



**PENFIELD EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**  
*United in Excellence*

# *The Broadside*

**April 2018**

## President's Column

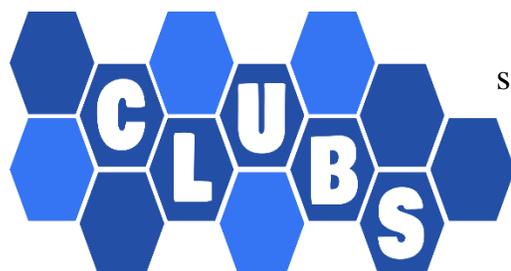
I was planning on wishing everyone a "Happy Spring," but as I am preparing this column, the sleet is hitting the front window, and I can almost see the ice crystals start to cling to the trees and bushes. It does not seem much like spring right now, but I am sure it is spring somewhere! I trust that each of you had a restful spring break, and although it may seem hard to believe, the fourth quarter of the school year is upon us.



My column will touch on just a couple of important topics this month. By now, all schools have had a brief presentation on the importance of signing our union commitment cards. We would like to have the cards returned by May 1. I would like to thank the building reps for taking the lead in handling this important task. I have had a few questions asking for a more thorough history of the Janus case which, at least in part, precipitated the commitment cards. Last month's *Broadside* contained some background information about the case and NYSUT's efforts to maintain the strength of our union membership. I would also be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the importance of signing your commitment card. Although not legally binding, signing the card does indicate that you support maintaining a union presence in our district.



There has been a change in our representation to the NYSTRS (New York State Teacher Retirement System). Currently, we have two teacher representatives, Hope Vogel and Tom Kruger. We are now allowed a third delegate. Anyone who contributes to the NYS Retirement System is eligible to run, and we have one person so far who has expressed interest. Should you be interested in this voluntary position, please send your name to our Elections Chairperson, Linda Williams at the high school by May 1. The election will be held on May 15. If you have any questions about being a NYSTRS rep, Hope, Tom, or I will be happy to help you.



Our new stipend information is almost finished. My goal is still to bring the revised stipend format to the Executive Committee by the end of the month and present it to the members in May. The current stipend structure will be in place until the end of this year. The new format will take effect in September 2018.

As you may know, we have three open positions for next year's BOE. Carole Nasra has decided not to run again, and the terms of Catherine Dean and Mark Elledge are expiring. We have four candidates (including Catherine Dean and Mark Elledge) running for the three open slots. All candidates who are running for a BOE seat will be receiving a questionnaire from the Executive Committee this week. We look forward to reading their responses and endorsing the candidates whom we feel will be the best choices for our district. We will announce our endorsement by the beginning of May. As we have done in the past, the PEA will again follow up our endorsement with post cards to district residents. Stay tuned.



Last, but certainly not least, our annual VOTE-COPE drive will begin soon. More information will be forthcoming. Hope Vogel will be our VOTE-COPE Chairperson this year.

Thank you to all of our ELA teachers who so ably prepared our students for the NYS ELA tests last week. Kudos to you for your hard work!



Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Together, now more than ever, we remain Union Strong.

In solidarity,  
Bob Young



## Board-Watchers Report

### Board Watcher's Notes- February 6, 2018 Board Meeting

(Meeting begins 7:13 pm)



#### **General News & Updates**

-Meeting began with Visitor's Speaking portion of the agenda. Former Board member and Penfield CSD grandparent, Ginny McCullough spoke about incident that had happened at the Annual Penfield Jazz Concert. Mrs. McCullough had leafletted at the event on behalf of the Save Our Pines group and was asked to stop leafletting by District Administration. The Board listened to her concerns and Dr. Putnam requested a meeting to discuss further at her convenience.

-Student Representative Report

-Individual District Schools Reports/Highlights

Dr. Putnam commented on the excellent storytelling program with storyteller Almeta Whitis that he had attended at Cobbles.

-Student/ Staff Honors

#### **Elementary Additions Project Updates**

-Dr. Putnam and Mark Sansouci have been going on "road shows" to inform all district schools/staff of Elementary Classroom Additions Project

-Proposed project: 4 classrooms Scribner, 4 classrooms Cobbles & cafeteria update, 4 classrooms IL, cafeteria expansion, address traffic flow issues

-Bus garage project on hold due to several obstacles

-Proposed project is ½ the size of original capital project. Budget Vote is May 15.

