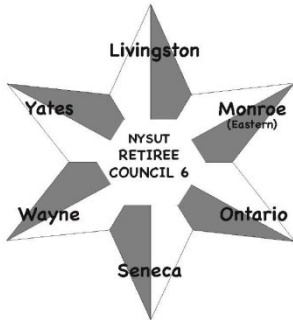


Activist

Serving Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Seneca, Wayne and Yates Counties



NYSUT Retiree Council 5 & 6 Combined – Spring Luncheon Wednesday, May 15th, 2024 – BUCKLAND PARK, Brighton

Speaker: Doug Farley, Director of the Cobblestone Museum will be presenting a talk on Cobblestone Structures in the Rochester Area.

- 11:00 – Registration/Social
- 11:45 – Welcome/Business Meeting
- 12:15 – Buffet Lunch
- 01:00 – Guest Speaker, Q&A

Location: Buckland Park Lodge
1341 Westfall Road
Rochester, NY 14618

See maps and directions on page 3.



Retiree Council #6

Executive Committee

NYSUT Retiree
Council #6

President/Delegate:

Margaret Bartolotti

Vice President:

Beverly Voos

Secretary:

Dan Sanfratello

Interim Treasurer:

Jeanne Coonan

Delegates:

Margaret Bartolotti

Beverly Voos

Dianne Herrick

Alternates:

Jeanne Coonan

Editor:

Beverly Voos

Peter Randazzo

Retiree Services

Consultant

RESERVATION FORM and REMITTANCE (\$ 20.00)

**** New Retirees (2023 and 2024) price is \$ 10.00**

Must be received by May 6th, 2024

Send this form and remittance to (note new address):

NYSUT Retiree Council 6, C/O Jeanne Coonan,

PO Box 1311, Fairport, NY 14450

Make checks payable to: NYSUT Retiree Council #6

Name(s): _____ Phone #: _____

Emails: _____

Number of reservations: _____ Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Address: _____

NYSUT Local Association: _____ Retirement Year: _____

Join us for a Picnic with an Appetite!

Lunch will be served buffet/picnic style and will include the following:

Chef salad, baked ziti, oven browned potatoes, baked chicken, meatballs/sauce, sausage/peppers, rolls/butter, dessert, coffee/soda.

**** Guests are always welcome! ****

2023-2024 Legislative Focus of NYSUT: Fix Tier VI

NYSUT has decreed that the next important priority of VOTE-COPE activism is “Fixing Tier VI” of the state pension retirement systems, recognizing that the current provisions of Tier VI do not secure or stabilize staffing needs to guarantee quality public educational opportunities for all students.

Tier VI was created in 2010 as a direct result of the recession of 2008. The bursting of the housing bubble created an international economic crisis and locally increased school district financial obligations to the retirement system of the state. The passage of Tier VI crafted a much different pension structure. As those hired since 2010 are now vested in the retirement system for at least 10 years, the problems with Tier VI are becoming obvious and known to those enrolled and the NYSUT legislative staff. Legislative action has already made one significant change to Tier VI. Vesting time has been reduced from ten years to five, matching current provisions in prior tiers, ensuring that employees enrolled as active in the pension systems for five years will always be able to remain in that tier, even if employment is disrupted, and be eligible to collect a pension at official retirement age. But other major inequities remain:

- ***Retirement age of 63***: those that retire at an earlier age are subject to harsh penalties resulting in significant reductions in monetary benefits.
- ***Restrictions on Early Retirement***: Retirement at earlier ages is often beneficial to both employee and the employer. Higher salaried staff members can be replaced by younger staff at significantly lower salaries; and the staff member may wish to retire at 55 for family or health concerns or perhaps other employment opportunities. Future projections indicate that it would cost a school district over \$400,000 in salary, health insurance, pension costs and Social Security and Medicare payments, to keep a 60-year old Tier VI teacher on staff; but they could hire a new teacher for much less than that amount.
- ***Career long contributions to the system***: Those in Tier IV contributed to the pension system for the first 10 years of service. Tier VI members must contribute to the pension system for their entire working career and the yearly contribution increases as the individual’s salary increases.
- ***Misconceptions about the funding sources of the pension systems***: Funding sources for the pension systems originate from employee contributions, employer contributions, and investment growth which is the most significant source of wealth in the pension systems. Most tax-payers believe that the major funding of the system comes from their school tax obligations and local media continues to support that belief!

As retirees, we have an obligation to help fix the problem now! You no doubt have already begun hearing about the legislative asks going forward. You can help with financial support to VOTE COPE. (<https://nysut.org/resources/special-resources-sites/legislation/vote-cope>)

To stay informed on these issues, please look at the information on the website:

<https://FixTier6.org>

SOME OF THE MANY BENEFITS OF VOTE-COPE.....

Are you aware that every retiree has benefited by NYSUT's Political Action Fund VOTE-COPE?

- In-service Salary, Benefits and State Pension in Retirement
- Pension Security – maintains pension as a contractual relationship
- Cost of Living (COLA) Adjustments – increase of \$37.50 in monthly pension in Sept 2023
- Fix Tier 6 of the Retirement Systems in New York State (priority focus for 2024)

NYSUT rebates as much as 40% of the VOTE-COPE fund to the in-service locals for political action activities to support school budget votes and election of school board trustees. Passage of school budgets result in stable school programs and property values. Funds are also used to provide the community foundation for contract negotiations. Consider increasing or starting your contributions through pension deduction.

Save the Date! Wednesday, September 25th, 2024

NYSUT Regional RC 5/RC 6 Retiree Conference

Doubletree Inn, Henrietta NY

This event is always full of interesting seminars, good food and great entertainment. The event will include a continental breakfast and lunch. There will be something for everyone so look for the details arriving soon and register online! Hope to see you there!



Retiree Council #6

Participation Fee Notice – *It's Not Too Late!*

We need your help to defray the costs of our general operating expenses, to send delegates (3) to the NYSUT Representative Assembly, AFT Conventions, and legislative functions. Fill out the form below and thank you for your help.

\$10 (voluntary) Participation Fee for 1/1/2024 – 12/31/2024

Make check payable to NYSUT Retiree Council #6 and mail to (*note new address*):

NYSUT Retiree Council 6
C/O Jeanne Coonan
PO Box 1311
Fairport, NY 14450

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Email: _____

Directions to Buckland Park Lodge, Rochester

From:

- Rochester/Thruway – Take 490 E and exit to 590 S. Take Exit 2A to NY 31E/Monroe Ave. Brighton. Take Westfall Road and park will be on the left.
- Henrietta – Take 15A North. Merge onto 390 N. Take Exit 15 to merge onto 590 N. Take Exit 1 Winton Road. Turn left onto S. Winton Road. Turn left onto Westfall Road and park will be on the left.

