

SPEAK OUT!



Our Union, Our Leaders Stephanie Warchol, President

It is crazy to believe that my first year as PDTA President is already coming to a close! I have said several times, in various settings, that what gave me any bit of confidence to step into this role was knowing that there are over one hundred brilliant PDTA leaders and volunteers to lean on anytime I couldn't figure something out. Thank you to those leaders and our entire membership for your patience and trust. Through this experience, I have gained an even deeper appreciation for the vital role PDTA plays. At the heart of it all is a dedicated (and remarkably impactful) group of local leaders. Their passion drives the work forward, helping to ensure that our schools remain safe and rewarding places to teach and learn.

Our elected PDTA Officers led the association with a deep desire to be effective, accountable, transparent, and fiscally responsible. They work to uphold contractual rights while also advocating for members who may find themselves in challenging or inequitable situations. In doing so, these Officers serve as trusted representatives of our membership, collaborating closely with PCSD administration (both at the building and district level), the Board of Education, our community, NYSUT staff, and fellow local union leaders. Their professionalism and integrity not only advance member's interests, but also earn the respect and appreciation of all who have the opportunity to work alongside them.

PDTA Committee Chairs bring energy and focus to the wide range of areas that matter most to our members. They lead productive groups of over seventy PDTA volunteers, channeling

their expertise and enthusiasm into meaningful work that strengthens our association. These vital committees include Communications, Extracurricular, Membership, Political Action, Professional Advancement, Professional Growth, Public Relations, Safety and Wellness, and Special Events. Each plays an important role in keeping our organization engaged, responsive, and forward-thinking.

PDTA Representatives and Assistant Representatives serve as approachable and receptive advocates for our members every day. This experienced group of leaders consistently goes above and beyond, balancing their already demanding roles as professional staff, SRPs, and auxiliary members with their dedication to union work. Their willingness to take on this added responsibility speaks volumes about their commitment to supporting colleagues. While they are always ready to step in when concerns arise, what sets this group apart is their proactive mindset. They are constantly looking ahead, identifying potential challenges early and collaborating on thoughtful, creative solutions that often resolve issues before they ever reach our members.

One of the biggest challenges in sharing the work of our union is that much of it remains confidential and happens behind the scenes. From supporting members through disciplinary processes to engaging in thoughtful conversations with administrators, participating in committee work, and navigating complex negotiations, a great deal of our effort is often invisible. Because of this, many members may not fully see the scope of our work until they need it, and in those moments, the value of PDTA shines through in a powerful and

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meaningful way. When things are going well, it's easy to overlook what it takes to create and sustain that positive environment. Those are the moments when it's worth pausing to appreciate the steady, behind-the-scenes work that helps keep everything running smoothly.

As I reflect on this past year, one thing is clear: PDTA is more than an organization. It's a devoted, dynamic community of professionals who show up for one another in significant ways every day. The drive, commitment, and collaboration I've witnessed across every level of our union is truly inspiring. Thank you for the role each of you plays in making PDTA what it is. Together, we will continue to build on this momentum, champion our shared priorities, and create an even brighter path ahead for our members and our students.

Here's to all we've accomplished and to everything still to come!

We Educate.
We Advocate.
We Collaborate.





Executive Vice President Kim Chesko

I recently had the opportunity to represent PDTA once again as a delegate to our NYSUT Representative Assembly. For those who don't know, NYSUT (New York State United Teachers) is our statewide union. NYSUT has an elected decision-making body, just like us. Delegates from PDTA are elected to 2 or 3-year terms and attend various local meetings throughout the year, as well as an annual multi-day state-wide meeting. The 2026 RA was in Albany, but this location tends to change each year.

At RA, delegates from around the state work to bring our members' voices forward as we set the priorities of the union for the coming year. This begins with resolutions sent to NYSUT by various local district unions around the state. After all resolutions are collected, they are categorized into committees by subject. Our other five delegates and I spread ourselves amongst the different committees to bring your voice to as many as we can. In committee, the members present discuss each resolution and whether to pass it or not. If a resolution is passed in committee, it is likely to come to the floor of the whole RA and be discussed and voted on again. If the whole RA votes to pass a resolution, it means that we are directing NYSUT to devote our union dues,

dollars, time, and effort to making that resolution happen throughout the next year.

