



Included in this issue:
APPR

Contract 101

Building Visits Update

APPR Update and Board of Regents Changes

Last week, the Board of Regents voted on a full review and overhaul of state law on Annual Professional Performance Reviews.

First, the Regents voted to amend some of the provisions in APPR. This vote allows for a 30-day public input into the system. As soon as the forum is available, we will let you know.

Second, the Regents adopted an appeals process for the state provided score beginning with the 14-15 school year. The ability

to appeal the state provided score would remain until the Regents reevaluate the formula used to determine this score.

The Regents will also conduct a full evaluation of the CCLS and the assessments. Beginning this year, the 3-8 assessments will be shorter than previous years.

These changes don't just happen. More than 30,000 emails were sent to the Regents from NYSUT members.

But, we can do more.

My challenge to all members of the GTA is to visit the NYSUT MAC at <https://mac.nysut.org/> and email your Regent 15 times over the next 30 days.

If each GTA member accepts this challenge, more than 15,000 emails will be sent from Greece alone.

We must engage in this discussion to save our profession.

In solidarity,

Jason

Actions Available on the NYSUT MAC

- Email your regent: Stop the Insanity of APPR
- Fax your legislator: Support a parent's right to opt their child out of developmentally inappropriate exams
- Fax your legislator: Amend the Revised APPR System!

Contract 101

Shared Decision Making/ School Based Decision Making

The GTA contract is clear that GTA members have the right to shared decision-making and professional involvement in change.

Shared Decision Making:

- “Through an annual shared decision making process, each school shall develop a plan for the assignment and use of special education aides”
- “Through an annual shared decision making process, each school shall schedule an activity designed to encourage parents to visit the school.” (Curriculum Night)

School Based Decision Making:

The parties agree to work collaboratively to encourage the further development and implementation of shared decision-making at the school and district level. The parties recognize that arrangements by which employees at individual schools are given responsibility for making decisions with regard to their day-to-day affairs can foster the collegial exchange of ideas and information that is necessary for effective professional practice, and can improve the educational process. We believe that teachers and administrators should share the responsibility for effective school management. That is, as equal partners, teachers and administrators should establish expectations for their school, together plan how to best realize these expectations, and together evaluate the outcomes of their effort.

- Shared decision-making includes establishing goal consensus, guaranteeing the opportunity to participate, creating a culture of cooperation, and providing ongoing communication with staff and among schools.
- The implementation of shared decision-making requires ongoing joint training of teachers and administrators

The contract is clear. GTA members are equal partners in the governance of the schools in which they work. You have the right to have a voice and a right to shared-decision making.

Building Visits

We have begun our building visits. Common issues that have been discussed include:

- Class size and staffing ratio
- Shared decision-making at the building level (including how Curriculum Night with run)

To address the class size and staffing ratio questions, the leadership of GTA has requested the most recent enrollment and staffing numbers for each building. With shared decision-making, we are working with the individual buildings to help establish processes.