

The HCT

CONNECTED

Issue: 2
Justina Ketyer, Editor

September 6, 2017

A New School Year Begins

Superintendent's Conference Day



Superintendent's Conference Day marked the beginning of the new school year for teachers and staff in Hicksville. **HCT members took the pledge to vote "No" this Election Day to open the NYS Constitution** and received information to help spread the word to other voters. They also received buttons and car magnets, which were purchased with a rebate from VOTE-COPE contributions.

After Dr. Bonuso delivered a speech welcoming teachers and staff and Dan Friedman spoke about the importance of cyber security, Rosemarie Colletti introduced new staff members. Then **Tom Glenn presented details about the new employment contract proposal** and answered members' questions. **Teachers and staff enjoyed sandwiches and salads from Roast Sandwich House in Hicksville** before heading to their buildings to prepare for the new year.



HCT President Tom Glenn and HCT Secretary Meg McElroy



High School Building Representative Alison Silvestri and Lee Avenue Building Representative Lia Leoni

The True Meaning of Labor Day

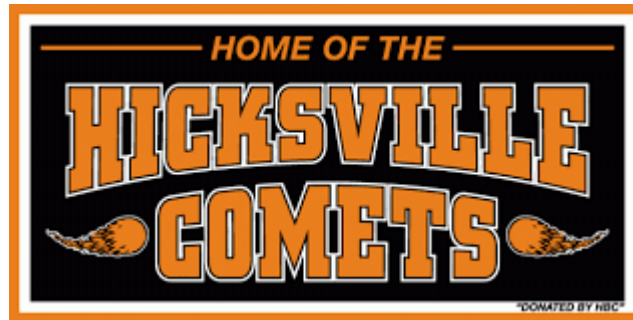


While Labor Day is a great day to relax and enjoy time with family and friends, it is a tribute to the American labor movement. On this day, we honor the contributions workers have made to the strength and prosperity of our country. Here are some facts:

- The **first celebrated US Labor Day was on Tuesday, September 5, 1882** in New York City, **planned by the Central Labor Union.**
- **Americans often worked 12-hour days seven days a week** during the 19th century.

- **New York has the highest rate of union workers** among the states, with 23.6% in 2016.
- Unions used organizing, rallies and strikes as a way to **improve hours, wages and working conditions of its members.**
- On June 28, 1894, **Congress made Labor Day a legal holiday** in the District of Columbia and the territories.

Go Hicksville Comets!



Come out and show your Hicksville spirit at Homecoming on October 14th!

Join your fellow HCT colleagues at Homecoming and assist at the HCT booth.

Come for the entire time, or pick a half hour shift between the hours of 10 A.M. and 1 P.M.

Email or call (516 937-1288) the HCT office to sign up.

Say NO New York Constitutional Convention

Order Extra "**NO New York Constitutional Convention**" materials for your friends and family by **September 15th!**

Email [**hicksville_teachers@verizon.net**](mailto:hicksville_teachers@verizon.net) with your order. Include your name, building, and quantities.

Remit payment via cash or check made payable to the Hicksville Congress of Teachers to your building representative by **Friday, September 15th** and **be ready to defeat the referendum in style!**



**Buttons
\$.50**



**Magnets
\$1.00**



**Lawn Signs
\$2.00**

It's Not Too Late to Volunteer



If you are interested in volunteering for any of the following Building Level, District or HCT Committees please complete the ***Call for Volunteer form**, save it and email it to the HCT at **hicksville_teachers@verizon.net**.

****Download form before completing.
Data may not be saved if you complete it in your browser window.***

District-wide Professional Development Committee - Meets three times per year to discuss and develop staff development.

Building Level Site Based - Monthly meetings. Team includes principal, teacher(s), parents and students. Teacher member(s) represent the HCT and must meet regularly with HCT building reps and faculty to solicit input to bring to the team. Only Tenured Teachers.

