

100 YEARS OF THE WPTA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Meeting the needs of our students has always been a priority of the WPTA. In the early years, the WPTA had sought to improve the teaching practices of members by seeking speakers to present informative workshops for members. Today our members actively serve on committees like the Staff Development to provide professional learning opportunities to support our members' efforts to enhance their craft and practice. As professionals, our members continuously seek opportunities to help meet the needs of the White Plains community that we serve.

We will be celebrating our WPTA centennial anniversary on May 12, 2017 at Willow Ridge Country Club (a unionized staff!!). If you have forgotten to pay or RSVP, please contact Melissa Staar, David Acevedo, Lonnette Tuck, or the WPTA (wpta@aol.com).

All monies are going to our scholarship fund.

AFT-TEACH CONFERENCE

The biennial AFT TEACH (Together Educating America's Children) conference will be held July 20-22, in Washington, D.C.

Join AFT members this summer for a unique professional learning conference that will celebrate, inspire and support educators in the work that lies ahead.

It is clear from members around that country that now, more than ever, educators want in-depth, hands-on experiences that provide them with concrete strategies, tools and materials you can use in the classroom to meet students' needs.

The focus throughout TEACH 2017 will be the four pillars of strong and purposeful public education: promoting children's well-being; supporting powerful learning; developing teacher and staff capacity; and fostering cultures of collaboration among educators, administrators, families and communities.



We want TEACH 2017 attendees to:

- Leave with personalized **turnkey tools and resources** to use back home;
 - Learn how to **engage on issues** facing your students, schools and communities;
 - Attend two- or four-hour **intensive hands-on Boot Camp sessions**;
 - **Network, collaborate** and **create** in the Maker Space;
 - Listen to **thought-provoking plenary speakers**—and much more!
- See more at: <http://www.aft.org/education/aft-teach#sthash.EYHmeylz.dpuf>
- PLEASE email WPTA1@aol.com by May 19th if you are interested in attending. Registration and Housing will be done through the WPTA.

WPTA ELECTIONS - UPDATE

Elections will not be necessary for ALL officers, NYSUT delegates, AFT delegates. There will only be 1 building (Highlands) that will hold elections for building representatives on May 16, 2017.

NEGOTIATIONS

There have been several negotiation sessions with the district, the most recent was Thursday, May 4th. During the initial meetings, the WPTA (represented by Kerry Broderick and David Eng-Wong) and the WPCSD (represented by Howard Smith, Ann Vaccaro-Teich, and Corey Reynolds) discussed needs, priorities and proposals. As of Thursday's meeting the items to be discussed will include: salaries and benefits; personal days; elementary preparation period; and, credits for salary advancement. Further discussion of these items will occur at the Representative Council meeting on Tuesday, May 9th and the Negotiations Team on Thursday, May 11th.

We will keep you updated after each of the negotiation meetings.

CONTINUED ACTIONS AND EVENTS

Please continue to check the NYSUT Member Action Center (NYSUT MAC) by clicking on MAC, to find how you be heard regarding important issues impacting public education!!

Additionally, we want you to be aware of some upcoming events:

- WPTA 100th Anniversary Gala Celebration: Friday May 12th, 6 pm at Willow Ridge Country Club
- 2nd Annual Guy Mathews Scholarship fundraiser on May 18th, 4 p.m. at Dunne's Pub
- WPTA Retiree Dinner on Tuesday, June 6th, 4-6 at North St. Tavern.
- AFT Professional Development Summer Educator Academy: July 10-19th in Baltimore. Contact wpta1@aol.com if you are interested.
- AFT TEACH conference: July 20-22nd, Washington, D. C. Contact wpta1@aol.com if you are interested.