



RETIREE COUNCIL 10 SKYLINE NEWS

**NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 10: SERVING OVER 11,000 NYSUT
MEMBERS WHO WERE EMPLOYED IN
ALBANY, RENSSELAER, SARATOGA, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES**
TEACHER AND SRP SOLIDARITY

2025-2026 Issue 6 Summer 2026 EDITION: Find updates and information at our website: <https://rc10.ny.aft.org/>

Join our private Facebook group! NYSUT Retiree Council 10 Watch for Tuesday Tidbits email from Action Network and

RC10communications@gmail.com

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It's hard to believe that we are heading to the end of summer. When I was teaching, it always felt like it went too fast. I thought it would slow down after I retired.

My name is Tara Molloy-Grocki. I am the newly elected President of Retiree Council 10. Thank you, Barbara McCarthy, for all your work on behalf of retirees, teachers, students, and the greater community. I have really big shoes to fill.

RC 10 will continue our work to support the Ronald McDonald House, the Food Bank, and Backpack Program. I am looking forward to another wonderful year of supporting our communities. If you know of other organizations or would like to become a part of any of the events mentioned, please let us know.

As we head into fall, there are some important dates to remember. November 3 is the midterm elections and the gubernatorial race. Our New York State Senators and Assemblymembers are also having elections. It's so important to become informed and vote. If you are not sure who your New York State elected officials are, please use this link to find out: <https://elections.ny.gov/new-york-state-elected-officials>.

An education issue that is looming over us is the federal school voucher program, created through the Educational Choice for Children Act. This would allow individuals to claim a dollar-for-dollar tax credit (up to \$1,700 annually) for donations made to nonprofit Scholarship Granting Organizations. These SGOs distribute scholarships for private school tuition, tutoring, and special education services to families making up to 300% of their area's median gross income. Since it is a tax credit model, it will divert money from tax dollars to private education expenses and requires governors to annually opt in to participate. So this will mean less money for public education. Governor Hochul is leaning towards opting into the program. This would be devastating for our public schools. NYSUT has been on the forefront of this fight. They have formed a coalition of over 60 organizations to fight this battle. Please click the link below:

<https://www.nysut.org/news/2026/july/media-release-coalition>.

There is a petition that you can sign and send a message to Governor Hochul to vote NO on vouchers:.

<https://publicschoolsunits.org/our-initiatives/voucher-program/take-action>.

Please read the links and learn about the voucher program and spread the word to others that we need to tell the Governor

NO TO VOUCHERS!

I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer! Last year, I began to take Irish language lessons. This is something I have wanted to do for years! One of my favorite Irish sentences is *Slán go fóill!* Goodbye for now!

I hope to see you this coming school year!

NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 10 OFFICERS

In June, Retiree Council 10 held elections. To help you know who represents you and who to reach out to, here are their bios. We are fortunate to have such great volunteers to lead us!

PRESIDENT TARA MOLLOY-GROCKI



Tara retired two years ago from the Guilderland Central School District after thirty-one years as an elementary teacher teaching grades 2-5. After three years in New York City at the Ralph Bunche School PS 125, she moved to the Capital Region and was hired as a Gen Ed teacher in Guilderland where she taught for twenty-eight years.

Tara served the Guilderland Teachers' Association as a Building Rep, Vice President, President, and ED 10 delegate to the NYSUT RA. She is currently the Political Action Coordinator for Senate District 46 for NYSUT.

To keep supporting public education after her retirement, she was elected to the Guilderland Central School Board in May 2024. As a School Board member, she gets a whole new perspective on how the district is run.

She became involved in RC 10 as soon as she retired so she could continue to help her sisters and brothers in labor and continue to spread the word of strength in the union. We are here to help everyone. In retirement, she has more free time to protest and advocate for justice for all.

