

2025 NYSUT Long Island Health & Safety Conference for School-Related Professionals

March 8, 2025 - Marriott Melville

Program

Saturday, March 8, 2025

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| 8:00 am – 9:00 am | REGISTRATION, BREAKFAST & EXHIBITS |
| 9:00 am – 9:15 am | WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS |
| 9:15 am – 9:30 am | Overview of Child Care Subsidy Program Presenter: Robyn Fellrath, Regional Director – Long Island, <i>Workforce Development Institute (WDI)</i> |
| 9:30 am – 11:30 am | Creating Safer Schools: Protecting Staff and Supporting Students with Disabilities Understanding Your Rights under the Workplace Violence Prevention Act (WVPA) Paraprofessionals, monitors, bus drivers and all SRPs play a critical role in fostering safe and supportive learning environments. In this workshop, you'll learn about the WVPA and its application in working with students who may exhibit disruptive or aggressive behaviors. You will also learn how these regulations intersect with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and special education to balance the safety of staff with the rights of students. This session is designed to empower you to be aware of your rights to help create safer schools while recognizing your invaluable role in the education community. Presenters: Patricia Geisel, PsyD., LP, RN, <i>NYSUT Workplace Health & Safety / Health Care Specialist</i> ; Kelly Fahrenkopf, <i>NYSUT Assistant in Research and Educational Services</i> |
| 11:45 am – 12:45 pm | LUNCH & OVERVIEW OF NYSUT'S FOCUS ON SCHOOL-RELATED PROFESSIONALS Presenters: Ron Gross, <i>NYSUT Second President</i> , Carrie Andrews, <i>NYSUT Director of Constituencies and Program Services</i> and Leslie Fottrell, <i>NYSUT School-Related Professionals Coordinator</i> |
| 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm | The Career-Threatening Perils of Misusing Social Media You might be surprised to learn that in the last few years, perhaps the single greatest cause of disciplinary action against our members has not been insubordination or incompetence but the inappropriate use of social media. As a member of a generation that has grown up with social media, your very familiarity and comfort with online communication may make you more susceptible to inadvertently using social media in a way that could lead to disciplinary action or even termination. Take this workshop to learn what the social media pitfalls are and how to avoid them. Presenters: <i>NYSUT Labor Relations Specialists</i> |

2:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Organizing Tips for Your Local

A quick review of resources that NYSUT's Organizing Department regularly provide in conjunction with the Regional Offices to keep your local strong and your members engaged. Incorporating these organizing strategies into your local will help prepare you for negotiations and to increase your members' interest in working together with you in your local.

Presenters: Alexandra Castillo-Kesper, *NYSUT Organizer, Nassau Regional Office*; Joan Crinnion, *NYSUT Organizer, Suffolk Regional Office*

2:15 pm – 2:30 pm

Closing Remarks & Drawings

Presenters: Ron Gross, *NYSUT Second President*, Kevin Pollitt, *Nassau Regional Office Staff Director* and Peter Verdon, *Suffolk Regional Office Staff Director*