



**SPENCERPORT  
TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**  
*Lifting Education In Our Community*

**Member Newsletter  
Volume VII, Issue 4  
April 2023**

*Joe DiTucci, President  
Jacquelyn Lanpher, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice  
President  
Rob Allen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Amanda Van Huben, Secretary  
Cheri Hall, Treasurer*

## President's Message

It happened again this year. A few short days ago the trees were barren, and the temperatures were cold. After a few warm beautiful days, the leaves are popping and I soon won't be able to see the house behind me because the trees will be covered with leaves that occlude my view. It's April and we have just finished a beautiful stretch of weather. Hopefully you had a chance to get outside and enjoy the warmth and sunshine.

### **Budget**

April means budget time; state budget and school budget. As of the writing of this, the state missed their April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline of passing a budget. Fortunately, school funding does not seem to be in dispute, which allows districts to create their budgets based on the school aid runs given to them by the state. At the April 11 Board of Education meeting, Ms. Swann outlined the Spencerport budget for the 2023-2024 school year. Here is a link to the PowerPoint that was presented at the board meeting: [2023-2024 Budget Proposal](#). This year the Board of Education will also have 3 seats up for election.

### **Free Support**

Recently, NYSUT began a Peer Support Line. This confidential helpline -- staffed by trained in-service and retired individuals who understand the unique professional and personal challenges of NYSUT members -- can provide answers, resources, and empathetic support when you need it. It is a free service to NYSUT members and their families. The phone number is [844-444-0152](tel:844-444-0152) and here is a link with more information: [NYUST Peer Support Line](#). Our district also offers a confidential Employee Assistance Program. The following link has more information: [EAP](#)

## Tenure

At the March 28 Board of Education meeting, seven STA members from all levels were granted tenure. I want to congratulate all of these members on that great achievement.

## Representative Assembly

From April 27 to April 29, Laurie Palmeteer, Jacquelyn Lanpher, Rob Allen and myself will be heading to Albany as the STA delegates to the NYSUT Representative Assembly. At the Assembly, the delegates will vote for various slates of officers and also debate and vote on roughly 30 resolutions that will help shape NYSUT's focus for the upcoming year.

One of the unique things about our profession is that, like the weather, it is cyclical. There is a beginning and an end to each school year. As we approach the end of the school year, please take time to reflect on your accomplishments for as Garrison Keillor said, "Nothing you do for children is ever wasted. They seem not to notice us, hovering, averting our eyes, and they seldom offer thanks, but what we do for them is never wasted."

In Solidarity,

Joe

# Local News

**The STA's annual Food Drive will continue through April 21<sup>st</sup>. Donations will be collected weekly from each school, transportation, and district office, and then donated to the Spencerport Area Ecumenical Food Shelf.**



### Donation ideas:

- Personal care products (toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner etc.)
- Paper products
- Cleaning products
- Spaghetti sauce and noodles
- Boxed potatoes
- Plain white or brown rice
- Macaroni and cheese with boxed milk
- Cereal with boxed milk
- Canned food with a can opener
- Spices, salt, and pepper
- Coffee, tea, juice, hot chocolate
- Tuna and crackers
- Canned chicken
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Cake mix and frosting, brownie mix, muffin mix
- Jello or pudding

# Seven More Weeks

By Paige Givens

*printed with permission*

The hallway is quiet. The teacher unlocks her classroom door and thinks to herself...

7 more weeks. I can do this. I can! There is so much left to get to. I'm going to have to make every minute count. No days "off". I'm going to have to use every second to make sure those kids are ready for the next grade. I don't want them going on with holes in their understanding. Wow...I've got so much to do in only seven weeks, and some of that will be interrupted by meetings, PD, testing, and a mountain of end-of-year paperwork. Can I really do this, and do it right? I can do this. Okay. 7 more weeks...

Down the hall, another teacher sits at her desk and gazes around her classroom. She thinks to herself...

7 more weeks. 25 years of being an educator, and now it all comes down to 7 more weeks. This room has held my career within its walls. It's seen the tears, the frustration, the laughter, the wonder, and the joy. It's been a stage for miracles. That one boy—wow—I thought he'd never start reading, and then, boom! One day, the light came on and he was reading everything he could get his hands on! And then, I taught his son years later, and Jenny's boy, too. I wonder if those kids remember me? I wonder if they know how much I loved teaching them? How they helped me, REALLY helped me, through that year when my life was upside down? I'm tired. I'm ready for retirement, but goodness—I will miss this room. These kids. I will miss standing at my door and getting hugs and good morning smiles each day. I've done it for 25 years, and now I have just 7 more weeks...

Next door, another teacher turns on her computers and sighs to herself...

7 more weeks. If I can just get through the next 7 weeks, I will be free of this place, at least for the summer. Free of the pressure. Free of the frustration of giving, giving, giving and seeing nothing gained. I wonder if that one had her medicine before she got on the bus this morning? Because there is no way I can fight through 7 more weeks of her all day long. I need some help. I'm so burned out. Let's see...I've covered all of my standards, so I'm going to coast through these next weeks and make them go as fast as I can... ugh, 7 more weeks.

Across the hall, a teacher thinks to herself as she posts the day's assignment...