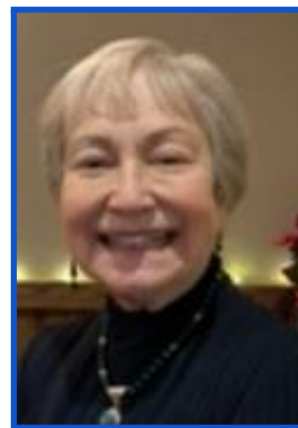


SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT SANDIE CARNER-SHAFRAN

Sandie is a retired teaching assistant after working in Special Education Programs for Washington Saratoga Warren Hamilton Essex BOCES for more than thirty-eight years.

She served as Chairperson for the NYSUT School Related Professionals State Advisory Committee, Co-Chair of NYSUT's Task Force on School Related Professionals, was a member of the American Federation of Teachers Program & Policy Council, and was appointed to the Advisory Board for The National Skills Standards Instruction for Paraprofessionals. Sandie was awarded the prestigious 2009 AFT Albert Shanker Pioneer Award, the NYSUT SRP of The Year Award and represented NY

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT DINA ARIEMMA



Dina began her teaching career at a small country school in the Catskills and finished at Albany High. Her first years at both schools happened to be during great turmoil with walkouts by students, conflict between teachers and administrators, and negotiations of contracts. While she was not a union officer, Dina was part of the rank and file loyally supporting her locals' leaders especially APSTA's great, Bill Richie. She served her union by attending board meetings, joining union rallies, and walking picket lines.

As a teacher during those turbulent times, Dina believed her job was to keep a calm atmosphere in her classroom and with her students. She firmly believed that our administrators needed to be treated respectfully while conducting their daily administrative duties. While we could have differences of opinions, our goal was the same – to provide our students with a safe and positive environment for learning.

In 2016, when she took her first trip with RC 10 to Cuba, Dina became very interested in being a part of the RC 10 Travel Committee. Since then, she has enjoyed planning trips and events for our members. Dina is a new member of the Scholarship Committee and helps each year with the Social Justice Committee's milk and egg coupon sorting.

Dina has expanded her role in RC 10 by becoming First Vice President. She states, "it will be my duty to support and help the President achieve her goals for the coming three years."

at NEA for ESP of the Year. She was recently awarded the Capital Labor Council District Labor Federation Legacy Award and received the American Federation Legacy Award for her forty years of Union Solidarity & Advocacy in Washington DC this July.

Sandie served as an At Large Director on the Executive Council of NYSUT for twenty-five years, Policy Board Member of the Greater Capital Region Teacher Center, and on the New York State Committee of Practitioners. She is also an Executive for her Local Union and President of the Saratoga Labor Council. She is involved in her community by spearheading and volunteering at Drive-thru Food Banks.

SECRETARY COLLEEN CONDOLORA



Colleen was a thirty-three-year Special Education Teaching Assistant for Capital Region BOCES retiring in 2021. She is currently a Teaching Assistant Substitute and a Mohonasen tutor for at risk students.

She has served on the following committees: Professional Development, APPR, Special Education Redesign, Health and Safety, Labor Management, Shared Decision Making, Opening Day, Teaching Assistant/Aide Recognition Day.

Her union activities include: Capital Region BOCES Faculty Association: Representative for ten years, Executive Board Recording Secretary for eight years, Executive Board Teaching Assistant Chapter Vice President for twelve years, ED10 delegate for fifteen years, BOCES Lobbying Day for twelve years, and Negotiation Team.

Colleen has served NYSUT as a former Health and Safety Statewide Committee Chairperson for fifteen years and is currently Education and Learning Trust online and in person professional development facilitator for sixteen years.

As a member of Retiree Council 10, Colleen is Representative Assembly Delegate, Capital Region BOCES Ambassador, and Secretary. Colleen is involved in legislative lobbying, Social Justice, and Learning Trust School Related Professional Coordinator. Colleen is also involved in her community: Northeast Regional Food Bank volunteer, Habitat for Humanity, Diabetes Association Rest Stop Captain, and Breast Cancer Walk.