This whole process can be messy, exciting, time-consuming, and sometimes imperfect, but it is so important. By listening to the priorities of the locals around the state, NYSUT can remain focused on what is important – right now – for all of us. I am honored to be able to listen to and amplify your voices and priorities to our statewide colleagues at RA.

As we move into summer, I encourage everyone to take what you need out of these nine weeks in July and August. We have earned this rest – no matter what anyone else (cough, cough, jealous non-teachers, cough, cough) may say. If you need to completely disengage from work and not check your email until August 31st, do it. If you want to get your PD hours and maybe a bit more for a boost in that first September paycheck, do it! If you want to immerse yourself in pedagogical theory and education reading, do it (but also maybe have a little fun!). Whatever you choose to do, set your boundaries and stick to them. The summer is yours and yours alone, so use it to decompress, reward yourself for exemplary work, and get ready for next year.



Resolution Specialist Jennifer Villareale

Summer is a well-earned opportunity to recharge, spend time with family and friends, travel, pursue personal interests, or simply enjoy a slower pace after a busy school year! It's important to remember that 10-month employees have no contractual obligation to work during the summer months.

That said, many teachers choose to participate in professional learning, curriculum writing, summer programs, or other district opportunities. If you're planning to do any summer work, here are a few important contract reminders to help ensure you're properly compensated and informed before getting started.

Summer Contract Reminders for 10-Month Employees

- **No summer work obligation:** 10-month employees are **not required** to work during the summer.
- **Before doing summer work:** If asked to complete district-directed work, confirm with your principal or supervisor that it is **paid work**, especially if compensation is not clearly stated in the contract.

Professional Learning (PD)

- Certificated staff must complete the contractual **12-hour PD requirement** over the course of the school year.
- Any PD hours **beyond 12 hours** are paid at:

-**\$28/hour** for certificated staff

-**\$20/hour** for SRP and Auxiliary members

- See contract sections 2-2, 26, and 60 for details.

Classroom Reassignments

- Some classroom moves may qualify for a **paid summer workday**.
- Review Section 1-8 to determine eligibility and coordinate with your principal before using the day.

Summer Employment & Enrichment Programs

- Pay rates vary depending on the program and responsibilities.
- Staff working in:
 - Extended School Year (AIS services)
 - Summer Enrichment Institute
 - Similar duties performed during the regular school year should review Section 1-9 to ensure proper compensation.

Curriculum Writing

- Summer curriculum writing is paid at **\$43.90/hour**.
- Check with your standards leader to see if writing opportunities are available
- **Required asynchronous PD** for curriculum writers will be provided before work begins.
- See Section 1-10 for details.



SRP Newslink Connie Maust

We made it to June, and the end of the school year is close! I wish everyone a wonderful summer break. If you have any questions, please email me. I will check in on regular basis and will get back to you.

Final reminders for the school year

- At this point in the school year, everyone eligible for stipends should have received their payments. If you did not receive your second semester stipend by direct deposit, please check your mailbox for a physical check. If you are still missing a stipend you are owed, contact Payroll or your building representative before the end of the school year. After July 1, when the new fiscal year begins, resolving these issues becomes significantly more difficult.
- You should have received either a paper copy and/or in-person evaluation by June 1. Please reach out to your designated building supervisor/administrator if you have not or if you have any questions about your evaluation. You can also contact your building representative or myself with any questions or concerns.
- The contractually required summer day of work form is due Friday, June 12th to your building supervisor/administrator

for approval. If you have not completed your form, please do so as soon as possible.

- SRP postings started May 15th and will continue over the summer as needed until August 15th. Remember to check your email regularly for those opportunities. You can continue to post until you are comfortable with your position.
- For those who were displaced and successfully posted to another position: if your original position opens before the summer posting cut-off date (August 15), you have the "first right of return."
- Para Academy courses will be offered over the summer. Please check WinCap Web for all courses, dates, and times. Remember: these are paid learning opportunities. The annual CPI refresher training will not be offered for returning staff as the District is exploring options for the delivery of behavioral intervention content.
- Graduation will be Saturday, June 20, at RIT Gordon Field House. MHS's ceremony will start at 10:00 am and SHS's will be in the afternoon at 2:00 pm.

