

Summary of Resumes/Statements

Co-President:

Michael Emmi - I am pleased to provide you with an overview of my background for the positions of Co-President and RA Delegate:

- Retired Science Teacher -Solvay School District, 41 years
- Local President, Solvay Teachers Association - 27 years
- Building Representative, Negotiations Team member, RA Delegate
- ED 7 Director - 6 years
- OCTA member and past co-Vice President
- RC 7 Member
- Former member of NYSUT Science Subject Area Committee
- Organize and oversee NYSUT New York State Fair Booth
- Past member of NYSUT Emerging Leader program
- LAP team member
- Member of NYSUT Convention Committee
- Current member NYSUT Health Insurance Task Force

Paul Farfaglia - I am seeking the position of Co- President for NYSUT Retiree Council 7.

Local Positions:

- Jordan-Elbridge Teachers Association - Local Vice-President - 2014-2019
- Jordan-Elbridge Teachers Association - Local President 1989 - 2014
- Jordan-Elbridge Teachers Association - Local Treasurer 1986-1989
- RA Delegate
- Committee of 100
- Delegate to NYSTRS
- NYSUT Board of Directors, At-Large Director ED 7-8 - 2005-2014
- NYSUT Executive Committee - 2011-2014
- Greater Syracuse Labor Council

- Board of Trustees, New York State Teachers' Retirement System 2009-2019 and 2023-2025

RC 7 Committees:

- Serving as a member of the RC7 Board of Directors since 2019
- Designated Committee of 100 representative for RC 7

1st VP:

2nd VP:

Bill Spreter - Bill Spreter has 34 years of experience teaching English at the Hannibal Central Schools in Oswego County. In that capacity he realized that local rural poverty levels impeded the school's ability to deliver needed services. As a result he became active in his local and state union, NYSUT, to educate legislators as to the need for added funds for not only for rural schools in poverty but also for those in urban settings. (His wife, Cindy, is a retired STA teacher member.)

The state's union then appointed him to become the Vote-Cope Coordinator (Voice of Teacher Education, Committee on political Education) for the Central New York area. As a Vote-Cope Coordinator he has worked for over 47 years educating members on political action, raising funds to secure needed legislation for schools, and persuading legislators to support local school funding in NYSUT's Committee of 100. He has also served as President of his local teachers' union, the HFA and subsequently, Vice President, and NYSUT/AFT, delegate to their respective state and national assemblies.

In his retirement from teaching he was elected Vice President in NYSUT's Retiree Council 7, serving teacher retirees as well as retired school support staff promoting public school issues in addition to concerns/legislation for Older Americans.

Shortly afterwards Spreter was also elected as President of the Central New York Chapter of the New York State Alliance for Retired Americans. The local organization seeks to preserve and improve programs such as social security, Medicare and Medicaid for all Older Americans as well as securing lower prices for prescription drugs. Their monthly programs offer discussions with Geriatric physicians, mental health professionals, political science professors, immigration attorneys, representatives from the Office for the Aging and more.

According to Spreter, both NYSUT Retiree Council 7 and CNY NYSARA are often thought of as the "daytime army" of the labor movement. They engage in support of local, state and national unions. That may include phone calling for candidates, postcard writing, door-knocking, and

contacting our political representatives. CNY NYSARA has recently been involved with "Protect Our Care" an organization determined to improve healthcare in America and to educate Americans about severe cuts to the Affordable Care Act, and ongoing threats to social security and Medicare. In addition, their immediate goals are reform of the Tier VI pension system and retiree inflation protection.

Spreter is on the state board of NYSARA, the regional board of the Area Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, and a delegate to the Greater Syracuse Labor Council. He is now seeking reelection to the second Vice Presidency position.

3rd VP:

Candace Johnson - After 35 years, I retired from teaching Social Studies at the middle and high school levels at Liverpool Central Schools. In addition to my teaching duties, I was a Building Representative for Liverpool High School. Later, I was elected 2nd vice President of the United Liverpool Faculty Association. Among the roles I had in this position were organizing the Making Strides against Breast Cancer Walk, Chair of VOTE/COPE collection, being a representative to the Committee of 100, and a delegate to many NYSUT RA Conventions and conferences. All of these positions prepared me for my current position as 3rd Vice President and I would like to continue to serve Retiree Council 7 in that capacity.

Jean VanDoren - Prior to my 2021 retirement, I was a middle school librarian in the SCSD. This position required organization, computer proficiency, tact, and a sense of humor. Prior to this position, I worked as an editor and technical writer, professions requiring attention to detail. I worked in the defense industry when desktop publishing was emerging, learning and teaching computer skills. Since retiring, I have served as the Recording Secretary for STARS, the SCSD retirement chapter. I help maintain the membership spreadsheet for accuracy, and created and maintained the listserv and a social media presence. I believe that I would be a strong addition to RC7's executive board.