District Wide Site Based - Meets 4 to 5 times annually with District team including Central Office Administrators, Building Administration, teacher(s) and parents. Members represent the HCT and must communicate with HCT executive officers regarding issues at district level.

Building Health & Safety Committee - For building(s) that do not include this as part of Site Based team. Monthly meetings with principal and teacher(s) to discuss issues of concern. Teacher member(s) represent the HCT and must communicate regularly with HCT building reps and faculty to solicit input to bring to the team.

Political Action/VOTE-COPE Committee - Provide support to membership, acquainting them with opportunities to strengthen our position as stake holders in the political process and to assist with the annual VOTE-COPE drive.

Scholarship Committee - To review HCT scholarship criteria and candidates. Selects recipients for submission to the HCT.

The HCT Apparel Store is Still Open!

The HCT Apparel Store is open through **Friday, September 15th**. This is the perfect opportunity to get your "**Red for Public Ed**" shirt to wear on Tuesdays and HCT gear for "**Wear it on Wednesdays**".



1/4 zip Fleece
\$35.00



Charles River Adult Pack-N-Go
Pullover
\$30.00



50/50 Cotton/Poly T-Shirt
\$10.00



50/50 Cotton/Poly T-Shirt
\$10.00



50/50 Cotton/Poly T-Shirt
\$10.00



Men's Dry-Fit Polo
\$25.00



Women's dry fit polo
\$25.00

You can **place a special order of HCT apparel online today!** Items may be embroidered with your name for an additional fee.

Ordering is as easy as 1,2,3...

1. Select your items and size*
2. Pay Baxter's Sports Shop directly through our exclusive online store any time in the order window (now through September 15th!)
3. Your order will be available for pick up with your building rep or at the HCT office approximately two weeks after close of the online store

**women's sizes may run small; the women's polo also runs narrow; you may wish to consider that when ordering*

A Golden Opportunity

NYSUT Education Autumn Member Organizing Institute!



Do you like to speak with others about issues concerning public education?

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to do some old-school door-to-door canvassing?

What if you could do both and get paid in the process??

HERE IS YOUR GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY!!!

DETAILS & CRITERIA

- Open to all NYSUT members.
- Commitment of 18 or 12 (4-hour) shifts over a six week period. Fellows will receive a **\$1,800** (18 shift option) or **\$1,200** (12 shift option) stipend and reimbursement for transportation expenses.
- Position requires **strong communications skills** and a **passion for union activism** and **social justice**.
- Must be willing to travel throughout the region where you live and have access to an automobile.
- Autumn Organizing Fellowship begins with a required **2-day training September 23-24** near **Albany, NY**. Fellowship will end on November 3rd with a **required day-long debrief**, on Saturday, November 11th also in Latham, NY.
- The **deadline for applying** for the 2017 Autumn Organizing Fellowship is **Monday, September 11th, 2017**.

Application can be found [here!](#)

News Around the Schools



News Around the Schools

- Congratulations to **Margaret Congero** (formerly **Lehmann, Dutch Lane**) who got married August 11th. She and her new husband Tom

graduated Hicksville High School in 2006 with the title "Mr. and Mrs. Hicksville."

- Congratulations to **Amy Cannizzaro (High School)** and her husband Peter on the birth of their second son. Thomas is excited to be a big brother.
- Congratulations to **Erik Knudsen (High School)** on his wedding on July 15th.
- Congratulation to **Karim Hafiz (High School)** on his wedding on August 19th.



Happy Birthday to HCT Members celebrating birthdays during the month of September.

