

June

2017

WITA

West Irondequoit Teachers' Association



President's Message...

Dear Colleagues,

I once again find myself amazed at how quickly the end of the year is upon us and in awe at the work I see around me as we collaborate to support every student right up to the very end.

I want to thank WITA Elections Chair Colleen Vay, Building Vice-Presidents and Communication Reps, and all members that participated in voting for another seamless WITA election. Thank you for trusting my leadership with another term and returning all current officers to a two-year term in their positions. We also elected five delegates to the upcoming NYSUT Representative Assemblies. Joining me in representing WITA in the state-wide organization are Todd Fleming, Ann Martin, Steve Schockow and Julie Wolf. Finally, together we collected 116.9 pounds of food and school supplies to benefit the Irondequoit Community Cupboard through our election drive!

I also need to thank the many K-3 members who gave their time in many different ways to make our annual Excellence in Education Banquet on May 16th a resounding success! We were able to present numerous awards and recognitions to many deserving members and raise a sizeable amount of money for our scholarship fund through our annual raffle. A great time was had by all in attendance. Thank you also to those who donated and/or solicited raffle prizes and those who took the time to nominate colleagues for Beverly F. Engel Excellence in Education Awards.

Thank you to members who have already returned their VOTE/COPE envelopes for the year. Member dues are not spent on political action, so this fund is your voice in Albany. In addition, 40% of funds donated are returned to WITA to use locally. Approximately 30% of our members currently give to VOTE/COPE and we would love to see that number exceed 50%, a number that we have not seen since 2000. Payroll deduction is a painless way to give. The suggested minimum contribution for teachers is \$5 per pay period (\$105 per year) and for paraprofessionals is \$2 per pay period (\$42 per year). Please note that if you already give through payroll deduction and are not changing your contribution you do not need to return your envelope. Many thanks to VOTE/COPE chair Julie Wolf on her heroic efforts on this crucial campaign.

One of the biggest uses of VOTE/COPE funds over the next six months will be efforts to educate people about and fend off a Constitutional Convention, which will be on the ballot in November. Many things that we take for granted will be at risk if the state constitution is re-written, including the rights to a free public education, bargain collectively, pensions that cannot be reduced, and environmental protections. Some will try to bill it as a "people's convention" but it is really a politician's convention that will cost taxpayers over \$350 million! Please keep your eye out for additional information, including talking points and car magnets, before the end of the year and more information in the fall. Thank you for supporting this important effort that has the potential to profoundly impact all of us!

APPR Scores will be distributed soon. As a reminder, this year's scores will be based on the new system that was negotiated last year to comply with education law 3012-d. The scoring system will be very different than the past one that fell under education law 3012-c. If you want more information, our APPR agreement can be found on pages 77-100 of the contract. If you have misplaced your contract, it can be downloaded from our web site, WITeachers.org. The PowerPoint presentation that explains the new APPR is also available on the web site under the "Contract" pull-down menu as "APPR Tentative Agreement Presentation."

As a final reminder, by the end of June all Professionally Certified Classroom Teachers and Level 3 Teaching Assistants need to have registered their certification. Affected members should also keep a personal file of all professional development completed for each 5 year registration cycle.

Contract negotiations will begin in the fall for a successor agreement to our current contract, which expires on June 30, 2018. A negotiations survey will be sent to all members using home email. We truly value the input that we receive from all members. If we do not have an updated home email address on file for you now is the time to rectify this, as certain things are prohibited over school email. If you are not receiving home emails, please send us the best email address to use and we will add you to our distribution list.

Finally, I need to take this opportunity to thank members of the Governing Council and Executive Committee, and all others that volunteer their time to be the voice of WITA in the many places and ways that we are represented. Together, we are a voice that cannot be ignored! If you are interested in serving as a WITA Building Representative or in any other capacity, please contact me or your Building Vice-President.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with any questions or concerns. Thank you for your ongoing support of WITA and for the work you do with and for the students of West Irondequoit. Have a terrific summer!

In Solidarity,



West Irondequoit Teachers' Association

260 Cooper Road

Rochester, NY 14617

Phone: 336-2950

Fax: 336-3027

E-mail:

Scott_Steinberg@westiron.monroe.edu

Scott_Steinberg@frontiernet.net



Important Events 2017-18

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

<p style="text-align: center;">SEPTEMBER 2017</p> <p>Aug 31 – New Member Breakfast Sept 8 – WITA Logo Shirt Day Sept 12 – Executive Committee Sept 19 – Governing Council</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FEBRUARY 2018</p> <p>Feb 2 – WITA Logo Shirt Day Feb 6 – Executive Committee Feb 13 – WITA New Member Reception & Governing Council in the IHS Campus Center</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">OCTOBER 2017</p> <p>Oct 3 – Executive Committee Oct 6 – American Cancer Society Denim Day & WITA Logo Shirt Day Oct 10 – Governing Council Oct 15 – Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at Frontier Field</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MARCH 2018</p> <p>Mar 2 – WITA Logo Shirt Day Mar 6 – Executive Committee Mar 13 – Governing Council</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">NOVEMBER 2017</p> <p>Nov 3 – WITA Logo Shirt Day Nov 7 – Executive Committee Nov 14 – Governing Council Nov 21 – SRP Recognition Day</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">APRIL 2018</p> <p>Apr 10 – Executive Committee Apr 13 – WITA Logo Shirt Day Apr 17 – Governing Council Apr 27-29 – NYSUT Rep Assembly in Buffalo</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">DECEMBER 2017</p> <p>Dec 1 – WITA Logo Shirt Day Dec 5 – Executive Committee Dec 12 – Governing Council</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MAY 2018</p> <p>May 1 – Executive Committee May 4 – WITA Logo Shirt Day May 8 – Governing Council May 15 – WITA Excellence in Education Dinner</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">JANUARY 2018</p> <p>Jan 2 – Executive Committee Jan 5 – WITA Logo Shirt Day Jan 9 – Governing Council</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">JUNE 2018</p> <p>June 1 – WITA Logo Shirt Day June 5 – Executive Committee June 12 – Governing Council</p>

Congratulations to the following members who were honored at the

Excellence in Education Banquet

On May 16, 2017

Sandra Baxter Service Award for Outstanding Service to the West Irondequoit Teachers' Association

Donna Hanning

Beverly F. Engel Excellence in Education Award

Janelle Armstrong, Susan Carmen Duffy, Charlotte Craig, Fred Dear, Kate Dobosz, Juliana Hillebrant, Mark Pringle, Lauren Reinert, Jeff Uebelacker, Deborah Williams, Sonya Zingo

Newly-Tenured Teachers

Zachary Bartlett, Aleena Bellack, Erin Sturm, Michael Black, Emily Copp, Brittany Hackbarth, Kathryn Jensen, Larae Katterman, Rebecca Kolupski, Megan Langley-Cass, JoAnna Menzie, Jacqueline Mooney, Aaron Nobles, Catherine Plukas, Kelly Snyder, Jessica Steubing, Emily Swanson, Christopher Taylor, Shawna Wagner

25-35 Years

Nandy Bonavilla, Charlotte Craig, Suzanne Frank

Retirees

2016 WITA/WISRA Scholarship Winners:



First Place—Claire Tuttle
 Second Place—Rachael Washington
 Third Place—Emani Clark



Thank you to Jean Russo for coordinating this process

**Please send your wedding and birth announcements to
 Kimberly_Sklenar@westiron.monroe.edu**

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, sweatshirt or would like to place an order.



Welcome New Members



Briarwood: Bridget McClenathan

Dake: Thomas Reece

IHS: Lindsay Snyder

Iroquois: Barbara Daniels

WITA Officers for 2017-2018

President - Scott Steinberg

Executive Vice-President - Steve Schockow

Second Vice-President - Kate Dobosz

Secretary - Wendy Boomer

Treasurer - Todd Fleming

NYS Representative Assembly Delegates:

Scott Steinberg, Todd Fleming, Ann Martin,
Steve Schockow and Julie Wolf



Baby News...

Mackenzie Eleanor

born April 21 to Elizabeth (Seneca) and
Matt Lawson

Austin Matthew

born April 28 to Tony (Dake) and Cherisse
Lambiase

Ian Lyon

born May 28 to Jim (IHS) and Courtney
Czadzeck

WITA BUDGET PROPOSAL for 2017-18

RECEIPTS	BUDGET 17 -18
Membership Dues	\$42,000.00
Spring Dinner	-\$500.00
Scholarships	-\$800.00
Miscellaneous	\$.00
VOTE/COPE	\$.00
INCOME	\$40,700.00

EXPENSES	BUDGET 17-18
Exec/Gov Council	\$500.00
Conferences	\$5,000.00
Negotiations	\$4,000.00
Public Relations	\$200.00
Gifts	\$3,500.00
Stipends	\$21,150.00
Office Supplies	\$1,000.00
Petty Cash	\$100.00
Liability Insurance	\$650.00
Copier	\$1,300.00
Web Based Services	\$410.00
Member Engagement/ BBQ	\$1500.00
EXPENSES	\$39,310.00
DIFFERENCE	\$1,390.00

Hosts for Dinners

The host schools for the
Excellence in Education

Banquet rotate on a regular cycle.

The host schools through 2022 are as follows:

- 2018.....Rogers School
- 2019.....Iroquois School
- 2020.....Dake School
- 2021Irondequoit High School
- 2022.....Neighborhood Schools

