

President

Jeffrey Kuemmel

Vice President

Elayn Higgins



February 2020

THE VOICE**Treasurer**

Dave Guzzino

Secretary

Lynnae Kwilas

of the Cheektowaga Central Teachers' Association

The Agenda Released Early

At the February Election District meeting the agenda and key points for this years' Committee of 100 were released. Bulleted below is a list of NYSUT's focal points for the current budget fight. On March 2nd and 3rd ,Jeff Kuemmel ,as a Political Action Committee representative ,and Elayn Higgins, as the Cheektowaga Central Representative ,will travel again to Albany to be trained on the agenda that will be rolled out on March 3rd with local officials in their offices in Albany.

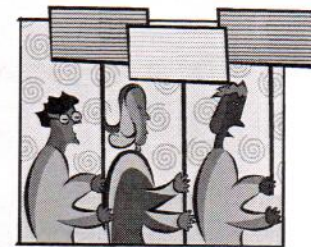
- Increase in foundational aid
- Eliminate the school districts' obligations for funding charter schools.
- Get rid of the supermajority for budget approvals over the tax cap.
- Provide transparency and accountability of charter school management operators
- Incentivize the recruitment and retention of teachers
- Protect organized labor
- Increase funding for higher education
- Generate revenue

A summary of the weekend's events and progress will be in the April issue of the VOICE.

Winter Leadership Conference

This years' Winter Leadership is being held at the Niagara Falls Convention Center and Sheraton Hotel. The conference is Friday at 4:30 until midafternoon on Saturday. The following members of the CCTA will be attending this year: Luke Silliman, Dave Guzzino, Bianne Corigliano, Michele Setzer, Jon Marcussen, Melissa Rogers, Kristen Yotter, Elayn Higgins, Lynnae Kwilas, and Jeff Kuemmel.

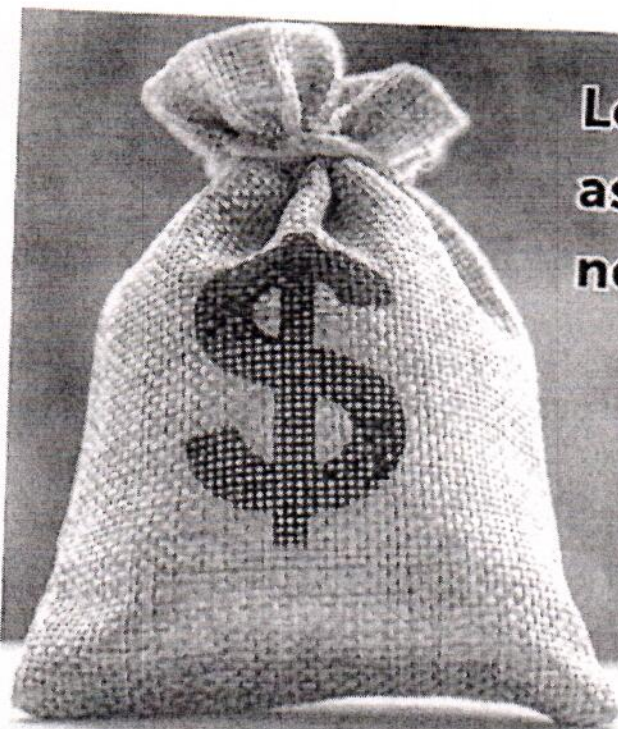
This year's conference will start with a presentation of NYSUT initiatives on Friday. On Saturday attendees will attend three of the following sessions:(new to the program are italicized): Census: Every Member Counts, Committed to Community Relations, *Dealing with Difficult Individuals*, *Discipline Strategies*, *Unhealthy Building/Sick People*, Flexible Leadership, Grievances & Gripes, Laws, Rules & Regulations, Negotiations: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly, You Be the Judge, *Working with Students and Difficult Behaviors*, and Organizing Around Issues. Reports from these sessions will be in the April Issue of the VOICE.

**Contract?****What is the answer?**

Can I take a bereavement day for someone not listed in the contract?

The Answer:

The contract allows for one day for bereavement for someone not designated as a family member that allows up to 3 or 5 days. However, the contract also states that the day must have your building principal's approval and additional days needed can be taken from accumulated paid leave time. If the processes outlined in the contract are not adhered to a member may be forced to use their time for that one day.



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Celebrations from 2019

It is that time of year again when the VOICE takes a section to celebrate events from the previous year. It is easy to lose track of who has done what and what great things have happened to CCTA members when sometimes members' paths only cross a few times a year. So below is a list of those great things that some people may respond to as, "I did not know they did that... good for them."

Babies

Ann Marie Lattanzio - Lucia Annamaria Lattanzio - January 6th

Kim Harrison - Eli Joseph - April

Kacy and Jessica Dolan - Garrett Michael Dolan - July 24thAllison Shanley - Violet Mae Shanley - August 11th

Mary Beth Petri- Alexandria September 23rd

MarriagesKim Nichols to Keith July 20thLauren Smith to Joshua August 24thElisa Lorenz Heimbürger to Joseph July 5thKelly Gormley to Patrick September 13th**Grandparents**Jodi Stroud- Carson Filipski August 22nd, Emma Haag August 23rd**Engagements**Stephanie Schwartz to Alex Hubert July 23rd

Courtney Cieplinski July

Phillip Esner to Julia Tuttle February

Accomplishments

Brenda Christopher - National Board Certified

Rachael Burke - Master Teacher

Dave Guzzino - Master Teacher

Nicole Ball - Completed Doctoral Coursework

**Calendar of Events****March**2nd-3rd - Committee of 1006th and 7th - Winter Leadership11th - Executive Board Meeting20th - Staff Day**April**8th - Executive Board Meeting10th to 17th - Spring Recess

TBD - Spring Social