Zeny Rodriguez (Hicksville High School)	9/1
Laura Fanelli (Hicksville High School)	9/4
Christopher Mammone (Fork Lane Elementary School)	9/4
Annamarie Biondo (Woodland Elementary School)	9/5
Justina Ketyer (East Street Elementary School)	9/5
Christine King (Hicksville High School)	9/5
Kim Sconzo (Dutch Lane Elementary School)	9/5
Beth Garner (Woodland Elementary School)	9/6
Erica Sabatella (Woodland Elementary School)	9/6
Niamh Abramson (Fork Lane Elementary School)	9/7
Thomas Depalo (Hicksville Middle School)	9/7
Tara Clark (Holy Trinity)	9/9
Christine Moir (Old Country Road Elementary School)	9/9
Rachel Ytuarte (Dutch Lane Elementary School)	9/11
Rachel Kalman (Hicksville High School)	9/12
Jamie Murray (Dutch Lane Elementary School)	9/12
Scott Starkey (East Street Elementary School)	9/14
Frank Barbera (Lee Avenue Elementary School)	9/16
Andrew Lichtenthal (Hicksville High School)	9/16
Irene Sofos (Woodland Elementary School)	9/16
Joan Belmonte (Hicksville High School)	9/17

Keith Klotsche (Burns Avenue Elementary School)	9/17
Lauren Dilena (Woodland Elementary School)	9/19
Danielle Fumagalli (East Street Elementary School)	9/19
Lynn Oliviero (East Street Elementary School)	9/19
Anthony Valanzano (Hicksville Middle School)	9/19
Jenna Brazel (Old Country Road Elementary School)	9/20
Daniela Ranieri (Hicksville High School)	9/20
Elizabeth Ryan (Hicksville High School)	9/20
Carol Kaplan (Hicksville High School)	9/21
Craig Mateyunas (Hicksville High School)	9/21
Kelly Cutrone (Burns Avenue Elementary School)	9/22
Melinda Berrios (Hicksville Middle School)	9/23
Michelle Cooper (Hicksville Middle School)	9/23
Nicholas Naccarato (Hicksville Middle School)	9/23
Kelly Bocchicchio (Hicksville High School)	9/24
Caryn Gottlieb (Hicksville Middle School)	9/24
Angela Galante (Hicksville High School)	9/25
Dawn Beyer (Hicksville Middle School)	9/27
Pamela Johnson (East Street Elementary School)	9/27
Kristin Powell (Hicksville Middle School)	9/27
Carla Thier (Woodland Elementary School)	9/28
Krista Biedenbach (Hicksville High School)	9/30
Robert Trenkle (Hicksville High School)	9/30

If you do not see your name listed and you have a birthday this month, please let us know so that we may update our records.

Special Opportunity

Tickets Available for "The Chew"



Alison Silvestri has a block of tickets for the daytime talk show, **"The Chew"**, for **Thursday, October 19th (school is closed for Diwali)**.

Arrival time is 7:30 am at ABC studios in NYC, and guests must be 14 or older with proper ID.

If you are interested, please email Alison at ajsilvest@hotmail.com as soon as possible.

NYSUT Member Benefits

Have you had your financial check-up lately?

NYSUT Member Benefits launches the new Financial Planning Center!

NYSUT Member Benefits is excited to announce the launch of our NEW online Financial Planning Center. This enhanced site will assist NYSUT members and their families with making a variety of important financial decisions.

The NYSUT Member Benefits Financial Planning Center provides helpful tools and resources to assist members with a number of crucial decisions regarding financial wellness and retirement planning.



This new site includes more than 100 modules on different financial topics along with a financial fitness check-up to see where members stand with their financial knowledge.

Whether it's planning for retirement, saving for college for your children or considering purchasing a home, the choices we need to make on a regular basis are never easy. If you're already enjoying retirement, you may be dealing with long-term care needs, managing your investments and estate planning.

NYSUT members can get assistance with these questions and more with our NEW Financial Planning Center.

To access the Financial Planning Center (and more than 100 planning modules), visit the NYSUT Member Benefits website at memberbenefits.nysut.org and click on **"Financial Planning Center."**

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call **800-626-8101**.



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

Sept./Oct. '17

STAY CONNECTED:



Hicksville Congress of Teachers, 535 South Broadway, Suite 212, Hicksville, NY 11801

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