



MVTA- Our Collective State of Being June 2011

2011-2013 MVTA Officers

Since none of the positions were contested there was no need for an election. The MVTA officers for 2011 – 2013 are as follows:

President - Chris D'Angelo
V. President - Debbie Cambareri
Treasurer - Melanie Speranza
Recording Secretary – Nick Prezioso
Corresponding Secretary – Maureen Cardinale

Building Representatives

High School - Jennifer DiLeo
Middle School - Kathy Arns
***Intermediate** – Justin Swart
Elementary - Eileen Jacobs
Otisville - Wendy Ellert

NYSUT Delegates

Representative Assembly (3 Positions) -
Michael Crawford, Kathy Arns, Wendy Ellert,

RA Alternates: Chris D'Angelo and Nick Prezioso

NYSTRS Retirement Reps (2 Positions)-
Michael Crawford, Chris D'Angelo

NYSTRS Alternate: Kathy Arns

***Intermediate rep.** – Justin Swart will be stepping down at the end of June. Theresa Uhelsky will be seeking an appointment to the position at the next executive committee meeting. If anyone else from the Intermediate school is interested in being appointed to the position contact me ASAP at cdangelo@minisink.com

Contract Info

As you all are aware we have a new contract. I would like to thank all of you for voting. Since the ratification, I have had two questions come up repeatedly and would like to address them.

Retro Pay: Everyone will be receiving a separate retro check in their June 10th pay envelope. The two pays in June and the summer check, for those that chose 26 pays, will reflect the new salary. Understand that this means the

retro check will not be for the full one percent of your salary. The **gross** of the retro check will be for 19 out of the 21 or 26 pays. Depending on what you chose for this year.

Printing of New Contract: The new contracts will be distributed on the first day of school in September. The district's lawyer will be making all the changes, including the items agreed to last year, to our contract. He will then send me a copy which I will then have to go through very carefully. If I find any mistakes, I have to inform his office so they can make the corrections. I then will have to go over every word again. This usually goes back and forth a few times before we agree it is correct. At that point it will be sent to the printers. Please let me know if you would like to help me go over the copies I get from the lawyer. This is a long tedious process but it goes much faster with two people. Any help would be appreciated.

Budget

As you all know the proposed budget with the 10.6% tax levy was voted down on May 17th. I would like to express my thanks to all of you for the amount of work you put into trying to get it passed, especially those of you who went the extra mile by volunteering your time to make phone calls to the NYSUT members living and voting in our district. At the emergency board meeting on May 31st Jack presented a revised budget for the board to adopt. This budget calls for a 9.4% tax levy. This budget will be eliminating one more teaching position, one more custodial position, and one more administrative position. This means a total of 21 positions (16 teaching, 3 custodial, and 2 administrative). Jack acknowledged the sacrifice we have all taken on with our increased work load and the fact that we are working more than any other district in the county. He also stated that it was the give backs we agreed to in our contract that prevented more cuts in teaching positions, as well as in his decision in what positions to cut in the revised budget.

Constitutional Amendment

The Executive Committee has agreed to put a constitutional amendment out to the membership for a vote. The vote for this change will take place at our general membership meeting on the first day of school in September. Below is the language for the proposed amendment. New language is in bold. Deleted language has a strikethrough. All other language is as it appears in our constitution already.

XI RATIFICATION OF CONTRACT

3. **a.** Voting will be done by secret ballot with members required to initial a membership list before casting their ballot. The Unit Representatives and/or designee shall monitor the voting and tally the ballots.

b. Active members that are not present the day of the vote shall be permitted to submit an absentee ballot via email to their Unit Representatives and/or designee

4. Ratification of the contract shall require **[a] two-thirds [vote] of the votes cast.** ~~[total active membership of record at that time.]~~

5. At least half of the total active membership of record at the time must cast ballots in order for a vote to be valid.

XII AMENDMENTS

3. An amendment shall be ratified by **[a] two-thirds [vote of the active membership of record at that time.] of the votes cast.** Voting shall be done ~~[by secret ballot.]~~ following the same procedure as ratification of a contract.