Have a great summer!

Outgoing PDTA Leaders

- **JRE Building Representative-** Bret Burrows
- **TRE Building Representative-** Greg Bischooping
- **Safety & Wellness Chair-** Robyn Paino
- **PRE Assistant Building Representative-** Kelly Jordan
- **TRE Assistant Building Representative-** Lindsay Stephens
- **TRE Assistant SRP Representative-** Radhika Ramesh

We Educate. We Advocate. We Collaborate.

Follow us on social media!



@pdtaunion



@ Pittsford
District
Teachers
Association
- PDTA



@PDTAunion



Congratulations, 20-year honorees!

Carolyn Abare
Dottie Augustine
John Beel
Becky Berardino
Jude Dietz
Josh Dougherty

Ashley Ford
Hilda Grace
Adam Gurslin
Jennifer Hayward
Sean Hopkins
Spencer Jones

Elizabeth Knowles
Michael Kutny
Brandon Mauks
Margaret McCann
Diana Page
Farida Patrawala

Andrew Radano
Michele Riedl
Teresa Roets
Amy Shea
Brian Tripp
Jessica Wojcik-Rounds





Congratulations, Retirees!

Melissa Althouse
 Valarmathi Anandarajah
 Bridget Bauman
 Genna Bell
 Rebecca Berardino
 Kimberly Black
 Lisa Black
 Leonard Chaput
 Kelly Coiro
 Matthew Davidson
 Josephine DiPasquale
 Debra Eddy
 Ingrid Ferrara
 Mary Fien-Silco
 Monica Flanagan Grinnell

Kimberly Hill
 Annemarie Inzana
 Theresa Jennette
 Daniel Judd
 Michael Kutney
 Lori Lusk
 Erin Molinich
 Lori Moore
 Kimberly Morey
 Elizabeth Murray
 Sarah Nazarian
 Jacqueline Nicodemus
 Craig Northrup
 Susan Nuffer
 Marni Rabinowitz

Radhika Ramesh
 Linda Richard
 John Sacchitella
 Laura Shemancik
 Julie Sidou
 Stephanie Smarsh
 Lynn Smith
 Karen Socker
 Sandra Stewart
 Kathleen Stone
 Julie Van Benthuyzen
 Andrea Vangellow
 Jill Wahl
 Michael Wahl
 Nancy Wambach





**We wish you relaxation and joy
in your retirement!**

Member Spotlight

Retiree Edition

Sutherland High School

Dan Judd



Years in the district: 28
Subject: Social Studies
Favorite PCSD memory: Working with amazing people throughout my career

Fun Fact: I coached my daughters on Sutherland's 2014 state championship basketball team.

Sutherland High School

Marni Rabinowitz



Years in the district: 29
Subject: English
Favorite PCSD memory: Meeting caring, interesting, humorous people, both students and colleagues.

Fun fact: I began teaching at Syracuse University while I was in grad school and fell in love with the profession. It's an honor to teach.

Allen Creek Elementary

Lori Lusk



Years in the district: 33
Subject: Kindergarten
Favorite PCSD memory: Taking the 5th grade to meet their pen pals on a week long trip

to Scotland.
Fun fact: I started with no outside phone line, no computers. Instead, we had filmstrips, a record player, reel movies and a true ditto machine.

Calkins Road Middle School

Kimberly Morey



Years in the district: 28
Subject: Math
Favorite PCSD memory: Receiving the KEEP award after being nominated by a student. Honestly,

any notes, emails, or comments by students or parents that made me feel like I made a difference in a student's learning and middle school experience are truly my fondest memories.

