**2016 Summer Workshop Descriptions**

**Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) (Tuesday, July 12, 2016, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.) Presenters: Sarah Markey, National Education Association, Steve Lagnena, Suffolk Regional Office**

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is not a magic solution - it is an opportunity. Educators and community members must be engaged in education policy-making decisions in order to turn this opportunity into positive education change. Join us for this training to discuss the impact of ESSA in your local and school district and leave with an understanding of where opportunities exist to organize for educator voice, reduction of testing, and opportunity and equity for all students. We will share a number of tools that you can use right away including district testing audit requests and steps to form a local ESSA implementation team.

**ERS/Pensions Workshop (Thursday, July 14, 2016, 4:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.)**

**Presenter: Patti Lennon, NYSUT ERS Consultant**

“It's Never Too Early to Start Planning for Retirement” - This session will cover general information about the New York State Employees' Retirement System. There will be an overview of all Tiers (1-6), a comparison of the Tiers, how to maximize your retirement benefits, benefits criteria and additional helpful information. There will be time for questions and for short individual consultations.

**Managing Local Union Finances** **(Tuesday, July 19, 2016, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.) Presenter: Helen Vickery, NYSUT Accounting Department** This workshop is designed for new and experienced local treasurers. Because local finances are an extremely important part of any successful union’s operation, this workshop provides relevant and useful information for other local leaders as well. We invite all members of your leadership team to attend. This workshop takes the mystery out of record keeping and reporting and answers the following questions: What legal financial responsibilities do I have as a local union officer? How do I conduct the AFT audit? Do I have to report to the IRS? What is agency fee and how do I process agency fees? What are my local’s financial requirements if we have a retiree chapter? This workshop covers such topics as budgeting, federal reporting requirements, cash management, local insurance, audits and internal financial controls.

**TRS/Pensions Workshop (Tuesday, August 2, 2016, 10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.) Presenter: Tim Southerton, Sayville TA President, ED 21 Director and NYSTRS Board Member**

Planning for retirement is one of the most important financial decisions a teacher makes. This presentation will provide an overview of the Teacher's Retirement System in New York, including some of the relevant pension calculations and the benefits provided by your Tier. You will also leave the workshop armed with facts about the value of pensions so that you can defend this crucial benefit against those who would argue that pensions should be done away with altogether.

**New Membership Programs for Locals (Wednesday, August 3, 2016, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)**

**Presenters: Christine Sarni, Nassau LRS and Joan Sommermeyer, Nassau LRS**

Our new members are the unionists of the future. It is important that we embrace, cultivate and induct them into our union culture. The best way to do this is to develop strong, ongoing relationships as early as possible. The purpose of this workshop will be to focus on developing or revitalizing a New Membership Program that goes beyond the typical beginning of the year contact. Studies have shown the most effective way to develop a strong, engaged membership is through one-to-one contact. We will explore ideas of how to pair up veteran union members with new members through a Member Partnership program, including how to effectively choose and train partners. This session will present a complete sample program including goals, how to have an effective one-to-one conversation, sample form letters, a yearly calendar and possible options for ongoing contact with new members that extend beyond the first year.

**Student Debt Clinic (Monday, August 8, 2016, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.) Presenter: Chris Goff, AFT Higher Education** A large numberof our members are saddled with significant student debt burdens, either from their own student loans or those of their children. AFT Student Debt Clinics cover the landscape of free and underused federal programs that help many student loan borrowers lower their monthly payments and, in some cases, even have their debt forgiven. This clinic will provide guidance on how to enroll in income-driven repayment programs and the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program. The clinic also demonstrates how the increasingly serious issue of excessive student debt can be an effective opportunity for advocacy on behalf of our members and our students.

**Certification Day (Wednesday, August 10, 2016, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Presenter: Glen Jeffers, NYSUT Research & Education Services**

On separate sheets you will find information about and a registration form for this workshop.

**National Board Certification (Thursday, August 11, 2016, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.)**

**Presenters: Annette Romano, Co-Director, National Board Council of NYS and Ellen Sullivan, NYSUT Research & Education Services**

Interested in learning more about National Board Certification? This session is designed to walk you through the NEW National Board process which now has a longer timeline (3 years instead of 1), is less expensive ($1900 for all 4 components) and is funded for teachers through the Al Shanker Grant which provides funding for the fee AND reimburses districts up to $500 per candidate for supportive services throughout the process. More than 265 locals have negotiated additional salary or stipends for NBCT's, and graduate credit is available. Come and learn about the tremendous benefits NBC provides to members, students and the school community. Resources for the professional, financial, technical and contractual aspects of the NBC process will be discussed. Timelines, fees and a discussion of certification areas will also be presented.

**Frontline/Building Representative I (Wednesday August 17, 2016, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.) Presenters: Nassau LRSs Pete Lanzo and Mike Leone**

The best time for building reps to get the training they need to do this important job is **before** the new work year begins! This workshop will focus on the skills and knowledge all building representatives need to effectively represent and organize their constituents and build power within their local. This session will discuss the building rep’s role, responsibilities and resources to help build leadership and communication skills and will cover such topics as the grievance process, tenure, job security, seniority and discipline. Please bring a copy of your current contract. This workshop is essential for any new building rep, but experienced building reps looking for a refresher course are also welcome.

**New Local Presidents’ Conference and Roundtable (Tuesday, August 23, 2016, 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.)**

**Presenters: Nassau Regional Office Staff**

The August 10-11 New Local Presidents Conference at NYSUT headquarters will focus on the relationship between local presidents and the state affiliate – the many resources that are available through NYSUT and how to access them. This session will serve as a regional follow-up to the statewide NLPC, focusing on how the regional office and your LRS assist you in the difficult, demanding job of running a local union in these most challenging of times. The interaction between the local president and the LRS is an extremely important and professionally “intimate” relationship. Getting the most out of that relationship and the various other resources the regional office provides are essential to your success as a local leader. This session will also cover how to make effective use of the regional governance structure, relationships with other local presidents and effective leadership styles. **Lunch will be provided.**