LAP

The long awaited shirts are coming soon. There are sample sizes going around the buildings now. The MS and HS are the only buildings that have not yet gotten the samples. Your building reps will let you know the process for checking the sizes.

Once again, we will be having a booth at the Otisville Fair this summer. If you are interested in volunteering to staff the booth, please contact either Deb Cambareri or Eileen Jacobs (both in ES).

Our team will be attending the week long conference again this summer to formulate plans for next year. The four LAP principles are:

- Increasing member participation
- Strengthening political action
- Expanding community outreach/coalition-building
- Improving communications

If you have any ideas/suggestions that can help us reach these goals, please contact a member of the LAP team (Chris D'Angelo, Kathy Arns, Nick Prezioso, Deb Cambareri, Eileen Jacobs, Melanie Amatetti). We can really use your help with this.

NYSUT Action Alert

Governor Cuomo and legislative leaders are preparing to pass the most devastating tax cap in the nation, one that would permanently harm schools, SUNY community colleges and public services in New York State. It would let a minority of voters — just one vote over 40 percent — reject school budgets in a breathtaking subversion of democracy. The bill, A-7916 Silver, would starve our schools and community colleges, cause massive program closures and layoffs, widen the achievement gap and deprive students of a sound basic education as required under our state constitution. If you thought budget cuts were bad, this bill would cause far more permanent devastation, without doing a thing to provide tax relief to those most in need.

The very future of public education is at stake. Please call the AFL-CIO hotline at 1-877-255-9417 to speak with your Senator, Assembly member and Governor Cuomo's office. Tell them we will hold all officeholders accountable should this measure become law. For our statement on the tax cap bill go to:

http://www.nysut.org/cps/rde/xchg/nysut/hs.xsl/mediareleases_16629.htm

Action Committee

We will need a chairperson for the Action Committee next year. If you are interested in the position please contact me and I will go over what the position entails.

FYI

Monetary Donations/Requests - Need to be made to your Building Rep. at least one month before the funds are needed. Examples include: yearbook ads, charitable donations, conference expenses, etc. . . Your Building Rep. attends Executive Meetings every month. Failure to submit requests in a timely fashion could cause a refusal of funds.

Building Unit Meetings - These occur monthly in all of our buildings. I can be available to speak with you on all matters union during these gatherings, given a timely request!

Executive Meeting – These meetings are open to all MVTA members. Please attend if you have something for the good of the order or want to get more involved with the MVTA. They are held at 4:00 in the MS library. The final meeting date for this year is 6/14.

MVTA Classy-Free Ads

Lake Bonaparte Vacation Rental - Trinity on Baron Bay.

Summer will be here before you know it. Start planning your Adirondack vacation today! Weekly rentals are still available in June, July & August. Don't delay, they will go fast! Bruce & Tara Guyette are looking to rent their lakefront vacation home in the foothills of the Adirondack Mountains. The newly constructed home has 2 bedrooms with a loft, 2 full baths and comfortably sleeps 7. The amenities include a microwave, a dishwasher, a washer and dryer, TV and DVD player. There is also a spectacular 16 x 30 deck overlooking the lake with a grill, a picnic table, and a patio set. For pictures and more information go to www.vacationrentals.com . Click on New York, then Adirondacks, then Lake Bonaparte, then Trinity. Call 845-355-2815 with any questions. You can also copy and paste the link below in your browser to see more pictures of the cottage <https://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=21781&id=100000461333101&l=18c4935d473>

Cape May Vacation Rental-

Retiree Paul Ferrari reminds all that he is looking to rent his vacation home. Comfortable 2 bedroom apartment that sleeps 4. Fully stocked kitchen with microwave, washer/dryer, CATV.

