

NYSUT Retiree and Colleague,

We are reaching out to former in-service members of NYSUT from our Retiree Council (Jefferson, Lewis, Franklin, St. Lawrence, Clinton, Essex and Warren Counties). You continue to be a member in retirement, thanks to work done by many of our colleagues in the 1980's.

When you retire from your LOCAL, your membership in NYSUT remains with you in retirement. The *Union for Life* slogan means just that. You pay no dues to NYSUT as a retiree.

NYSUT has one of the *most active and successful union retiree programs* in the country. The NYSUT Retiree Services Program, part of Program Services, was established by NYSUT to help its retirees organize and to act as a service provider for those retiree groups. In an effort to better serve the growing number of retirees, 11 Retiree Services Consultants have been hired to serve members in the field. These retiree consultants and your representatives have access to all of NYSUT Services, legal, legislative, PR, Health Services Consultant, IT, Political Action and more. **Chris Fowler** is coming on board in July as our Consultant replacing Ruth Shippee.

As a retiree, you are represented at the NYSUT RA by retiree delegates, who also elect Board members to the NYSUT Board of Directors, elected from our **Retiree Council 9**. RC-9 expands across the North Country from Watertown area to Plattsburgh and down to Glens Falls. The district is so large that we have 4 sub-councils (see below). At the NYSUT RA, policies that drive NYSUT and its foci are selected and we make sure that retiree concerns and issues are addressed by our Union.

Retiree Council 9 collects an annual participation fee from members who join in our efforts to be your voice to work with NYSUT and our locals to protect your benefits and support public education and those who provide those services. This fee, \$20/year, is divided between RC 9 and your individual sub-council.

The August newsletter will contain the form for 202-2025. If you already contributed, *thank you*. The membership form can also be found on our RC 9 website; which includes sections for each of the sub-councils under "Contact Us." The link for the form is: [Retiree Council 9 2024-2025 Membership Form](#)

Through RC-9 and your sub-councils, your retiree interests and needs are shared and addressed with our local teacher unions, NYSUT Regional Staff Director as well as NYSUT Headquarters staff. RC 9 and sub-councils representatives attend the:

- **Local Northeast Region Council of Teacher Associations** (NERCTA- Plattsburgh area), **Franklin-St. Lawrence Educators Council** (*FSLEC*-Potsdam area) and **North Country Coordinating Council of Teachers** (NCCCT -Watertown area), **Southern Adirondack League of Teachers** (SALT - Warren county area)
- NYSUT Legislative Committee of 100 events to work with legislators on the NYSUT Legislative Agenda
- CEWW Health Insurance Advisory Committee
- local representative councils of several of our inservice locals.
- NYSUT workshops for both retiree leaders and local leaders
- NYSUT Retiree Advisory Committee
- NYSUT annual Representative Assembly
- New York State Alliance for Retirees (NYSARA) (AFL-CIO retirees) Board of Directors and annual Convention-you are all members of this organization via dues paid by NYSUT.
- NYSUT Member Benefits Trust meetings as a trustee

If you have not joined us in the past, *please consider it this year*. Major goals continue to be “Fix Tier Six” and get Tier Equity for both 5 and 6. Another item of major importance on the NYSUT agenda and that of NYSARA, is improving the retirement COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) for all state pension systems. You can also support NYSUT’s legislative work by contributing to VOTE COPE via payroll deduction. That can be found at: [VOTE Cope Pension Deduction Information](#)

Thank you for your consideration and support in the past. If you have any questions please email nysutrc9@gmail.com. This your NYSUT group and is **not** affiliated with RENY however, some of us belong to both groups.

Lynn Hunneyman: RC-9 President

Retiree Council 9 includes these Sub Councils:

- **Jefferson-Lewis Council of NYSUT Retirees**
- **Franklin-St. Lawrence NYSUT United Retirees**
- **Champlain Valley Council of Retirees**
- **Southern Adirondack NYSUT Retirees**