## **Budget 2018-2019-Capital (Building & Grounds, Transportation, Debt Service)**

-Mr. Sansouci laid out District budget goals in this area for 2018-19 (fiscal responsibility, maintain facilities, safe learning environment, building and space to meet learning goals)

-Explained where increases in various departments were coming from- normal increases in salary and new staff members

-Next meeting will discuss General Fund (Instruction) for 2018-19 Budget

-Reviews budget calendar until April 27 adoption date by Board

-Audit reviews accepted by Mr. Sansouci

## **General News & Updates**

-BOCES board members with ending terms named

-Board members shared thoughts on the School Board Association breakfast with area legislators

-Board Member Albany Advocacy Trip discussed- deadline for RSVP 2/14/18; John Piper committed to going, other members discussed

-Next meeting announced for 2/27/18

**(Adjourned 8:14 p.m.)**

*Respectfully submitted by Jessie Nimeh*

*PEA Member & Third Grade Teacher Indian Landing Elementary*

## Board Watcher's Notes- February 27, 2018 Board Meeting



- Special Reports
  - K-12 Art teachers and Nicole Whitehead (director of STEM) presented an Art Program Review focused on curriculum highlights, instructional practices, notable achievements and initiatives.
    - Elementary curriculum- focus on cross-curricular integrations, NYS Art Standards, and problem solving, being flexible and citizenship in the classroom.
    - Elementary Notable achievements- Arts in Ed festival, SEPTA bookfair and national PTA Reflections Program
    - Middle School Curriculum- 6<sup>th</sup> graders focus on cross-curricular integration with art history, 7<sup>th</sup> grade focuses on 2D design and 8<sup>th</sup> grade focuses on art history and technology.
    - High School Curriculum- AP, 3D design, media arts and ceramics courses are offered. Collaboration with Spanish 5 allows for cross-curricular integration.
  - Board thanks art teachers for their hard work in helping students' achieve their artistic goals
- Student Representative Statement
  - HH students are going to Dayton's Corner School
  - U of R Yellow Jackets came to HH for concert
  - HH 1<sup>st</sup> graders are competing for Million Reading Minutes
  - Cobbles 5<sup>th</sup> graders are learning keyboarding basics
  - Cobbles Makers Club testing out robotics projects
  - IL lego museum
  - Scribner students donated canned goods
  - Scribner Penny drive to support Green Tree Elementary
  - Bay Trail preparing for musical
  - 8<sup>th</sup> graders learned about the Holocaust through poster exhibit
  - PHS 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Career Day
- Superintendent Report
  - Student and staff honors-Bay Trail Math Counts team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in Chapter Competition, PHS student whose work was on display at RIT gallery, PHS student

won Silver Key Award in Scholastic Arts and Writing, PHS Honor Society blood drive collected 85 units which will help 255 patients

- Safety Update- Annual review brings consistency to building safety plan-living documents to be reviewed at any time, especially after tragedy. Drills are conducted throughout the year and modifications and updates are made as needed. The district has partnership with Monroe County Sherriff department, Brighton Police, Wayne County Sherriff and Homeland Security to review district plan. Changes to PHS- main entrance and entrance 14 will be only open entrances for students in the morning.
  - Questions- Are there outside agencies that can come in and run a safety audit- Yes, School safety audit twice in Penfield.
- Budget review- 2<sup>nd</sup> portion of budget focuses on academic achievement (regular school teaching, occupational education, libraries, computer sciences, sports and clubs). 2.6% increase in instructional budget mostly for staffing changes, 30.1 million total. Budget vote will take place on May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Elementary additions project- 4 classrooms at each school plus individual school projects. A community information night will be held April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm at Penfield commons.
- New business- Monroe County Education Association had agreed to sit down and write a unified positions paper on their stance on arming teachers for press, most likely opposing arming teachers.