Treasurer:

Carol Graham – I am running for the office of RC7 Treasurer, which I currently hold and have been in for the last 12 years. I understand all that is required of me during the calendar year and am qualified for this responsibility. My background is “numbers” as I was a middle school math teacher in Solvay for 33 years. I also held leadership positions in the STA before I retired, the most recent being Vice President for Negotiations for about 8 years. I am still affiliated with Solvay as I am the liaison between the STA and the Solvay retired teachers.

Secretary:

Melody Mariani - I, Melody (Mel) Mariani have been the RC 7 Secretary for a number of years and have done the job without concerns from the Executive Board or RC 7 membership. I seek election for the current term to continue working for retirees in RC 7. I have also been a NYSUT Delegate for the last two years representing members of RC 7 concerns at the annual representation assembly. Lastly, I also serve as the president of Syracuse Teachers Association Retirees and have for a number of years.

Director:

Mary Kay Boyle – I would like to continue as a director of RC7.

Mary Duffin – To the NYSUT RC7 Election Committee – I would like to continue as the RC7 Luncheon Chair for the coming term and will serve on the Board of Directors.

I do feel that our luncheons are important to our membership and help keep our members informed and current.

Kathy Froio - I would love to continue as the RC7 Program Coordinator on the board of directors.

I believe it is a great addition to our lunches. It helps keep our members informed of possible issues or just things of interest in our daily lives.

Lilli Rastegar – I am seeking re-election to the position of Director on the RC7 Executive Board. Throughout my career, I have been a dedicated and outspoken union advocate, serving in various leadership roles and contributing to numerous local and state committees.

I am committed to strengthening our union by improving working conditions, upholding professional standards, and fostering productive relationships with all stakeholders. My strong communication skills and deep understanding of the value unions bring make me well-suited to continue in this role.

If re-elected, I will remain focused on advancing the interests and well-being of our retirees.

NYSUT Delegate:

Candace Johnson - After 35 years, I retired from teaching Social Studies at the middle and high school levels at Liverpool Central Schools. In addition to my teaching duties, I was a Building Representative for Liverpool High School. Later, I was elected 2nd vice President of the United

Liverpool Faculty Association. Among the roles I had in this position were organizing the Making Strides against Breast Cancer Walk, Chair of VOTE/COPE collection, being a representative to the Committee of 100, and a delegate to many NYSUT RA Conventions and conferences. All of these positions prepared me for my current position as 3rd Vice President and I would like to continue to serve Retiree Council 7 in that capacity.

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Deborah Snyder - Education

2012 Syracuse University, Syracuse NY

CAS in Teaching and Curriculum, GPA: 3.78

1983-1984 Syracuse University, Syracuse NY

Post-Graduate Study in Reading and Language Arts, GPA: 3.72

1983 Syracuse University, Syracuse NY

M. S. ed in Elementary and Early Childhood Education, GPA: 3.72

1979 SUNY College at Buffalo, N.V., Buffalo NY

B. S. in Elementary Education, GPA: 3.9

Professional Experience

Syracuse City School District, Syracuse NY

Teacher, K-1 inclusion and kindergarten (09/95 - 2017)

Oneida Indian Nation, Oneida

Director of Early Childhood Education (04/95 - 08/95)

Various School Districts, Syracuse NY

Substitute Teacher, grades K-12 (09/93 - 04/95)

Loretto Child Day Care, Syracuse NY

Director (01/92 - 05/93)

Neighborhood House of Auburn, N.V., Auburn NY

Director of Early Childhood Programs (09/86 - 12/91)

S.U. Early Childhood Education and Day Care Center, Syracuse NY - Lead Teacher (09/84 - 05/86)

S.U. - B. M. W. Cooperative Nursery School, Syracuse NY

Head Teacher- Graduate Assistant (09/82 - 06/84)

Head Start Child Development Program, Utica NY

Teacher (09/79 - 08/82)

Leadership Experience

Syracuse STARS Election Committee, since 2018

NYSUT English Language Arts Committee, 2017 - 2019

SCSD Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Task Force, 2011 - 2012 SCSD Teacher Center

Policy Board Member, 2011-2012

STA Grievance Committee Member, 2011 - 2017

STA Election Committee Member, 2010 - 2017

STA Building Rep, several schools, 2007 - 2017 (Chief rep for 5+ years) STA Social Justice

Committee, Chair, 2009 - 2012

Attended Regional NYSUT Fall Leadership Conferences in 2009 and 2010

(Trained in grievance procedures and social justice issues Bellevue Elementary School Leadership Team member, 2007 - 2010 SCSD Social Studies Curriculum Writer, 2000 - 2001

Alternate AFT Delegate:

Margo Buckingham – During my teaching years, I held many positions in Fayetteville Manlius Teachers' Association including Building Representative, Negotiator, Grievance Chair, Vice President and President. I also served as Secretary of Onondaga County Teachers' Association.

In retirement I have been Retiree Council 7's Treasurer and President as well as NYSUT Delegate, AFT Delegate, AFT Alternate (current) and am a representative to NYSUT's Retiree Advisory Council. I have remained on RC 7's Executive Board as Immediate Past President and would greatly appreciate your support. I will always keep your well-being as a retiree upper-most in my efforts. Thank you.