

# Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

239 Lido Blvd., Long Beach, New York 11561 • (516) 554-2830

President
Steve Freeman

**Executive Vice-President**Keith Harvey

Vice-President for Secondary Schools
Karen Bloom

Vice-President for Elementary Schools
Beth Prostick

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Recording Secretary
Nora Bellsey

Corresponding Secretary
Elleen Parks

Treasurer
James Fiola

☆ catch you later ☆

## **Executive Board Minutes**

June 8, 2015

- I. President's Report Steve Freeman
  - A. As my 43 years in the Long Beach Public Schools come to an end I thank each of you for the opportunity to have been your colleague and the honor to have served as your President. Over the course of the past few years

public education has come under unprecedented attacks and teachers in particular have been vilified. While most of you would prefer to be apolitical, that is no longer an option. If you refuse to be blamed for the failure of our society to erase poverty and inequality and refuse to accept assessments and evaluations imposed by those who have contempt for real teaching and learning; then you must be politically active. We must work collectively to elect a governor who understands that she or he can't improve education by expressing contempt for teachers and the hard work we do. We must work to elect school board trustees who understand that the quality of a school district is at best marginally related to the number of AP or IB courses offered and that opportunity without achievement is meaningless. We need to elect school board trustees who hire administrators for whom the phrase "college and career ready" expresses but a fraction of the very important work we do; administrators who also understand that loyalty must flow down, before it flows up.

The power of the Long Beach Classroom Teacher Association lies solely in the spirit of our members; it is the platform for your voice, the backing of your movements and the force behind change. But if you do not stand up for your rights or don't demand change; then who is truly at fault? You see, the power lies within you.

Will you stand as a voice which shapes the future? Or will you sit idly as you are robbed of your rights and dignity? One voice is all it takes to change the world as we know it. Speak up and your 650,000 NYSUT sisters and brothers will forever stand beside you.

B. There's something in the Water in Suffolk Suffolk school superintendents are eclipsing their Nassau brethren in challenging the Cuomo educational "reform" agenda. This spring courageous superintendents like Dr. Joseph Rella publicly embraced the opt-out movement and on May 28 more than a dozen Suffolk superintendents, led by Michael Hynes, held a press conference to demand that the State suspend the new teacher



Kids should be blowing bubbles, not filling them in.

evaluations for a year so they can get them done right. Why is it that local school leaders seem to be slavishly devoted to the mind-numbing NY State assessments which brand two-thirds of our students as underachievers and contribute to students' fixed mind sets that they can't achieve? Unlike Allstate, we are not in good hands.

C. Election of Officers and Delegates 2015-17
The winners of this May's election are as follows:
President - Keith Harvey
Executive Vice-President - Karen Bloom
Vice-President for Secondary Schools - Amy Powers
Vice-President for Elementary Schools - Beth Prostick
Treasurer - Jim Fiola
Corresponding Secretary - Elleen Parks

Recording Secretary - Patty Van Loon

TEACHING
NOT IN IT FOR THE INCOME
IN IT FOR THE OUTCOME

NYSUT Delegates - Beth Prostick and Jessica Vetter

AFT Delegates - Beth Prostick, Jessica Vetter and Elleen Parks

Thanks to Jon Bloom for chairing the Elections Committee and to Anthony Balsamo and Eric Heck for assisting with the counting of the ballots.

## D. End of the Year Celebration

Special thanks to Elleen Parks for planning our 2015 celebration. A good time was had by all. Best wishes for long and healthy retirements to Beverlee Bertinetti, Nora Bellsey, Phyllis Boriello, Mary Conway, Vivian Fiallo, Margaret Fraser, Eileen Fuentes, Dr. Dale Johanson, Lynn Marcell, Millie McCarthy, Lori Montgomery, Grace Riemenschneider, John Rooney, Paula Starsky, Carmine Verde, and Susan Wolk.

