



# PDTA 2024 -2025

## End of Year Committee Reports

### **Communications Committee**

**Murie Gillett, Communications Chair**

- Published six editions of Speak Out! This includes compiling, organizing, and editing articles from regular contributors, ads from NYSUT and community members, photos from events, and important dates/reminders.
- Website upkeep. This includes making sure all positions have the correct names and pictures, and the various forms, rosters, etc. are current to this year. This includes occasional web design to make sure the site remains user friendly.

### **Extracurricular Committee**

**Katie Shea, Extracurricular Chair**

Committee met twice in May to review all the completed Extracurricular Surveys.

- Everyone should have received their full stipend at this point for any contract they signed for the 2024-2025 school year. Please contact your Building Rep if you have not received it.
- Our committee met and went through all the surveys for this year. At this point, we are just awaiting confirmation from HR, then all representatives will let members know if their stipend has changed for next year.
- After some discussion, the committee has determined that a fall survey and subsequent meeting may be necessary in order to clarify the expectations for traditional and district initiative clubs across the district.
- We not only published a list of stipend levels, but also created a list of clubs that while not on the main list, will earn \$200 next year if they run. These clubs will be designated as U2. Some clubs are in their third year of existence without a stipend and are designated as U3 and will receive a \$300 next year if they run. Both of these lists should be live on the district website soon.
- Only clubs that turned in surveys are eligible for this \$200 or \$300 next year.



## **Membership Committee**

**Paul LeVan, Membership Chair**

Our PDTA Membership Drive has once again proven to be a great success. Given some of the complexities both at the State and National level that Education is facing, it's imperative that we maintain a united Membership. For 2024 - 2025, even though many rules and laws regarding Unions nationwide have continued to be challenging, much to the detriment of the Union movement, PDTA remains incredibly well united! We have once again ended the year with near 100% membership in Pittsford Schools, putting us among the most united Local Unions in New York State! Without the help of our building membership chairs, a successful membership drive wouldn't have been possible. Special thanks go out to: Lori Ianniello, Joanna Farrell, Jenn Montgomery, Robyn Paino, Becky Scheidt, Chris Bateman, Ashu Sanyal, Erin Khuns, and Dave Pascarella. Thank you all for your continued membership and support of PDTA. It is our unity that gives us strength.

## **Political Action Committee**

**Karen Grace, Political Action Chair**

Here are some highlights from PAC this year:

1. Kept Members informed of top Political Issues National, State & Local
2. Reported to RA & membership on topics discussed at NYSUT PAC/VC meetings
3. School Board & School Budget will always be a focus for PDTA/PAC
4. Meetings, Committees & Events Attended this year by PAC:
  - Attended NYSUT ED 5/6 Meetings, Attended NYSUT Monthly Monroe County Federation of Teachers, Attended NYSUT Monthly PAC Meetings, Attended NYSUT Women's Committee Rochester Region Meetings; NYSUT Political Action/Vote Cope Annual Meeting (Did not attend due to local building leadership duties that day, as well as substitute shortages), Attended NYSUT Legislative & Budget Meetings in person and virtually
    - Updates from NYSUT Committee of 100 (virtual meetings)
    - Attended local legislative meetings for Committee of 100
    - Sat on PDTA School Board Candidates Interview Committee/Interviews Conducted
    - Worked with PDTA leadership on using old lawn signs & sending post cards for School Board, distribution and collection for lawn signs for Budget & Board voting

Getting ready for 2025-2026 school year:

- Impacts from major funding cuts that would directly impact NYSUT members, students, and communities. These cuts would harm New York's public schools, higher education, and healthcare, while slashing state-administered programs critical to working families. NYSUT/Local PAC will be educating our members about the impact of these cuts and will be advocating at the national level for changes to the budget proposal to stem the worst of these proposals.
- Working with new PDTA President on ways to streamline the VOTE-COPE Campaign focusing on New Members & connecting to the wins gained for Tier 6 & focusing on funding needed to continue these efforts.

**We Educate. We Advocate. We Collaborate.**



## **Professional Advancement Committee**

**Dennise Zobel, Professional Advancement Chair**

**Committee Description:** The Professional Advancement Committee [during negotiations years], shall explore and recommend to the Representative Assembly action programs as necessary in all areas of teacher welfare such as salaries, leave, fringe benefits, insurance, general working conditions, personnel policies, and procedures for the redress of grievances. This committee will be composed of the Building Representatives, the Negotiating Team, and the Vice-President for Negotiations, who shall serve as chair.