TREASURER MARY REVERE KRUCHINSKI



Mary retired after a 38-year career as an educator and earned National Board Certification in 2012. Throughout her career at Salem/Washington Academy, she was deeply involved in Union leadership,

serving as Local President for 25 years. She also served as grievance chair, a member of the negotiations team, and a member of the APPR committee.

Beyond her local, she was co-chair of the Greater Capital Region Teacher Center, an RA delegate, and a member of NYSUT's Small and Rural Advisory Committee. For twelve summers, she volunteered with the AFT Back-to-School Drive, working with locals in western states to help strengthen and expand Union organizing efforts.

Mary believes that a strong Union is essential to improving our schools, protecting the rights of our members, and creating positive working and learning environments. She remains committed to serving our members with dedication, integrity, and experience.

RETIREE SERVICES CONSULTANT CHRIS FOWLER



Chris retired in June 2024 after teaching middle school language arts with a focus on community service-learning projects in Schodack Central Schools for thirty years. She began participating in her local as newsletter editor, going on to serve as building rep, grievance chairperson and co-president. She wanted to remain active in NYSUT, so, with guidance from her predecessor, Ruth Shippee, she jumped directly into learning the responsibilities of Retiree Services Consultant for Retiree Councils 9 and 10. Since then, she has met hundreds of fellow retirees from Albany to the Adirondacks and Waterford to Watertown, at meetings, conferences, rallies, social outings, and tours. Chris has been impressed with the variety of ways that retirees stay involved with union issues, support both in-service members and retirees, and contribute to their communities through volunteerism and leadership roles.

Chris retired in June 2024 after teaching middle school language arts with a focus on community service-learning projects. Beyond NYSUT, Chris enjoys supervising students in Siena University's teacher and volunteering with the International Center of the Capital Region. Retirement has offered Chris and her husband, Chad, opportunities to travel domestically and internationally. She's added six states to her US tally and celebrated in Costa Rica on her first retired birthday.

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD EDUCATION CENTER NEEDS ASSISTANCE CREATING TOURS

Underground Railroad Education Center (UREC) is embarking on a major building project, the Interpretive Center, that would complement The Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence: a library, archival space, assembly hall for programs, a children's space, a cafe, and more. The sky's the limit! The Center is looking for help from RC 10 educators who would be willing to donate up to 4-6 hours to help create guided tour experiences for students in grades K-8. We have the history, but we don't have the expertise of our seasoned educators who could transform the history into enriching, memorable learning experiences for students. If interested, please contact Mary Liz Stewart at marylizugr@gmail.com.

Upcoming fall events- stay posted via Facebook, emailed Tuesday Tidbits (from RC10communications@gmail.com and Action Network) and the RC10 website - including Fall Meeting/Conference (October 8 at NYSUT Headquarters in Latham.)

BE INVOLVED AND INFORMED! JOIN AND PARTICIPATE IN NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 10 (RC10)



Have you completed your contribution form for this year? Or updated your contact information? Please follow this link to get the form <https://rc10.ny.aft.org/resources/26-27-membership-form>

OR do it on-line at:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSevvJliGYUfB-X30pzUu7Pusc6ago-bgr3Lr4LsuHKosbfXNg/viewform>

Michael L. Burns Labor Day Celebration

*Brought to you by the Labor Day Parade Committee,
the Capital District Area Labor Federation, and
the Greater Capital Region Building and Construction Trades*

FREE for union members and their families!

Please bring a nonperishable food item to be donated to a local food pantry



**Monday, September 7, 2026
12:00pm - 4:00pm**



**Joe Bruno Stadium
80 Vandenberg Ave, Troy, NY**



**Clambake, barbecue chicken, hamburgers,
hot dogs, corn on the cob**



**Rock climbing, video arcade truck,
bounce house, clowns, tournaments,
potato sack races, horse shoes and more!**



**Registration required. Scan QR code
or visit cdalf.org/events/laborday**



*For sponsorship opportunities or more information,
please contact Mark at memanatian@cdalf.org*