## E. Sell-back of Health Insurance

If you have elected to "sell-back" your health insurance you should have received your second half payment as part of your June 5 pay check. If you did not receive your payment call Human Resources at X3923 to verify your election. Please keep in mind that even if you "sell back" your medical insurance you are still entitled to family dental insurance.

### F. District Sick Bank

Since its inception 73.5 days have been donated and 72.5 days have been granted. As the school year comes to an end I hope each of you sees fit to donate at least one day to the bank to ensure the continuation of this valuable benefit.

# G. Pay dates

Summer school pay dates will be July 17, August 7 and August 21.

The first pay date when school resumes in September will be September 18.

# H. Pay Options

Each year you have three pay options:

21 equal bi-weekly payments (September through June).

25 payments; 21 payments (September through June) + 4 payments on the last day of school.

26 payments; you will receive 1/26 of your annual salary every two weeks from the first pay date in September through the last pay date in June when you will receive the

remaining pay checks as separate checks, all dated June 30, which you may deposit at any time from June to August. Direct deposit will not be available for the last six paychecks. All deductions will be spread out over the 26 pay checks.

To elect an option other than the one you currently have; you must enroll prior to June 30 and and the new option may not be changed until the start of the following school year. The form is available online at: http://www.lbeach.org/Assets/Personnel\_Forms/PAY\_OPTION\_FORM\_-\_Current\_Teachers.pdf

## I. Annual Turn-In of Sick Days

If you have accumulated at least 75 sick days and wish to exercise your option of selling back used sick days earned this year (up to 12 or 14 if you worked at Summer School) you must submit a "Request for Payment in Exchange For Accumulated Unused Sick Days" form to Dr. Berger's office. The form is available at

http://www.lbeach.org/Assets/Personnel\_Forms/1314\_Buy\_Sick\_Group\_A.pdf. The rate is \$94.22 per day. Please be aware that you can now accumulate up to 200 days in your sick day bank. Any days in excess of 200 should be sold back.

# J. Packing and Unpacking

If you are directed to pack up your room in anticipation of construction, summer school or summer camp you are entitled to be compensated for your efforts. The rate is \$25.14 per hour. However your claim cannot exceed \$100. The work must be done outside of the school day and a record kept of the dates and times you worked.

# K. New Member Committee - Jim Fiola

If you have any questions, please e-mail Jim Fiola at jfiola@lbeach.org or Alison Katulka at akatulka@lbeach.org.

We will be tweaking some aspects of the New Member program next year. There will be additional meetings for ALL new members aside from the mentor meetings. We look forward to working with all of our new members as they move toward earning tenure status. Look out for news about a New Member party in September.

Enjoy your summer! If you are in the HS building over the summer, please feel free to stop by and say hello to Jim in the credit union office (Room 216A).

## II. Report of the Chief Negotiator - Steve Freeman

- A. The final retro payments for the period of 7/1/14-4/24/15 (1%) will be paid on June 24.
- B. The Board of Education ratified the Permanent Sub Contract at its May 13 meeting. All retro payments should be paid on June 24. This contract expires on June 30, 2015 and a request to open negotiations for a successor agreement has been sent to Board of Education President Tangney.
- C. We were scheduled to meet in negotiations with the Board of Education on May 18 to receive the district's proposals. The meeting was cancelled at the last minute by the Superintendent and no new date scheduled. Attempts have been made to reschedule but the Superintendent and the Board of Education have been unresponsive. Refusing to negotiate is considered bad faith bargaining, a violation of the Taylor Law, and the association will take any all actions available to bring the district to the table.
- D. Please keep in mind that the Triborough Amendment to the Taylor Law guarantees that all terms and conditions of an expired agreement remain in force until a successor agreement is signed; this means that step increments will occur on July 1, 2015 and lane movements, longevities, etc. will be credited accordingly.