Barker Road Middle School

Jill Wahl

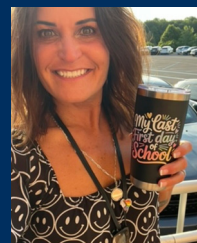


Years in the district: 30
Subject: English
Favorite PCSD memory: It is more of a collection of memories. My favorite part of teaching is sharing

books that I love, and it is amazing when students also love them! Matching kids with books is a rewarding challenge.
Fun fact: I met my husband in the copy room of BRMS :)

Mendon High School

Sarah Naz



Years in the district: 33
Subject: English
Favorite PCSD memory: Racing a student in a mile race on the Mendon track with whole school there

Fun fact: I have an extensive shoe collection

Calkins Road Middle School

Annemarie Inzana



Years in the district: 26
Subject: Math
Favorite PCSD memory: Attending a conference with district employees, in Virginia,

on differentiated instruction. The experience broadened my perspective and influenced my teaching.
Fun fact: I love gardening and reading. I can happily spend hours discussing both tomatoes and plot twists!

Barker Road Middle School

Rebecca Berardino



Years in the district: 20
Subject: Math
Favorite PCSD memory: What I value the most are the relationships that have developed over

years of teaching with truly exceptional and gifted teachers.
Fun fact: I'm a graduate of Barker Road Elementary/"Junior High School"

Barker Road Middle School

Beth Murray



Years in the district: 34
Role: Educational Assistant
Favorite PCSD memory: We celebrated the

anniversary of the Wright Brothers' flight on the hill in back of the school. A parent flew their plane over the school! The students were in awe.
Fun fact: In 2002, I went into early labor with my 2nd child during SS class. He really loves history!

Sutherland and Mendon High Schools

Lynn Smith



Years in the district: 26 **Subject:** Latin

Favorite PCSD memory: All the times that students taught me while I was teaching them. All the support and friendship of colleagues!
Fun fact: I hiked the 500 mile Colorado trail in 31 days, getting lost only twice, and lived to tell of seeing a mountain lion.

EMBROIDERED PDTA SWAG



15% of all sales go directly to our PDTA Student Scholarship Fund. We've raised over \$345 since the program began!

All products are embroidered.

Purchases are done online through the company and shipped directly to your house. Keep an eye out for sale codes and free shipping deals which are frequently offered.

Link will always be open - make purchases whenever and as often as you like.

Makes a perfect gift for yourself or your favorite PDTA member- feel free to share the link with friends or family.

pdta.logosoftwear.com

Important Information and Dates:

- PCSD Graduation - RIT Gordon Field House, Saturday, June 20: MHS @ 10am, SHS @ 2pm
- New Staff Orientation - Tuesday, August 18 @ Country Club of Rochester
- 26-27 PCSD All Staff Orientation/PDTA Member Meeting - Wednesday, September 2 @ MHS



Speak Out! is been edited and compiled by Murie Gillett. Feel free to contact me with any questions at murie_gillett@pittsford.monroe.edu.

SPEAK OUT! Ads

You and your family members are invited to place ads in future issues of SPEAK OUT!

Rates for members and family (price is for one issue):

1/8 Page: \$12.50 ¼ Page: \$25.00 ½ Page: \$50.00 Full Page: \$100.00

Above rates are for copy ready advertising. If additional design or set-up is required, an additional fee of \$25 will be assessed. Space for ads is limited per issue. Checks should be made out to PDTA and mailed to the PDTA Office. Ad proceeds will support PDTA charitable efforts.

Send copy and questions directly to murie_gillett@pittsford.monroe.edu.

Your PDTA Representative Assembly 2025-2026:

President: Stephanie Warchol * (CRMS)

Executive Vice President: Kim Chesko * (JRES)

Vice President for Negotiations: Dennise Zobel * (BRE)

Secretary: Alyson Jacobs * (ACE)

Treasurer: Ryan Domina * (SHS)

Resolution Specialist (non-voting): Jennifer Villareale * (MCE)

Allen Creek Elementary

Michele Riedl, Building Representative *

Emily Odhiambo, Assistant Building Representative

Susan Benson, Assistant SRP Representative

Jefferson Road Elementary

Bret Burrows, Building Representative *

Patty Steeley, Assistant Building Rep.

