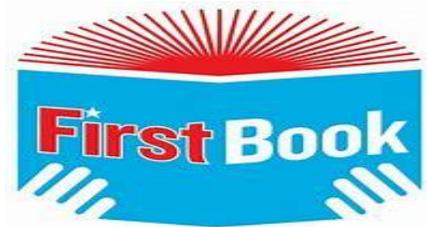




News & Updates  
September 17, 2018

## “First” Book Giveaway: An Overwhelming Success!

What a great day! The FUSE sponsored “First Book” Giveaway surpassed all expectations! Over 12,000 books were given away to the hundreds of students and their families from across New Rochelle who came Saturday morning to Trinity School.



Students and families left with armloads of new books

to read and enjoy -- and parents expressed sincere thanks to the FUSE members working the giveaway for this tremendous opportunity to further the love of reading at home for their children.



The event -- and our union-- received much positive coverage in the [Journal News](#) and on [Facebook](#).

Over two dozen FUSE members - and a few of their families -- worked the event by setting up, unpacking the over 12,000 books, creating attractive

displays, restocking tables, answering questions, greeting students and their families, and cleaning up. It was hard work, but to a person, each of the members expressed how happy they were to be part of the event and how proud they were that our union provided this opportunity to give back to our kids and our community.



Special recognition goes to our Executive Vice-President **Billy Coleman** who was the driving force in making this event happen. His commitment, hard work and enthusiasm made the day a reality. He worked extensively with Paul Webster, the Community Outreach Coordinator for NYSUT to get the books and with the FUSE Leadership team and Building Representatives to organize the many “moving parts” to make the day the great success it was.



**Thank you to all of our members who were part of this event - it was a great way to start the new school year!**

## **FUSE Office to Relocate in October**

After over 30 years at 2 Hamilton Avenue, the FUSE office will be relocating in October to downtown New Rochelle.

The owners of 2 Hamilton Avenue met with all of the tenants in the building in May and explained their plans to redevelop the two-story building into a mixed-use multi story building within the next two years. Though their specific plans appear to be in a state of flux, the fact remains that there will be structural changes or renovations at 2 Hamilton Avenue that will compel the union to find new space.

Rather than wait till the last minute and end up having to move to space that would not meet all of our needs, FUSE Treasurer AnnMarie Manganiello, Executive Vice President Billy Coleman and Welfare Fund Manager Diane Delgado began to look for new office space over the summer. As I mentioned on opening day, several summer afternoons felt like we were on an HGTV show that could be called *House Hunters: Office Space!*

After a lot of searching and negotiating, the union has leased an office suite at **270 North Avenue, Suite 809**. Though slightly smaller than our current space, the office is bright with lots of windows and a beautiful view of the city. The building is well maintained



and the office has sufficient storage space, a private conference room and is easily accessible. There is parking readily available at the train station and, often, on the street. Finally, the total cost of our monthly rent/utilities will be lower than our current expenses at Hamilton Avenue.

But, as *House Hunters* fans know, there are always some compromises that must be made in moving to a new space. The greatest compromise is the fact that we are no longer across the street from City Hall, which was a great convenience. Additionally given the smaller square footage and configuration, some offices will be shared.

Right now, amidst our usual work, the union and the Welfare Fund offices are packing and preparing for our move will take place next week. Our phone number (914-636-7999) will remain unchanged. We'll look forward to welcoming members to see our new office soo!

## Reminder:

### FUSE Welfare Fund - Open Enrollment for Dental Coverage

The "open enrollment period" for employees to enroll spouses and/or dependent children for dental benefits ends on September 26, 2018.

Enrollment forms are available in the school buildings, at the FUSE office, and on our FUSE [website](#). *Please be sure to attach the required supporting documents (marriage certificates, birth certificates or adoption decrees) with the completed enrollment form.*

There will be no further opportunity for employees to enroll for dependent dental coverage until September 2019.

Payroll deductions for spousal/dependent coverage begin with the October 15 paycheck and continue through the June 30 paycheck. There are no deductions during September. **Be sure to check your October 15 paycheck to insure that the appropriate deductions are being made.**

If you have any questions about spousal/dependent dental benefits or enrollment procedures, please contact Diane Delgado or Rose Colasuanno at the FUSE office.