# III. Executive Vice-President's Report - Keith Harvey

- A. Congratulations to all of this year's retirees, newly tenured teachers and newly elected CTA officers and building reps.
- B. Health and Safety

The school nurses would like to see the district move to an Electronic Health Records (EHRs) system. It is the position of the National Association of School Nurses and our nurses that EHRs are essential to provide efficient and effective care in our schools to monitor the health of the student population. I have been in contact with central administration and hope that the will consider this important upgrade as we switch to a new student management system. Pre-K Play and Lido Equipment Update - The district did not accept the installation of the slide because they were uncomfortable with the distance between the slide and the fence so it was closed off with caution tape. A few weeks ago they added a wooden barrier to ensure that the students did not bypass the caution tape. The district intends to switch to a new piece of equipment over the summer. In addition the play equipment installer will complete the repair of the spider web play area by the end of the school year.

If you have any health or safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level please contact me. Next year Executive Vice President-Elect Karen Bloom will be representing the CTA on this district committee.

- C. District Safety Team
  - If you have any health or safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level please contact me.
  - Next year Executive Vice President-Elect Karen Bloom will be representing the CTA on this district committee.
- D. APPR

Annual professional Performance Summary - Before leaving in June you will receive your Composite Score Report. Your Composite Score Report will be out of 60, 80 or 100 points depending on how much information is available for you at the end of the school year. Please note that the HEDI Band that appears at this point may be incomplete. Once the additional components are added your HEDI band rating will change accordingly. Each teacher will then receive e- mail notification that the score report is completed and ready to be acknowledged with the full 100 point score prior to September 1.

Appeals Process - Teachers will have 15 days, beginning on September 1, to acknowledge their final Composite Score Report. This is also the same time period in which a teacher may file an appeal. Appeals are limited to ratings of Ineffective and Developing and should be in writing to the Superintendent.

E. Pay Period

We are currently reviewing the district's decision to issue the first paycheck on the third week of school next year. This will result in only one paycheck in September and create a financial hardship for many. The first check should be on 9/11/15, and bi-weekly thereafter.

- F. Summer Recess
  - I would like to thank the teachers, administrators and SRP workers for another successful school year. I look forward to working with everyone during the upcoming school year and wish you all an exciting and relaxing summer. See you in September.
- IV. Vice-President for Elementary Schools' Report Beth Prostick
  - A. Congratulations to all our newly elected building reps for the upcoming school year. I would like to welcome MaryJane Rochford as our new East School rep. A special thank you to Lori Montgomery for all of her years of service.
  - B. The issue of technology was discussed during our Elementary Council meeting. I spoke with Dr. Graham and he assured me that elementary schools would definitely be included in the technology plan.
  - C. According to Mr. DeVito the district has new contractors lined up to complete the installation of the East School elevator. The work should be completed over the next several months.
  - D. Lack of availability of per diem subs has become an issue because it leads to the cancellation of services. It would be beneficial to have permanent subs in the elementary schools.
  - E. Remember you can now donate sick days to our district sick bank. Please consider donating at least one day to your colleagues in need.
  - F. Best wishes to all our 2015 retirees. I hope all your retirement dreams come true.
  - G. I hope everyone enjoys their summer vacation.
  - H. If you have any questions I can be reached at bprostick@gmail.com.