Heather White, Assistant SRP Representative

Mendon Center Elementary

Nina Dezio, Building Representative *

Erin Ciccone, Assistant Building Representative

Erin Cregan, Assistant Building Representative

Deborah Ricketts, Assistant SRP Representative

Rebecca Tan, Assistant SRP Representative

Park Road Elementary

Jackie Bowser, Building Representative *

Kelly Jordan, Assistant Building Representative

Thornell Road Elementary

Greg Bischooping, Building Representative *

Lindsay Stephens, Assistant Building Representative

Radhika Ramesh, Assistant SRP Representative

Barker Road Middle School

Kristen Dolan, Building Representative *

Jennifer Robinson, Assistant Building Representative

Ellen Fox, Assistant Building Representative

Karen Grace, Assistant Building Representative

Connie Maust, SRP Representative *

Calkins Road Middle School

Jessica Wojcik, Building Representative *

Jaelyn Anderson, Assistant Building Representative

Jessica Bonadio, Assistant Building Representative

Farida Patrawala, Assistant SRP Representative

Mendon High School

Samantha Hyde, Building Representative *

Brandon Mauks, Assistant Building Representative

Erin Moses, Assistant Building Representative

Jake Thompson, Assistant Building Representative

LaShanda Clark McCadney, Assistant SRP Representative

Sutherland High School

Amanda Marshall, Building Representative *

Marc Hellems, Assistant Building Representative

Brian Shafer, Assistant Building Representative

Jeff Wing, Assistant Building Representative

Kelly Nanavati, Assistant SRP Representative

Non-voting:

Irene Hopp, Retiree Representative & Whitney Sienkiewicz, Ancillary Representative

Standing Committee Chairs:

Communications: Murie Gillett, SHS

Extracurricular: Katie Shea, SHS

Membership: Paul LeVan, SHS

Political Action: Karen Grace, BRMS

Professional Advancement: Dennise Zobel, BRE

Professional Growth: Nicole Barry, BRE

Public Relations: Kelly Jordan, PRE

Safety and Wellness: Robyn Paino, PRE

Special Events: Erica Bonin, MHS

Delegates:

1. Stephanie Warchol

2. Kimberly Chesko

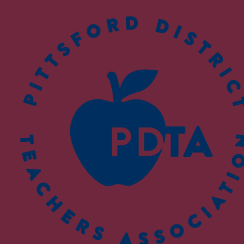
3. Katie Shea

4. Karen Grace

5. Alyson Jacobs

6. Jennifer Simons

7. Jennifer Birdsong-ng



*Indicates Executive Committee Member

Member Benefits covers all your summer needs!



May/June 2026

No matter what your upcoming plans include, NYSUT Member Benefits can help turn this summer into one that you'll always remember.

If you're seeking excitement, look no further than the Grand Circle Travel & Overseas Adventure Travel program. NYSUT members enjoy reduced pricing (at least a \$150 savings per trip along with many other discount opportunities) on a variety of international and domestic tours, including new "Immersion" adventures (8-12 days in length) designed for travelers seeking a more active style of adventure. "Immersion" tours combine iconic destinations, authentic cultural experiences, and dynamic outdoor activities.

Transform your indoor or outdoor

living space with a variety of options from **Purchasing Power**. Eligible NYSUT members can browse from thousands of items and pay over 12 months through payroll deduction or Automated Clearing House (ACH) withdrawals. Save 20% on your first order and at least 10% on all subsequent purchases. While not a discount program, Purchasing Power offers the benefits of no credit check, no hidden fees, and fixed payments.

Thinking about upgrading your home with new appliances, countertops, or kitchen cabinets? The **Buyer's Edge, Inc.** buying service program can be

used to purchase these items and many others such as new or used vehicles, televisions, furniture, mattresses, desktop and laptop computers, home security systems, and more (all backed by a low price guarantee). With Buyer's Edge, you have the option of purchasing online, by phone, or in-person (in certain benefit categories and geographic regions).

LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE BENEFITS AND MANY OTHERS



Scan the QR code, visit mb-nysut.org/summerplanning, or call 800-626-8101.