**Committee Activity:** The Professional Advancement Committee did not meet this year. The CBA was officially signed on March 18, 2024 by Superintendent Mike Pero and PDTA President Dwayne Cerbone (CBA was implemented on July 1, 2023) and will be in effect through June 30, 2027. We continue to address concerns in the form of MOAs and MOUs. No further meetings are scheduled for PAC.

## **Professional Growth Committee**

**Nicole Barry, Professional Growth Chair**

During the 2024-2025 school year, I represented PDTA on multiple committees including ILC, Teacher Center Policy Board, Mentor Steering Committee, Inclusivity Advisory Committee, and Induction Planning. In the case of Policy Board, we have an additional representative from PDTA because I am not able to be a voting member as the Director. The Professional Growth Committee oversees the Wanda Ward Honorary Study Grant that is available to members to pursue professional learning opportunities during times when school is not in session. This grant, which is part of the PDTA Contract, Article 2-5, provides \$5000 in funding annually. PDTA Study Grants have two application periods – one in the fall and one in the spring. This year we had one application in the fall and eight applications for the spring. The fall applicant was able to complete the IMSE Comprehensive Orton-Gillingham Course. We awarded the 4 teachers in the spring funds to attend various summer workshops. To lead the professional growth of our members, the Teacher Center offered a variety of professional learning opportunities during the year for professional and paraprofessional staff. There was a total of 234 professional learning initiative activities, and 47 elective activities offered. In addition, there were 31 collegial circles approved for a wide range of K-12 topics during the year.



## **Public Relations Committee**

**Allison Luta & Kell Jordan, Public relations Co-Chairs.**

This year PDTA proudly participated in a variety of public relations opportunities. Our committee does a lot of work to raise money for the Barb Shapiro Student Scholarship Fund. Each year, PDTA awards two scholarships to high school students interested in a career in the field of education. One student from Pittsford Sutherland and one student from Pittsford Mendon will receive a scholarship for \$1500 this year.

Our main fundraisers for the scholarship fund are the PDTA apparel sale, raffle at the Benefits Fair, and the Chicken BBQ. The total amount raised for the scholarships this year was \$2923. The Benefits Fair raffle and PDTA apparel/gear sale raised \$1284, and the BBQ meals raised \$1639. Additionally, as part of the Chicken BBQ sale, our members donated 72 chicken BBQ meals to PYS families this spring.

Additionally, we supported our community by promoting the Making Strides Walk for Breast Cancer and the Pink the Rink hockey event which raised money for the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester. PDTA made donations to Pittsford Youth Services and the Pittsford Education Foundation on behalf of the Pittsford Board of Education for Board Appreciation Week.

Thank you to all who gave and participated in events and supported our Barb Shapiro Student Scholarship Fund this year! It has been a great year to support our community and students. Please follow PDTA on Facebook and Twitter to keep up with our PR events!

## **Safety and SEL Committees Report**

**Emily Natoli-Burns, Safety & Wellness Committee Chair**

This year as safety and SEL committee chairperson I attended meetings monthly to work on the following objectives. SEL meetings were held Wednesdays from 1-3 at BRMS. Safety meetings were Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5pm. These meetings were collaborative and there was a shared agenda beforehand. Additionally, I attended representative assembly on Mondays once a month from 3:30-5pm. In brief, here is what my focus was this year.

1. Share concerns and plan for the capital improvement project
2. Share and brainstorm around mitigation strategies for the NYS heat requirements in classrooms
3. Reviewed the reunification planning that had been completed
4. Reviewed WELLNESS policy and provided feedback
5. Plan for meaningful SEL learning and support for students and staff
6. Reported to RA membership on current issues related to safety and SEL
7. Advocated for heat related issues in buildings

It was a positive year, with less building internal needs and more large scale district topics that arose from the meetings.



## **Special Events Committee**

**Erica Bonin, Special Events Chair**

The Special Events Committee successfully planned and executed the Benefits Fair at CRMS, and the Retirement & 20-year celebration at Ravenwood Golf Club. The Benefits Fair was hosted at CRMS on October 24th. The Special Events committee worked with Pittsford Food Services to provide food and beverages, helped to set up the tables at CRMS, greeted members, helped people find the flu shot clinic, and cleaned up at the end of the night. The Retirement Party was held at Ravenwood Golf Club on May 22nd. A theme of "A night at the Casino" was chosen for the event. In anticipation of the event, the committee worked with Ravenwood on food, seating, and layout of the room. The committee also "hired" a district employee to take pictures at the event. Prior to the event, the committee wrapped the gifts for the retirees and the 20-year recipients. On the day of the event the committee arrived early to decorate the tables, and greet the guests as they came in. Photos of the retirees and their guests were taken as they walked in and at their tables. These photos will be sent to the retirees over the summer.