# V. Vice President for Secondary Schools' Report - Karen Bloom

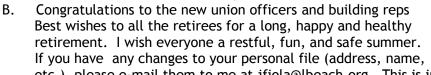
- A. We are still waiting for follow up from the last Health and Safety Meeting regarding the traffic Pattern at the HS. There seems to be a consensus of all parties involved; parents, students, HS staff and the transportation department; that the problem must be addressed. We were given the impression that the pattern may be changed for September, but we have not received anything official yet.
- B. We hope that a security system is put in place in the HS similar to those in other district buildings before the start of the next school year. This was also discussed at the Health and Safety meeting and we are still awaiting the plans from the architect in order to address the situation.
- C. We anticipate that with the passing of the budget some of the technology issues at the HS will be addressed. Hopefully the summer months will be used to upgrade or add to the HS's existing technology offerings.
- D. In the MS teaming has been a philosophy that has been proven successful for our students. We are concerned that its integrity has been slowly eroded over the past few years and hope that a true teaming model be reinstated.
- E. The Public Relations Committee discussed the need to fill the CTA position of Webmaster. As cochairs of the committee, Beth and I would like to recommend that Alison Katulka be appointed as the new Webmaster.
- F. I would like to encourage all members to attend a BOE meeting whenever possible. We need to stay involved, and let our voices be heard!
- G. Thank you to Ellen Parks for putting together a great end of the year celebration! Congratulations and Best Wishes to all of our retirees!
- H. Please remember to donate a day to the District Sick Bank! I e-mailed secondary teachers the form last week. Please let me know if you need a copy.
- I. Congratulations to the newly elected Officers as well as all of the building reps. Welcome to our new middle school and high school reps. Good luck in your new positions!
- J. Have a restful and enjoyable summer vacation!

# VI. Treasurer's Report - Jim Fiola

A. May Financial Results

RevenuesUnion dues\$36,383Year End Celebration12,250Vote Cope2,261Total\$ 50,994

<u>Expenditures</u>	
NYSUT	\$13,230
AFT	8,010
Payroll related items	239
Training	1,503
Meeting Expenses	122
Year End Celebration	14,249
Office Phone	69
Public Relations	466
Travel	16
Total	\$37,819



"Have a great summer and please do not throw your books in the air or run through the halls -wait until the students have left the building."

etc.), please e-mail them to me at jfiola@lbeach.org. This is important not only for future elections, but also for the NYSUT database to be accurate in order for you to receive important information.

C. Union dues for 2014/2015 for full-time members will be \$954.76. The break-out is \$370 local, \$358 NYSUT, \$218.76 AFT dues and \$8 PTA. \$95.48 will be taken from your first check of the month and will show up under the column "MDED-03." (The 2014 union dues for tax purposes was \$944.36.) The dues will go up slightly next year, but we are determined to keep your dues as low as possible while still meeting our local obligations and making charitable contributions to the Long Beach community.

# VII. Building Reports

#### A. West School

- 1. West School students, faculty and staff have been very busy these past few weeks with Family Fun Night, Spring Celebration of the Arts, Health Fair, Red Nose Fundraiser, Multicultural Day, NWEA testing, NYSSMA, report cards, packing up and moving classrooms, field trips and promotion rehearsals!
- 2. Special thank you to our own Elleen Parks for a wonderful CTA End Year Celebration.
- 3. Congratulations to Beverlee Bertinetti on her retirement.
- 4. Welcome back to Courtney Elliott.
- 5. Congratulations to our NYSSMA students thanks to Vanessa Krywe, Craig West, and Noelle Policastro.
- 6. Condolences to Donna Fee on the loss of her nephew.
- 7. We continue to be concerned about the implementation and direction of the math modules.
- 8. MaryAnn Colucci and Cheryle Fontenot will continue to be our CTA building reps.
- 9. Thank you to Steve Freeman and Nora Bellsey for the many years of service to LBCTA.
- 10. Congratulations to Keith Harvey and the newly elected Executive Board.
- 11. Wishing all our colleagues a wonderful summer!

# B. Lindell School

- 1. Congratulations to Lori Hartfield on her tenure.
- 2. Congratulations to our retirees: Mary Conway, Eileen Fuentes, Beverlee Bertinetti, Millie McCarthy, Billy Snow and best wishes to all our 2015 retirees.
- 3. Congratulations to Jeanne Donohue on the engagement of her daughter Mary to Mark.
- 4. Kudos to the Activity Day Committee for their flawless planning that allowed a fun-filled, active day.
- 5. Many thanks to Elleen Parks for a wonderful CTA End of the Year celebration.
- 6. We look forward to Sean Murray's expertise in supporting elementary initiatives to help get necessary materials and supplies for the successful implementation of the math modules. We also look forward to his guidance as we continue the roll-out of the ELA units of study.
- 7. Best wishes for a healthy, happy and restful summer!

