

**January**

**2016**

# WITA

**West Irondequoit Teachers' Association**



## *President's Message...*

Dear Colleagues,

Happy New Year! It is a wonderful feeling to start off this new year with a new contract. Thank you to all of you that attended the contract information session on December 15<sup>th</sup> and voted on December 17<sup>th</sup>. We are very pleased to have ratified this agreement with the district!

I need to especially thank the WITA Negotiations Team that toiled for well over a year to reach this agreement. The team, chaired by Wendy Boomer, includes Mark Crawford, Gina Grisdale, Mary Beth Lenzi, Maria McCulloch, Joe Pelliccia, Steve Schockow, Anne Schoen, Lynn Wilder and Julie Wolf. We were supported throughout the process by our NYSUT Labor Relations Specialist, Nan Rodgers.

We are now working with the district to make the revisions to the contract document itself so that we can proceed with printing and distribution. This process will likely take several months. In the meantime, please hold onto your old (red) contract book and consult the PowerPoint that was distributed prior to the vote for information on changes. Anything not outlined in the presentation will remain as is. If you have any questions, please check with your building rep or contact the WITA office.

Between now and the first week of March, I will be visiting all K-6 schools to answer questions about the new contract and hear any concerns that you may have. I will be in the faculty room during lunch times in each building. Schedules of these visits were distributed to Governing Council reps, and I will email the members in each building in advance of my visit.

The APPR Subcommittee continues to work on an APPR agreement that complies with Education Law 3012-d by the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. Thank you to Wendy Boomer, Anna Conti, Art Johnson, Nancy Reece and Steve Schockow for serving on this subcommittee. Our current APPR plan remains in effect this year, but because of the advocacy efforts of NYSUT members and others, there is a moratorium on the use of 3-8 state tests for teacher evaluation through 2019. We will share with members how this will impact this year's APPR scores as that information becomes available.

A Constitutional Review Committee has been established for the purpose of proposing potential revisions to the WITA Constitution. We will meet for the first time on January 26<sup>th</sup>. The recommendations of the committee will be presented to the Governing Council in March. Any potential revisions would be placed before the membership for a vote coordinated with elections this spring. Thank you to Maureen Bacchetta, Tammy Jaynes, Joe Pelliccia and Steve Schockow for volunteering to serve on this committee.

Check out the new and improved WITA web site, [WITEACHERS.ORG](http://WITEACHERS.ORG)! We are very excited about our new site, and hope that it will prove to be a useful resource for our members. Thank you to WITA Webmaster Stephanie Shattuck for her work creating and maintaining the site.

Each year, WITA honors members with Beverly F. Engel Excellence in Education Awards at our annual banquet. Nomination information is included in this issue of The Scoop and will also be distributed by email. Please consider nominating one or more deserving colleagues for this prestigious award. This year's banquet, hosted by IHS, will take place on May 17<sup>th</sup> at Glendoveers.

There will be a new member event coordinated with the February Governing Council meeting. We hope that all new members will attend this opportunity to learn more about your union, your rights and the member benefits available to you. There will be door prizes, and catered refreshments will be provided. Thank you to Joe Pelliccia for organizing this important event!

Please remember that Red Flag reporting is available to you if you see unethical, unsafe or illegal behavior that you do not feel comfortable discussing with your supervisor. This is an anonymous third party service provided by the district. When you call, you will speak with someone not associated with the district who will determine if a report is founded. If you call, be prepared to share your specific concerns, including dates and times where applicable, and the names and roles of all parties involved.

Finally, please take a moment to read through the tips on the appropriate use of social media in this issue of The Scoop. As public servants we are held to a higher standard. Regardless of privacy settings, it is not advisable to have anything associated with your social media accounts that directly pertains to your job or that you would not want to be seen by students, parents, administrators or prospective future employers. In some cases, you can be held accountable for things that others post to your page. Please err on the side of caution when using social media.