Small yard with grill and picnic table. Reserved parking. Walking distance to the beach and town. Great bicycling! \$850 per week. Sorry, no smoking, no pets. Please call Paul or his wife Susan at 845-496-3769.

Interior Painting Jobs: Free estimates and reasonable rates. Contact retiree Frank Blake 355- 8781.

Interior House Painting: Contact retiree John Zuclich (386-3177 or 597-4772). Your rooms will be left neat and complete! :-)

Everything Outdoors: Stephen Sorrentino does everything outdoors, he can take care of all your outdoor needs. Spring and Fall Clean-Ups, Cutting Grass, walls, patios, and snow removal, and many other things, "Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall - We do it all!" Call Steve: (845)978-9299 or 344-2841.

Your Representative's Contact Information

If you need to contact me you can email me at mvtaemail@gmail.com This is probably the best way for you to contact me outside of school.

MVTA Executive Committee

President	Chris D'Angelo	5109
V.P.	Debra Cambareri	4255
Treasurer	Melanie Speranza	4314
Secretary	Kristine Kidney	3259
Corr. Sec.	Maureen Cardinale	5139
HS rep	Sue Brink	1112
MS rep	Kathy Arns	3242
IS rep	Justin Swart	4253
Es rep	Eileen Jacobs	4338
Otis rep	Wendy Ellert	2229
Past Pres.	Lisa Keller-Decker	3216

Benefit Trust Reps

OTIS	Karen Krogslund	2142
ES	Kimberly Mc Dermott	4340
IS	Michael Conklin	4206
MS	Jonathan Clemmons	3247
HS	Joan Connelly	1232
Exec	Chris D'Angelo	5109

Negotiators

HS	Brian Golden	5166
MS	Chris D'Angelo	5109
IS	Jeanne Mac Donald	4248
Otis	Karen Krogslund	2142

Grievance Chair: Ezra Clementson 1141
Action Com. and
Lap Com Chair: Nick Prezioso 3144

Summer is the perfect time

Summer is the perfect time for so many things – gardening, vacationing, swimming, catching up on reading, and whatever else one wants to do but can't seem to find the time for during the school year. That's why summers seem to go so fast, because we're so busy!

But summer is also the perfect time to pay attention to those things that we don't have time for during the rest of the year, such as, (groan), our finances. It's so easy to go day-to-day without making any long-term financial plans, setting up a budget, saving for a rainy day, etc.

Fortunately, the **Financial Counseling Program** endorsed by *NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation* can be of great assistance in getting your financial house in order.

When you enroll in the plan, you'll receive toll-free access to certified financial planners and registered investment advisors who will address your various financial questions and situations. You'll also have options for in-person consultations. And you have the added comfort of knowing these professionals are there solely to help you, not to line their pockets by pushing you in one direction or another.

These financial professionals do not sell any financial products; hence, they receive no

commissions from mutual funds, brokerage firms, insurance companies or any other third party. These are the professionals of Stacey Braun Associates, Inc., the provider of the Financial Counseling Program.

Stacey Braun Associates is an investment advisory company established in 1977. It provides fee-based professional financial counseling.

Here is a sampling of topics you can receive advice and assistance on:

- Pre- and post-retirement planning
- 403(b) and 457(b) plan advice
- Mutual fund questions
- Establishing risk tolerance
- Mortgages and refinancing
- Savings
- Estate and inheritance planning
- Financial advice relating to divorce
- Tax planning
- Insurance
- Social Security
- Education funding

The plan also includes no-cost written summaries or reports upon request; access to Stacey Braun's password-protected website, which features all kinds of helpful information and calculators; an e-mail helpdesk; and free admission to regional educational workshops.

In addition to the plan described here, a

403(b) Limited Financial Counseling Program is available.

So why not take a little time out of your busy summer and see how you can benefit from the Financial Counseling Program?

For more information, call NYSUT Member Benefits at **800-626-8101** or visit www.memberbenefits.nysut.org.



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.