## C. East School

- 1. We want to welcome our new Principal, Kathleen Connelly. We are looking forward to working with her!
- 2. Farewell to Lori Montgomery. She has been our beloved nurse
- for almost 31 years. Her hard work and dedication will be sorely missed.
- 4. Good luck to Sean Murray in your new position.
- 5. Kudos to the Kindergarten staff. The 2015 show was spectacular!
- 6. Kudos to Elleen Parkes for planning a fabulous end of year celebration. a good time was had by all.
- 7. We are excited to announce that Mary Jane Rochford will be our new LBCTA Building Representative.
- 8. Best wishes to all of the retirees and a happy and healthy summer to all!!!

#### D. Lido School

- 1. Students had a successful S.T.E.M. Fair and enjoyed presenting their work to their families.
- 2. Many thanks to Elleen Parks for organizing an enjoyable LBCTA Retirement Dinner at Bridgeview.
- 3. Kudos to Lido PTA for sponsoring Family Fun Night!
- 4. Bravo to students and staff members in raising funds for Red Nose Day on May 21st in support of helping children living in poverty. Everyone participating donated \$1.00 for a red nose and raised approximately \$600.
- 5. Awesome job to the Third Grade Recorders, Fourth/Fifth Grade Band/Orchestra, and Fourth/Fifth Grade Chorus for a beautiful Spring Concert appreciated by family and friends. They were brilliantly led by Andrew Frey, Justin Marks, and Noelle Policastro.
- 6. Fifth Grade students had a great time at their Field Day.
- 7. Congratulations to Cheryl Carroll, Dorothy Lopez, and Marilyn Pilo for their reelection as LBCTA Building Reps for the 2015-2016 school year.
- 9. Thank you to Lido PTA for an exciting musical assembly celebrating National Music Day! The students were so engaged and had a lot of fun.
- 10. Congratulations to Faith Moskowitz on the engagement of her son Seth with his beloved Diana.
- 11. Congratulations to all the retirees, especially Beverlee Bertinetti. LARC/SPIRIT students will miss your creativity!
- 12. Best of luck to our LBCTA President, Steve Freeman, and LBCTA Recording Secretary, Nora Bellsey, on their much deserved retirement! Your dedication to our Union will not be forgotten.
- 13. Best wishes to all for a happy, healthy, and restful summer!

# E. Pre-K

- 1. Condolences to Susan Korotz on the loss of her father-in-law.
- 2. Our playground has been fixed. Thank you for everyone's help.
- 3. The Pre-k participated in a trip to the Long Beach Public Library. Thank you to all involved. It is a great way to promote literacy at an early age.
- 4. Good luck to all our students in their end of the year show. Thank you to B. Young, C Zawatson and all our custodians for their assistance in making this show possible.
- 5. We wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable summer. See you at the end of August.
- 6. Congratulations and best wishes to all the 2015 retirees. You deserve it!
- 7. Thank you to our PTA show "Beth and Scott" highlighting the importance of nutrition.
- 8. Our Family Fun night was a huge success. Thank you to the PTA.
- 9. Our STEM fair was enjoyed by all.
- 10. We were happy to participate in "Red Nose Day". It was a fun way to raise money.

In-Service Opportunities

Long Beach Teacher Center www.lbeachtc.org

The NYSUT Education and Learning Trust (F2F and online) www.nysut.org.elt

SCOPE Education Services (F2F and online)

Dellecave Education Institute (F2F) www.dellecave.org

PBS TeacherLine (Online) www.pbs.org/teacherline

Nassau TRACT (F2F) www.mylearningplan.com

Nassau BOCES (F2F and online) www.myleamingplan.com

C.I.T.E. (F2F) www.citeonline.com

NYS Teacher Center Academy (Online) www.rockteach.org

## F. HALB

- 1. Congratulations to our friend and colleague, Randi Baier, on receiving tenure..
- 2. Best wishes to our friend and colleague, Margaret Fraser, on her retirement.
- 3. Congrats and best wishes to Steve Freeman and Nora Bellsey.
- 4. We wish everyone a happy and restful summer!

