

NBFT SPOTLIGHT



AFT Connecticut
A Union of Professionals

Retirement Party

When:

May 12 4:00-7:00 PM

Where:

**The Back Nine Tavern
at Stanley Golf Course**

Why:

**To celebrate
your fellow union
brothers and sisters**

**RSVP please email
NBFTevents@gmail.com
by Friday 5/6**

Union Directory
Office Phone 860-225-2808
Website: www.nbft.net

President
Sue Humanick
humanick@csdnb.org

High School Vice President
Basia Maselek
maselek@csdnb.org

Middle School Vice President
Cliff Parker
parkercl@csdnb.org

Elementary Vice President
Laura Skinner
skinnerL@csdnb.org

Elementary Vice President
Stephen Gray
grays@csdnb.org

Treasurer
William Sanford
sanford@csdnb.org

Recording Secretary
Geoff Ponticelli
ponticelli@csdnb.org

Executive Secretary
Daniel Blanchard
blanchard@csdnb.org

Congratulations Retirees!!!

Edwin DeJesus	Advisory Teacher	Pulaski
Lucian Malinowski	Physical Education Teacher	Chamberlain
Kristin Masocco	Special Education Teacher	Lincoln
Margaret Ziolkowski	Special Education Teacher	NBHS
Linda Dupont	Earth & Space Science Teacher	NBHS
Elizabeth Pilz	English Language Arts/Social Studies Teacher	Pulaski
Alice Badecker	Grade 5 Teacher	Jefferson
Donna Kolodziej	Pre-K Special Ed Teacher	RELC
Igor Lepak	Music Teacher	Jefferson
Vesna Violette	Grade 4 Teacher	DiLoreto
Bernette Mosley-Dozier	Adult Education Teacher	Adult Education
Lynne Kowalczyk	Physical Education Teacher	Gaffney/Smalley
Marita Gereg	Special Education Teacher	DiLoreto
Leticia Dominguez	Preschool Teacher	RELC
Sandra Santiago	School Psychologist	NBHS
Patricia Cintorino	Grade 3 Teacher	Vance
Linda Tomaiuolo	Art Teacher	Vance/Smalley
Vilma Ortega	Special Education Teacher	NBHS
Roberto Pugliares	English Teacher	NBHS
Joanne Leon	Social Worker	RELC
Sharon Lauzon	Special Education Teacher	NBHS
Claire Nolan	Grade 2 Teacher	Lincoln
Laurice Sehl	Special Education Teacher	NBHS
Barry Goff	Math Teacher	SCA

Presidents Message

Dear colleagues,

We are almost there! I hope everyone is having a good end of the year. As I step into this new role, be assured that I understand and embrace the enormity and importance of the tasks I am and will be challenged with. I look forward to advocating for you.

I have been transferred from my role of classroom teacher at NBHS to that of Teacher Recruitment and Placement Specialist. This is the position previously held by Sal Escobales. This is a very bittersweet moment for me as the high school has been my home for the last 22 years and I am sad about not being able to finish the year with my students. The reality is that the role of Union President has evolved and it calls for increasing periods of flexibility within the workday. In the interest of providing students with consistency in the classroom and still being able to support students as they transition to higher education, this new position makes sense. It is important to note that this position, while located at the Talent Department, **is not** an administrative position. I love teaching and being in the classroom, however, I am excited and grateful for new opportunities to learn and grow.

We have a new Superintendent, Dr. Anthony Glasper. It is my hope that a symbiotic relationship develops and that the E-Board can secure a meeting with him once he is in place. It is imperative that our ongoing concerns regarding safety, teacher evaluations, teacher retention, administrative practices, and working conditions are given the appropriate attention by Central Administration.

As you may have seen from a previous email, the E-Board appointed Basia Maselek as NBHS VP and Geoff Ponticelli as Recording Secretary. Shortly, there will be dedicated mobile numbers for the President and Vice Presidents. These lines will be solely for union business. The numbers will remain static regardless of who is in the position. The contact numbers will be forthcoming.

I always welcome emails, however please be aware I will always send our VPs the email (first) for their review as well. Their role is to respond to the needs of their assigned schools and determine whether the concern is universal to schools across the district. This process is what allows us to run a more nimble and responsive organization. They work tirelessly to monitor conditions within the buildings and they are the first line of defense when it comes to addressing issues. If the issue cannot be resolved at the VP levels, then I will place it on the CLMM agenda and address it directly with the Superintendent's cabinet at our monthly meetings. Please use the process and procedure in place for resolution: building rep → VP → Pres.

Presidents Message

Empower yourself by knowing your rights, i.e., your contract. As a local we can only “grieve” matters that exist within the contract, although we can also advocate for matters of health and safety of the staff. Your contract can quickly become your best friend for quick reference. Oftentimes, you will find the answer to a question with lightning speed by searching with “**control + F**” within the contract. If you cannot find the answer, please remember to access your reps and VP for the most streamlined and efficient communication.