7 more weeks. I'm going to miss these kiddos. All of them. Yes...all of them! I hope I've done what they need every day. I hope I've shown them how much I love them! I hope that this one ate dinner last night, or he's going to be starving this morning. I'll need to make sure he eats breakfast either way. I hope that this one got some shoes that didn't have a hole on the top. Shoot! I should have gotten her some while we were on break...why didn't I remember that? Well, I still have 7 weeks to help these kids. I can do a lot in 7 weeks...

And on the bus, a child solemnly stares out the window and thinks... 7 more weeks.

That's all I get. Only 7 more weeks to call that teacher mine. I only get 7 more weeks to see her smiling at me, to tell her about my days at home, to smell her lotion. I only get 7 more weeks to get some good food for lunch and breakfast, for her to give me a snack. I'm glad she doesn't get mad at me for not having a snack. I only get 7 more weeks to listen to her read stories. I like her voice. It's never too loud or too mean. I only get to listen to her for 7 more weeks. I wish we could come to school every day, even on the weekends. Even in the summer. And I wish she could be my teacher all the time. But that's not how it works. I get 7 more weeks. That's not very long...

There are a lot of ways to look at 7 more weeks. How can we make them count?

*Paige Givens teaches Kindergarten in Alabama.*



The following members of the STA were granted tenure, effective this September!

Jody Bowens  
High School, ESOL

Kelly Crosby  
Canal View,  
Special Education

Erin Delavak  
Munn,  
Special Education

Megan Farrell  
High School, Science

Anita Miller  
Cosgrove, Social Studies

Laura Ward  
Cosgrove, ELA

Holly Yousey  
Canal View,  
Special Education



# Executive Council 2022-2023

## Officers:

- President Joe DiTucci
- 1st VP Jacquelyn Lanpher
- 2nd VP Rob Allen
- PAC Chairs Rob Allen and Sue Chatterton
- Secretary Amanda Van Huben
- Treasurer Cheri Hall

## PAC Representatives:

- Bernabi Laurie Palmateer
- Canal View Elissa Kingsbury
- Munn Stacy Lonardo
- Taylor Danielle Blossom
- Cosgrove Janeen Henry
- Wilson Dan Pincelli

## Delegates to the NYSUT Representative Assembly:

- Rob Allen
- Joseph DiTucci
- Jacquelyn Lanpher
- Laurie Palmateer

## Building Representatives:

### Bernabi:

- Ryan Ewanow
- Jennifer Ophardt

### Canal View:

- Sue Chatterton
- Elissa Kingsbury

### Munn:

- Colleen Lachance
- Stacy Lonardo

### Taylor:

- Danielle Blossom
- Rob Pursel

### Cosgrove:

- Frank Cafarella
- Janeen Henry
- Suellan Morton
- Emmy Thevanesan

### Wilson:

- Bridget Herrmann
- Steve Kelley
- Natalie Kirisits
- Dan Pincelli
- Rachel Sherman

### Nurses:

- Wendy Corona
- Colleen Goldstone

### TAs:

- Tina Pocock

## Building Planning Team Representatives:

### Bernabi:

- Laurie Palmateer

### Canal View:

- Sue Chatterton

### Munn:

- Stacy Lonardo

### Terry Taylor:

- Danielle Blossom

### Cosgrove:

- Emmy Thevanesan

### Wilson:

- Steve Kelley

## Social Media Coordinator:

- Bridget Herrmann

## Newsletter Editor:

- Emmy Thevanesan

## Webmaster:

- Bryan Swanson

## Political Action:

- Ryan Ewanow

CHECK OUT ALL YOUR UNION MEMBERSHIP HAS TO OFFER!

## When you're planning for the future, what's at the top of your list?

- A comfortable nest egg for retirement
- Providing for your family
- Purchasing a new home
- Home improvement
- Purchasing a new vehicle
- Travel and entertainment

NYSUT Member Benefits offers dozens of endorsed programs to help turn those dreams into reality.



When it comes to saving you money, protecting your family and helping you plan for the future, NYSUT Member Benefits has a variety of programs and services to help with your goals. Whether you are just starting out on your journey, well into your career or enjoying a well-deserved retirement, there is a Member Benefits-endorsed plan that may be of assistance featuring value-added extras unavailable to the public.

Get started by first bookmarking the Member Benefits website at [memberbenefits.nysut.org](http://memberbenefits.nysut.org). There, you will find numerous tools and resources available to you as a NYSUT member – including a **Financial Learning Center** with articles designed to help educate you on financial decisions and topics. Member Benefits also endorses important **legal and financial services** along with an **online savings program** featuring some of today's most competitive interest rates.

Next up would be looking in the “Shopping, Travel & Personal” section of our site for **MB Discounts & Deals**. This program utilizes the nation's largest private discount network to provide NYSUT members with exclusive access to savings of up to 50% on restaurant dine-in or take out, groceries and food delivery, clothing and shoes, hotels and flights, car rentals, theme parks, vehicle maintenance, and much more.



Learn more by scanning the QR code to the left, visiting [memberbenefits.nysut.org](http://memberbenefits.nysut.org) or calling 800-626-8101.



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

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