## G. Middle School

- 1. Congratulations to Linda Weiss, whose daughter Melissa will begin her residency at Albany University Medical Center in Psychiatry.
- 2. Congratulations to Lorraine Pross, Grace Parisi, Jillian Fernandez and Kate Coners on receiving tenure.
- 3. We would like to welcome our 2015-16 MS building reps: Alison Katulka, Jessica Vetter, Jennifer Garrett, Camila Gamboa and Stacey Rice. Our alternates are Jill Cherlin, Ama Darkeh and Christina Dillard.
- 4. We would like to thank Jill Cherlin and John Anfossi for all their years of dedication representing the Middle School.
- 5. Bravo to all our musical groups, under the direction of Dave Lobenstein, Liz Altbacker, Doug Renoud and Michele Bennett, for our wonderful concerts!
- 6. The MS was well represented by the students of Laura Swan, Scott Knyper and Alison Katulka at the district art show.
- 7. Congratulations to the MS Music Department on the wonderful accomplishments their musical groups achieved at NYSSMA.
- 8. Welcome back to Jessica Koch.
- 9. Condolences to Meg Karthaus and her family on the loss of her brother.
- 10. Teaming is a philosophy on out school that has proven successful for our students. We are concerned that its integrity has been slowly eroding over the past few years and hope that a true teaming model can remain.

# H. High School

- 1. Congratulations to Neal Campbell, Lauren Andersen, Nicole Albani, John Graziano, and Soribeth Milito on their receiving tenure.
- 2. Congratulations and best wishes to our retirees, Nora Bellsey, John Rooney, Paula Starsky, Sue Wolk, and Carmine Verde.
- 3. Congratulations to the Art Department and their students on a successful District Art Show.
- 4. Congratulations to the Music Department on the recent guitar show.
- 5. Congratulations to the Guidance office and staff on a successful Senior Awards Night.
- 6. Congratulations to Karen Bloom on her election on as Executive Vice-President of The LBCTA.
- 7. Congratulations to Amy Powers to on her election as Secondary Vice President for Secondary Schools of the LBCTA.
- 8. Congratulations to the newly elected building committee: Anthony Balsamo, Jonathan Bloom (Senior Rep), Elena Frishman, Eric Heck, Greg Milone, and Jay Spitz. Thank you to Adrienne Glassberg for her service to the executive board.
- 9. Congratulations to all Spring Coaches and athletes on successful spring seasons and a wonderful sports awards nights.
- 10. We are still waiting for a resolution regarding the lack of uniformity regarding the computation of teachers APPR scores across disciplines.
- 11. With the upcoming move to a Humanities and STEM director, there is great concern about the handling of day to day departmental operations. We are anxious to hear more from the district regarding these directors' job descriptions and any plans to ensure that individual departments needs are properly addressed.
- 12. We are still waiting for building administration to properly outfit our faculty room. Mr. Stroud has informed us that he will look for a more suitable location for next year.
- 13. The temperature of the building remains inconsistent. It is extremely warm in some areas while very cold in others.
- 14. We are still greatly concerned about the state of technology in the building. There is serious

- lack of access to computers and a need for tablet integration into our classrooms.
- 15. There is still great concern for the safety of students, staff and residents under the current traffic pattern.
- 16. The lack of cleanliness in the building is still of great health concern.
- 17. We are concerned about the number of students in the hallways throughout the day. Due to the lack of available teachers for hall duty assignments, and the number of study halls, student presence has increased recently and we are concerned that this is becoming an academic and safety issue.
- 18. We are hopeful that the district will address the state of the inclusion program at the high school for next year. This year many classes had large number of students in them as well as a high percentage of classified students. We believe that the class caps for these classes need to be re-examined in order to effectively meet the needs of the students.
- 19. We are eager to learn more about proposed plans for NIKE for the next school year. While details of this plan are still being formulated, we are concerned how the needs of all students involved will be met.
- 20. Thank you to the PTA for a most delicious lunch.
- 21. Please consider donating a sick day to the district sick day bank.
- 22. Have a Happy, Healthy, and Restful summer vacation!

