Dear Colleagues,

I have received many questions about the process for printing the new contract books. It is currently in draft form, and the process of finalizing and agreeing to everything is likely to take some time. In the meantime, please continue to refer to your expired red contract book. Anything not discussed in the ratification meeting and included in my PowerPoint presentation remains the same. Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

We also continue to work diligently to have a new APPR agreement to share with you for ratification. We need to ratify this agreement prior to June 30th to avoid the risk of losing some state funding. Please know that your APPR Subcommittee members remain committed to negotiating a fair agreement that preserves our shared values while complying with Education Law 3012-d. Many thanks to Wendy Boomer, Anna Conti, Art Johnson, Nancy Reece, and Steve Schockow for serving with me in this capacity.

WITA Elections will take place April 27th and 28th in all school buildings. If you or a colleague is interested in running for an officer position in WITA or as a WITA Delegate to the 2017 NYSUT Representative Assembly in New York City, please submit a nomination form to Colleen Vay at Rogers by April 15th. Please contact the WITA Office or Colleen with any questions or to request forms. Thank you to Colleen for coordinating our election process.

The WITA Governing Council has directed a referendum vote on proposed changes to the WITA Constitution. This vote will coincide with elections in April. The proposed changes, along with the explanation for why each has been recommended, were sent out through home email and can be found on our website: WITeachers.org. If you would like a paper copy of the proposed revisions, please contact the WITA Office.

WITA Members eligible for health insurance received information from the district about an informational meeting on April 6th regarding a new plan offering: Simply Blue HDHP. This is a high-deductible health plan. I urge all members considering this product to carefully analyze their health care needs and the plan benefits before making any decisions. Please note that although future 105 plan contributions will be made to a HSA instead of a 105 (HRA) for members that elect this plan, allowing them to meet the deductible, any funds currently in your 105 account cannot legally be used for this purpose. Our base plan remains 90% of Value.

The Annual WITA Excellence in Education Banquet will take place on Tuesday, May 17th at Glendoveers. IHS will be the host school for this year’s banquet. That evening we will honor recipients of the Sandra Baxter Award for Outstanding Service to WITA and the Beverly F. Engel Excellence in Education Award, new members, newly tenured members, members who achieved 25 years with the district, and retiring members. This festive evening includes a raffle to benefit the WITA Scholarship Fund. Our annual request for raffle prizes will be coming soon, and we look forward to sharing this year's award winners with you in mid-April. We hope to see you at the banquet!

Finally, our annual VOTE/COPE drive will be coming soon! This is your political action fund, and is used to support pro-education candidates and advance pro-education issues across the state. 40% of what is donated by WITA members and retirees is returned to us to use on local political action initiatives, such as support of the school budget. Please consider donating or increasing your existing donation. As a reminder, member dues money is not spent on lobbying so this fund is your voice in Albany!

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Have a restful and well-deserved break!

In Solidarity,
Important Events 2016
(All meetings are on Tuesdays at 3:30 at IHS except as noted)

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<tr>
<th>MAY, 2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 3: Executive Committee</td>
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<td>May 6: WITA Logo Shirt Day</td>
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<td>May 10: Governing Council</td>
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<td>May 17: WITA Excellence in Education Dinner</td>
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<th>APRIL, 2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 5: Executive Committee</td>
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<td>Apr 7-9: NYSUT Rep Assembly in Rochester</td>
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<td>Apr 8: WITA Logo Shirt Day</td>
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<td>Apr 12: Governing Council</td>
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<th>JUNE, 2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 3: WITA Logo Shirt Day</td>
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<td>June 7: Executive Committee</td>
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<td>June 14: Governing Council</td>
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Baby News...

Oscar & Norah
born January 13th to Wes and Jaime (Southlawn) Juliano

Fritz Sebastian
born February 12th to Adam and Gretchen (IHS) Buckholtz

Samantha Carol
born February 26 to Mark and Teresa (IHS) Fox

Olivia Anne
born March 1 to Nick and Ashley (IHS) Shortino

Leo
born March 2 to Troy (IHS) and Holly Schlesing

Alexandria
born March 17 to Brandy Mohr (IHS) and Jessica Bulmann (IHS)

WITA Scholarship
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.

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
2020..................Dake School
2021..................Irondequoit High School

Congratulations to Our Mid-Year Retirees...
Cynthia Mura - February 2016 & Nan Notar - March 2016

SAVE THE DATE...
Tuesday, May 17
WITA Excellence in Education Dinner
Glendoveers

Welcome New Members

Colebrook
Katie Vane

Listwood
Barbara Larue

Dake
Rebecca Taylor

Iroquois
Danielle Manou

IHS
Travis Hughes

Rogers
Cynthia Bauman
WITA Elections
April 27-28, 2016

- Positions Include: President, Executive Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and three delegates to NYSUT Representative Assembly (RA). Per the WITA Constitution, the President is a delegate to the NYSUT RA and AFT Convention.

- Job descriptions for officer positions and nomination forms will be placed in school mailboxes or can be mailed to your home by request.

- **Nominations are due to elections chair Colleen Vay by April 15th.** Nominate yourself or a colleague (with their permission) by emailing Colleen_Vay@westiron.monroe.edu or sending a completed nomination form to her at Rogers School.

- Ballots will be distributed to school mailboxes on April 26th. Voting will take place in each school on April 27th and 28th.

- Call the WITA office at 336-2950 if you have any questions or to request forms.
The Value of NYSUT Membership

You may not be aware that your NYSUT membership allows you to enjoy the benefits of the more than 40 programs & services endorsed by NYSUT Member Benefits, including a variety of quality, competitive insurance plans.

Member Benefits strives to provide the highest-quality programs for NYSUT members and closely scrutinizes all proposals from reputable vendors before any endorsements are given.

While we work continuously to maintain quality benefit programs at competitive prices, you are encouraged to shop and compare before making any purchasing decisions.

MetLife Auto & Home®

If you are looking for potential savings on your auto or homeowners insurance, consider enrolling in the NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed MetLife Auto & Home Insurance Program.

This program offers special group rates on personal property and liability coverage not available to individual MetLife policyholders. NYSUT members can choose from a variety of coverages that include auto, homeowners, boat, renter's, and much more.

Policyholders can earn extra discounts for good driving, multiple policies and anti-theft devices. MetLife Auto & Home recently raised the multi-policy discount on its homeowners insurance with auto from 7% to 15%. The multi-policy/multi-product discount on auto insurance with home remains at 8%.

Visit the NYSUT Member Benefits website at memberbenefits.nysut.org or call 800-626-8101 for specific details about this program or other Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services.

MetLife Auto & Home is a NYSUT Member Benefits Trust (Member Benefits)-endorsed program. Member Benefits has an endorsement arrangement of 5.5% of total premiums for this program. All such payments to Member Benefits are used solely to defray the costs of administering its various programs and, where appropriate, to enhance them. Member Benefits acts as your advocate; please contact Member Benefits at 800-626-8101 if you experience a problem with any endorsed program.

Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

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.