*Respectfully submitted by Abby Jones*

### **Board Watcher's Notes- March 13, 2018 Board Meeting**

#### Visitor Speaking Time (Citizen Comment Period)



- Topic- School Safety
- Penfield parent/resident concerned about student safety and wants to better understand and look into school resource officer ( funding, legislation)
- Commented on parent fear and student fear in the current school climate
- Posed this question to the board- how can we get school resource officers or proactive school security in Penfield schools?
- Dr. Putnam responded that safety is number one priority; students need to feel safe before they can learn. Funding for SRO has been discussed and taking that cost out of tax cap. Dr. Putnam commented that the school district would continue to look into SROs and school safety and remain in contact with the parent/resident

## Student Rep

- In light of Parkland tragedy, middle school and high school students have organized activities for standing up to bullying. Middle schools are writing letters to elected officials to express concerns. High school students have organized “walk out”- signing banners and writing letters to officials in the gym.
- Dr. Putnam commented on how he was impressed that these activities were student driven and allowed for student voice. He was very impressed on the student leadership potential.

## Superintendents Report

- Blue Ribbon Week in all 6 buildings-“Always Choose Kind”- showed Penfield unity as a district

## Budget

- BOCES Budget- All BOCES Programs
- Purpose- provide services to districts that would be too expensive for the district to have themselves
- 11% of total budget
- Budget service examples- regular instruction, computer services, management support, special education and transportation
- Only relocations reflected in BOCES budget changes
- Special education is largest dollar amount- instruction and related services/supports
- Presentation of the budget- May 1<sup>st</sup> at PHS 7:00PM
- Vote- May 15<sup>th</sup> at PHS- 3 members of the board, budget, bus purchases, capital project

*Respectfully submitted by Abby Jones*

## **Who Is My Building Representative?**

<p><u>High School</u></p> <p>Dave King Eric Wallen Dave Pugsley Mark Vogt</p>	<p><u>Bay Trail</u></p> <p>Matt Vaccarella Chris Grayeski Kristin Keeley</p>	<p><u>Cobbles</u></p> <p>Renee Yandow Wayne Smith</p>
<p><u>Harris Hill</u></p> <p>Jeanne Crowther Randy Hartmann</p>	<p><u>Indian Landing</u></p> <p>Steve Newman Tessa Greeno</p>	<p><u>Scribner</u></p> <p>Sherrill Moon Carol Koncelik</p>

### **Additional Resources**

<http://penfieldea.ny.aft.org/>  
PEA Website

<http://penfieldea.ny.aft.org/documents-3>  
PEA Contract Resources

<https://www.nysut.org/>  
NYSUT Website

<https://www.nysut.org/members>  
NYSUT Member Benefits

Mar./Apr. '18

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.



Insurance is the type of product that you hope you never have to utilize. In the event that you need to use it, though, it's important to have the insurance product that best meets your individual needs.

The NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed voluntary Disability Insurance Plan -- provided by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company -- provides valuable income replacement benefits to help meet your living expenses if you become partially or totally disabled and are unable to work. For more information and/or to get an application, visit [memberbenefits.nysut.org](http://memberbenefits.nysut.org) or call **800-626-8101** for specific information about this program.

**Call to Action:** Proposals requested for NYSUT *Educator's Voice*

New York State's classrooms are among the most diverse in the nation. In recognition of this, NYSUT is currently seeking article proposals on "**Culturally-Responsive Teaching**" for consideration in its annual edition of *Educator's Voice, a Journal of Best Practices in Education*. **The deadline for proposals is June 15, 2018.**

Do you have a project or practice that works well in your classroom, something you are passionate about and would like to share with other educators across the state? This is a great opportunity to write about it and become published in NYSUT's member journal, a publication created by NYSUT members for NYSUT members. No previous experience is needed nor do you need to be a professional writer to be published in *Educator's Voice*. Once accepted, authors receive a great deal of editorial support and writing guidance throughout the year-long publication cycle. The result is a professional, research-based publication that can be shared with your colleagues and used for professional development. Authors or author teams can collaborate across schools or with partners in higher education; at least one author must be a NYSUT or affiliate member.

**For more information and/or to download the author submission form, visit**

<http://www.nysut.org/educatorsvoice>.

Previous editions of this publication are available at <https://www.nysut.org/resources/special-resourcessites/educators-voice>.

**Disability insurance can be customized to fit within your budget and still provide peace of mind until you are able to get back on your feet and return to work. Applications for the new NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed Disability Insurance Plan are now available, with coverage effective dates on or after Jan. 1, 2018 from the Plan Administrator, Mercer Consumer.**