#### VIII. New Business

- A. President Freeman made a motion to appoint Keith Harvey as our new Chief Negotiator. It was seconded by Patricia Van Loon and passed unanimously.
- B. A motion was made by President Freeman, seconded by Patricia Van Loon, to increase the local portion of union dues by \$14.00 per year. It passed unanimously.
- C. A motion was made by President Freeman, seconded by Nora Bellsey, to appoint Alison Katulka as the association's new Webmaster. It passed unanimously.

# IX. Meeting dates

June

9 - Board of Education, 7:30 PM MS auditorium Tenure awards

11 - ED18, 4 PM Garden City

24 - Last day of school

#### In attendance:

HALB - Gari Ann Harris

West - Mary Ann Colucci, Cheryle Fontenot

Lindell - Migdalia Schneider, Heather Puckhaber, Jane Quinton

East - Lori Montgomery, Barbara Lewy, Mary Jane Rochford

Lido - Dorothy Lopez

Middle School - Patty Van Loon, Jessica Vetter, Jenn Garrett, Alison Katulka, Jill Cherlin, Christina Dillard, Stacey Rice, Camila Gamboa

High School - Amy Powers, Jonathan Bloom, Elena Frishman, Eric Heck, Perry Bodnar, Greg Milone Officers - Steve Freeman, Keith Harvey, Karen Bloom, Nora Bellsey, Jim Fiola, Beth Prostick, Elleen Parks, Frank Volpe

Respectfully submitted by Nora Bellsey, Recording Secretary.





Daydreaming is a serious problem in my classroom. I can't stop thinking about summer vacation.



## New York State Teachers' Retirement System

I. Summer Pre-retirement Planning Seminars

These day-long (8:30 AM-3 PM) seminars feature presentations and discussions on financial planning, Social Security, adjusting to retirement, legal considerations, and other retirement related topics. The seminars are open to active members age 45 and older. Spouses/companions are also invited to attend. There is no cost to attend but you must call NYSTRS at 1-800-348-7298 X6180 weekdays between 8:30 AM and 4:15 PM to make a reservation and spaces fill up fast.

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	Melville	Thursday, July 16 Tuesday, Aug. 11	Melville Marriott 1350 Old Walt Whitman Rd. Melville, NY 11747
	Plainview	Wednesday, Aug. 26	Residence Inn 9 Gerhard Road Plainview, NY 11803
	Riverhead	Tuesday, Aug. 25	Hotel Indigo - East End 1830 West Main Street Riverhead, NY 11901
	Ronkonkoma	Wednesday, July 15 Thursday, July 30	Courtyard by Marriott 5000 Express Drive South Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

TRS members with questions may call your teacher-members on the New York State Teachers' Retirement System Board of Directors or email united@nysutmail.org:

David Keefe (Retiree Representative), 516-741-1241; Tim Southerton, 631-273-8822; Paul Farfaglia, 315-431-4040; or Jolene DiBrango 585-267-3420.



#### II. Video Consultations:

One-on-one video consultations enable members to meet with a NYSTRS representative to ask questions about specific situations and receive printed estimates of their retirement benefits via a live video hook-up. Consultations are available most Mondays-Fridays at the following locations:

Nassau BOCES Suffolk BOCES Suffolk BOCES
71 Clinton Road 762 Deer Park Road 15 Andrea Road
Garden City Dix Hills Holbrook

You now have two ways to book a video consultation:

Online using your MyNYSTRS account. After logging into your account, select the "My Tools" tab and then "Schedule Appointments." Or by calling NYSTRS at (800) 348-7298 X6100.