA members who are not registered. That is almost 14% of our membership. If you are on the list, the BTA will send you a Voter Registration Card. We kindly ask that you mail it to the Board of Elections by October 14. All newly-registered voters can vote in the General Election on November 8. Although the accuracy is quite high, it is possible that some members who we show as unregistered may now be registered. You can confirm your registration status at <https://voterlookup.elections.state.ny.us/>.

Voting and participation in the political process is the only way to ensure that we elect public officials who support public education, labor, and healthcare issues. Thank you for your support.

October 14 – Voter Registration Cards must be postmarked

November 8 – General Election

Union, Collective Bargaining Take the Day in APPR Lawsuit

The state Supreme Court in Albany County recently limited the use of standardized state test scores in teacher evaluation, a key claim raised by NYSUT in its lawsuit against SED and the Board of Regents.

In a published statement following release of the court's decision, NYSUT's Dick Iannuzzi said, "We are pleased the judge has upheld the statute as NYSUT interprets it. Today's ruling is good for students and teachers."

NYSUT sued over changes to portions of the APPR regulations adopted this year that conflict with the new APPR legislation, which was developed jointly by NYSUT and SED and enacted in 2010.

President Iannuzzi called the decision by State Supreme Court Justice Michael Lynch a significant victory, upholding the value of collective bargaining and the input of practitioners.

"This decision affirms our position that teachers must be a part of developing a fair, meaningful evaluation that will impact student learning," said NYSUT Vice President Maria Neira.

The court's 15-page decision clearly upholds NYSUT's interpretation of the statute. In a strongly-worded decision, the court said, "The (Board) of Regents is unquestionably invested with broad rule-making authority concerning the State's educational system, but such authority must be exercised subject to and in conformity with the law of the state."

The court also said, "The theme throughout 3012-c is that except for the first 20 percent category ... the remaining 80 points must be

established through collective bargaining."

See the complete court decision on NYSUT's website. In its press statement, SED has indicated it plans to appeal or possibly seek further legislation.

Iannuzzi, in his statement, reaffirmed the union's commitment to the APPR process and reinforced NYSUT's expectation that SED will be at the table to proceed with the implementation of APPR in accordance with the court's ruling and the law we jointly developed.

Important

If you have had a
Name Change
and/or

Address Change,

Please **contact** both:

Human Resources @ X2331

and

the BTA Office @ 273-4402

or e-mail

btaoffice@brentwoodta.org

***Be sure to keep your
beneficiaries up to date!**

BTA Apparel for Sale

Show your union pride by sporting BTA apparel:

- **Sweatshirts**
- **Windbreakers**
- **Rain ponchos**
- **Golf shirts**
- **Hats**
- **Jackets**



The above items and more are available at the BTA Office. Visit the BTA website at:

www.brentwoodta.org

All orders should be placed on-line. See your Chief Delegate for more information.

Goods and Services

~3 Hofstra Credits for Sale~
Call Brian @ 631-922-4344.

~3 Hofstra Credits for Sale~
Call Catherine @ 631-766-0041.

Ronkonkoma Apartment for Rent

One Bedroom. \$1,100/ month.

First floor, 1 bath, kitchen-living room combo, own thermostat, off-street parking, private entrance.

Utilities included, water, oil, electric, and A/C.

No smoking or pets on premises.

Requires first and last months' rent and must submit credit report.

Apt. is available Oct. To be seen by appointment, call 631-235-1072.

Make an Impact!

Impact is the union's way of keeping its membership aware of union issues. It allows us to share important information with our membership in a timely fashion.

Please send feature articles, human interest stories, etc., to:

Donna McStay at SMS
(dmcstay@bufsd.org)

or

Theresa Golinski at WMS
(tgolinsk@bufsd.org)



A \$25 gift certificate will be awarded to one contributor for each issue.

*Due to the number of requests, ads will only be run **once** per year, space permitting.

IMPACT

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