



**New Britain Federation of Teachers**

# ***Spotlight***

April 2017

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## **President's Message**

Union Brothers and Sisters,

Once again I would like to take a moment to give my sincerest thanks to all who came out and voted during the election. As I have said, I am humbled by the trust you have once again placed in me and will do everything to continue to earn it in the days to come. I do not take this position lightly. Once the election day came and went, I stated that there was no time to waste. I continue to stand by that statement. We have immediately continued our work in many areas; preparation for negotiations, upcoming legal hearings, grievances, vigilance of administrative practices, the IDRIVE to TEVAL transition for evaluations, as well as Union building to just name a few. So the work continues and the Union leadership team will continue to keep you abreast all along the way.

Take care and I will see you soon.

Sal

#Unionstrong #UnionsMatter\

## **IDRIVE to TEVAL Transition**

Members of the leadership team along with members of the administration have been busy at work on the IDRIVE to TEVAL transition. Union President Sal Escobales, VP Jackie Escales, VP Steve Gray, VP Charles Carey, VP Sue Humanick, Recording Secretary Basia Maselek, and Executive Secretary Dan Blanchard, as well as 871 members Susane Hansley and Linda Skoglund. The digital platform is nearly complete and will be piloted this summer. Once complete the TEVAL process will be a fully integrated digital platform that revises and

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combines both the current IDRIVE and EDreflect components. It is important to remember that some of our IDRIVE elements are adopted from the State of Connecticut's SEED evaluation model and cannot be changed without the state's authorization. In the end the State Department of Education must approve the changes to our IDRIVE. Over the next few months there will be rollout meetings conducted so that teachers and administrators can learn about the new program/platform. Those meetings will be led by both teachers and administrators. Once the complete plan is approved by the BOE, we will make it available on the NBFT.net website as well as other avenues. As always if you have any questions you can contact me at 860-833-1674 or [Escobale@csdnb.org](mailto:Escobale@csdnb.org).

## **NBFT Retirement Party!!**

Please save the date for the NBFT Retirement Party on Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Angelico's Restaurant, 542 E. Main Street, New Britain, from 4:00pm – 8:00pm. Please come to honor and celebrate with this year's retirees, socialize, enjoy a drink and some delicious food! 2017 NBFT Scholarship recipients will be announced as well and this is a free event.

The following NBFT members will be honored:

Martha Amore; Smith Elementary; 20 years  
 Wendy Buccheri; Jefferson Elementary; 21 years  
 Priscilla Esernia; Jefferson Elementary; 25.8 years  
 Roxanne Laplante; NBHS; 28 years  
 Karen Madej; DiLoreto; 32 years  
 Anna Magnoli; Gaffney Elementary; 30 years  
 Marianne Malliet; NBHS; 20 years  
 Ruth Miller-Serra; Slade Middle School; 30.5 years  
 Janice Poole; HALS Academy; 17 years  
 Sonia Ruiz-Colon; Lincoln Elementary; 30.3 years  
 Karen Saint John; NBHS; 17 years

**Hope to see you there!**

## **Contract Corner**

Dear Fed,

I was just given an agenda for a full faculty meeting that takes place this afternoon! Don't agendas need to be out sooner than three hours before a meeting?

-Advanced Notice

Dear Advanced Notice,

Yes, as stated in the current Local 871 contract: "An agenda for the meeting listing the subject matter to be discussed shall be emailed to staff 48 hours before the scheduled meeting." Please reference page 9 of the contract if you would like to read what else pertains to "Collaborative Meetings." Here is the link: [http://www.csdnb.org/pdfs/contract\\_Local871\\_15-18.pdf](http://www.csdnb.org/pdfs/contract_Local871_15-18.pdf)

## Welfare

Compiled by [Jennifer Meister](#)

### Deaths

**The Union extends its condolences to the following staff members:**

Joseph Geisler (Slade) on the passing of his wife and Jillian Giardini (Chamberlain) on the passing of her father.

### Births

**The Union extends congratulations to the following staff member:**

Jesenia Rivera-Ayala (Chamberlain) had a baby girl and Liz DeBlock (Holmes) had a baby girl too.

### Well Wishes

**The Union extends well wishes to the following staff members who are recovering from surgery:**

Gene Russo and Betsy Caswell both of Slade.

*Please forward any welfare news to Jennifer Meister at [meister@csgdnb.org](mailto:meister@csgdnb.org).*

## Retiree Corner

- There will be an AFT-CT Retiree Conference held on Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at Local 777, 450 Murdock Ave., Meriden. Registration is at 8:30am and the conference is from 9:00am to 2:30pm. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Workshops will be held throughout the day. If interested, call AFT-CT at (860) 257-9782.
- **SAVE THE DATE** for the NBFT Retirement Party Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Angelico's Restaurant, 542 E. Main St., New Britain from 4:00pm to 8:00pm. Please stop by to show the new retirees how it is done!

Retirees please forward any information you would like added to Joan Cromwell at the NBFT Headquarters.

## Race in the Park

The NBFT Local 871 has a team in place for the Race in the Park at Walnut Hill Park on Saturday, May 13, 2017 to support the Connecticut Breast Health Initiative. Several members will be taking part in the 4K Walk portion of the day but there is also a 5K Run and a 1 Mile walk as well as other activities. You can register here: <http://www.ctbhi.org/the-race> with our team, NBFT 871 and the cost is \$30. Please contact [Basia Maselek](#) if you have any questions. We hope to see you there!



## Please Report Name Changes!

If you have been hired at any point for the 2016-17 school year or had a recent name change, you are asked to contact Human Resources and NBFT Recording Secretary [Basia Maselek](#) so that the Union rolls are correct. This is important information that must be shared with AFT- National to correctly calculate local, state and national dues.

## It's your Spotlight!!

If you have any suggestions, additions or features you would like to see added please do not hesitate to e-mail the Spotlight Editor, [Sara Natrillo](#).

## Union Directory

### **President**

Sal Escobales

### **V,P, High School**

Sue Humanick

### **V.P. Middle School**

Charles Carey

### **V.P's Elementary Schools**

Jackie Escales and Stephen Gray

### **Recording Secretary**

Basia Maselek

### **Spotlight Editor**

Sara Natrillo

### **Executive Secretary**

Dan Blanchard

### **Treasurer**

William Sanford



New Britain Federation of Teachers  
238 South Main Street  
New Britain, Connecticut  
06051  
860-225-2808

Click here: [NBFT](#) to check out the our website!