Our new contract starts July 1, 2022 and can be found in two places. Please read it, refer to it, bookmark it, print it!

https://www.nbft.net/_files/ugd/94c906_f2a3d12a9c44409ab6a096956e1d65b8.pdf

<https://www.csdnb.org/pdf/Talent/Contracts/Local-871-Contract-2022-2025.pdf>

I hope to see you at the last membership meeting for the 2021-2022 school year (Tuesday, May 10th at 4pm (link will be forthcoming) and the Retirement Dinner (May 12 at 4pm, Back Nine).

On behalf of the Union Leadership team, best wishes for a restful and well-deserved summer break. Congratulations to our retirees and thank you for your service to the New Britain community. Think of how sweet it will be to wake up and not know what day it is! Thank you to all our members - please know that you are appreciated and what you do for our students, their families, AND what you do for each other. Remember that the Union is not any one person, it's all of us collectively acting together to advance our interests.

Sincerely,

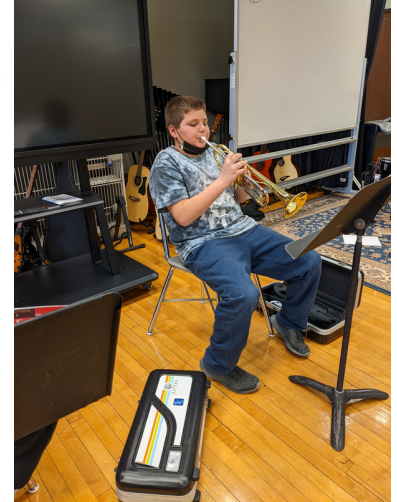
Sue

NBFT Welfare Report

On behalf of the entire membership the NBFT congratulates its members for these happy occasions: Liz Hrubiec-Retano (NBHS) birth of baby girl and Megan Bragoni (Chamberlain) birth of baby boy.

Our sympathy to the family and friends of the following members for their recent losses: Patti Kozikowski (Smith) father passed, Elizabeth Bujda (Smith) aunt passed, Nicole Solimine (Smith) aunt passed, Maria Lanteri (Northend) Father-in-Law Passed, Shane Clark (HALS) grandfather passed, Vesna Violette (DiLoreto) father passed, Linda Wat (DiLoreto/District) father and grandmother passed, John Andersen (Slade) mother passed, Tamara Andersen (Chamberlain) mother-in-law passed.

Please email solimine@csdnb.org if you have something to add to the welfare section.



Thank you for your donations to the Children's Enrichment Fund!!!!

Mr. Chadha, who teaches at DiLoreto, Northend, and Smalley Schools, used funds he received from the Children's Enrichment Fund to rent instruments and other materials for his band students.

Two ways to sign up

Paper Card

Get a card from your union rep and fill it out. Then interoffice to payroll.

Electronic signup

1. Click on the link below.
2. Print the application.
3. Fill out the form.
4. Scan using copier and email it to yourself.
5. Forward scanned PDF attachment from your district email account and email it to payroll@csdnb.org

[Click here to sign up to support the Children's Enrichment Fund](#)

Application for Children's Enrichment Fund



- The fund allows teachers to request financial support for students and their families in times of need.
- The fund allows teachers to request financial support for students and their families in times of need (i.e. after a fire, renting/purchasing an instrument for a deserving child).
- Teachers can apply up to \$250 per school year

The google form to apply for funds as well as the application to support the children's enrichment fund is on our website www.nbft.org

[Click here to apply for funds](#)

2021-2022 NBFT MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

- MAY 10
*MEETING STARTS AT 4:00 PM



Action Alert →

With just six days remaining in the General Assembly's 2022 session, we are seeking to improve legislation aimed at Connecticut's teacher shortage by including a timely retirement incentive. We're specifically seeking an amendment to include a special COVID-19 Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) service credit recognizing our heroic efforts throughout the pandemic.

Lawmakers at the statehouse will wrap up their 2022 legislative agenda by May 4. They need to hear from us now if we are going to secure this deserved incentive - which would also serve as an effective tool to aid in recruitment and retention.

[Click here to take 30 seconds and send an email with a pre-written message that you can personalize](#)

Lawmakers need to understand that this amendment would do more than simply honor our risks and sacrifices - though that would be enough reason to support it. A special COVID-19 TRS service credit would help plug growing staffing gaps by attracting future educators wary of another surge in this pandemic to our profession.

In solidarity,

Mary Yordon

Vice President for PreK-12, AFT Connecticut



If you would like to have something added to the spotlight for your union brothers and sisters please email local871president@gmail.com