In Solidarity,

### **West Irondequoit Teachers' Association**

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# Important Events 2016

(All meetings are on Tuesdays at 3:30 at IHS except as noted)



**APRIL, 2016**

- Apr 5: Executive Committee
- Apr 7-9: NYSUT Rep Assembly in Rochester
- Apr 8: WITA Logo Shirt Day
- Apr 12: Governing Council

**FEBRUARY, 2016**

- Feb 2 : Executive Committee
- Feb 5 : WITA Logo Shirt Day
- Feb 9: WITA New Member Reception in the IHS Campus Center/Governing Council

**MAY, 2016**

- May 3: Executive Committee
- May 6: WITA Logo Shirt Day
- May 10: Governing Council
- May 17: WITA Excellence in Education Dinner

**MARCH, 2016**

- Mar 1: Executive Committee
- Mar 4: WITA Logo Shirt Day
- Mar 8: Governing Council

**JUNE, 2016**

- June 3: WITA Logo Shirt Day
- June 7: Executive Committee
- June 14: Governing Council

**Hosts for Dinners**

The host schools for the Excellence in Education

Banquet rotate on a regular cycle.

The host schools through 2019 are as follows:

- 2016.....Irondequoit High School
- 2017.....Neighborhood Schools
- 2018.....Rogers School
- 2019.....Iroquois School



**HAVE YOU JOINED THE MAC YET?**

[mac.nysut.org](http://mac.nysut.org)

**Please send your wedding and birth announcements to**

[Kimberly\\_Sklenar@westiron.monroe.edu](mailto:Kimberly_Sklenar@westiron.monroe.edu)

**Have you seen our new website?**

**Check it out at  
WITEACHERS.ORG**



**Baby News...**

**Isla Sofia**



born September 17 to Josh and Kate (Seneca) Rossi

**Mae Daniela**

born September 27 to Kristy (Dake) and Dan Pincelli

**Elliot Douglas**

born November 4 to Ian (IHS) and Jen Swift

**Amari Juniper Paige**

born December 31 to Andreas (Dake) and Lauren Brooks

**Sydney Grace Wixson**

born January 11 to Jonathon and Jamie (Listwood) Wixson

Support the WITA scholarship fund...wear your WITA Logo Shirt the First Friday of every month!

Please contact the WITA office if you are in need of a shirt, sweat-shirt or would like to place an or-



Look for...

**United Way**



Information coming in early Spring!

**WIT**  
Federal Credit Union

Big enough to serve you... ...small enough to care.

- Savings / Checking
- Personal Loans
- Certificates of Deposit
- Auto Loans
- Debit Cards
- Home Equity Line of Credit
- Online Banking / Bill-Pay
- Mortgages

H. S. Commons M-W-F 3:00 - 3:30 (Attendance office)  
22 Fourth Street, Rochester - 1350 Buffalo Road, Gates  
454-4580 328-3040  
[witfcu.com](http://witfcu.com)

## Welcome New Members

### Briarwood

Mallory Blackburn

### Brookview

Maria Gouveia

### Dake

Bruce Baker, Abby Bardanis, Angelo Collazo, Tracy Fichter, Dan Greco, Michael Hance, Michael Heymann, Randy Hutto, Krista Jablonsky, Anthony Lambiase, Joe Marmo, Kelly Nauerth, Megan Pierce, Katrina Suhr

### IHS

Ann Marie Carter, Kristi Case, Angela Conti, Teresa Fox, Debra Guarino

### Iroquois

Thomas Babcock, Emily Copp, Catherine Fay, Leah Kettelkamp, Lindsay Lennertz, Danielle Vitalone

### Listwood

Maggie Stewart

### Rogers

Taylor Barrett, Maureen Heron, Kathy Jensen, Stephanie Niggli, Vicki Schickler

### Southlawn

Jill Bellanca, Christy Grieco, Kayleigh Hobbs, Ash-lee Matthews

### St. Kateri

Jennifer Fiore, Rachel Smalley

## **Tips on the Appropriate Use of Social Media**

As public servants, we are held to a higher standard! If you choose to use social media, please think about the following:



Think Before You Post. Make sure that the pictures, videos and opinions expressed are things that you would be okay with students, parents, supervisors and prospective future employers seeing.

Be Aware of Your Privacy Settings. Know who you can see what and do not allow people to comment on our posts without approval. In certain cases you can be held accountable for comments, pictures and videos others post to your pages.

Leave Work at Work. Do not post comments about your job to social media. Even if you do not use names, stories or anecdotes related to work could be problematic since people know where you work. NEVER post photos or videos of students.

