

2016



# VOTER GUIDE



**NYSUT's guide to union-endorsed candidates  
in the Nov. 8 general election**



# Letter from the officers



Karen E. Magee



Andrew Pallotta



Catalina Fortino



Paul Pecorale



Martin Messner

## Dear NYSUT member:

We are pleased to provide you with this Voter Guide, so YOU and your VOTE on Nov. 8 can help guide this state and the nation.

With the hectic and historic presidential election dominating the news this year, we don't need to point out how important this election cycle will be. Your vote will help determine the future of the country's crucial institutions — in education, in health care, in retirement security, in labor rights and more. The U.S. Supreme Court, and the Constitution itself, hang in the balance.

This guide provides you with the complete list of NYSUT-endorsed candidates as recommended by our local presidents and NYSUT's Political Action Committee, and approved by the union's Board of Directors. It explores critical races and gives the rationale for certain endorsements. We hope you take the time to read and consider this information before you cast your ballot on Nov. 8.

NYSUT does not endorse candidates in presidential elections, but the statewide federation heartily supports the endorsements by our national affiliates — the American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association, as well as the state and national AFL-CIO — of Democratic hopeful Hillary Clinton. She is our champion, and has promised to stand with us against ill-advised education "reform," assaults on health care and anti-labor extremism.

Our union supports candidates for Congress and the state Senate and Assembly who stand up on key issues important to us, our students, our patients and our communities. They have been thoroughly vetted with local union leaders and activists from every corner of the state. These are the candidates who will have our back.

We hope you will seriously consider the information in this guide and, most importantly, VOTE on Nov. 8!

**Your vote gives you the power! Use it to shape the future.**

In solidarity,

*Andrew Pallotta*   *Andrew Pallotta*   *Catalina Fortino*  
*Paul Pecorale*   *Martin Messner*



# Union values

NYSUT endorses Republicans and Democrats who share our commitment to public education, health care, retirement security, the right to bargain collectively and a strong middle class.

Clearly, much is at stake on the national and state level. At a time when the richest, most powerful corporate special interests in the nation have joined forces to destroy unions, to privatize public services for their own profit, and to disenfranchise and disempower working people for their own gain, VOTING is our best chance to fight back to defend our rights, our profession and our future.

“Your vote is critical in supporting our endorsed incumbents and challengers who advocate for working families and who fight against policies that would harm students, public schools and colleges, health care workers and organized labor,” said NYSUT Executive Vice President Andy Pallotta.

NYSUT has an obligation to communicate its endorsements to all members. (No endorsements were made in districts not listed.) Not all of you will agree with them, but the process is designed to reflect the opinions of members’ representatives.

The endorsement process starts months before the November elections. Candidates seeking NYSUT’s support are considered carefully. They first fill out a survey and then members of the union’s Political Action Committee interview them. The PAC makes recommendations during a two-day Endorsement Conference where they are reviewed with local leaders in thorough and passionate discussions.

Conference attendees review the candidates’ positions, voting records on key areas of interest — such as education, health care and state aid — and their reputation for accessibility and responsiveness to union members.

Once the proposed slate of endorsed candidates is set, it is submitted to the NYSUT Executive Committee for discussion and then to the entire Board of Directors for discussion and final approval.



## Inside:

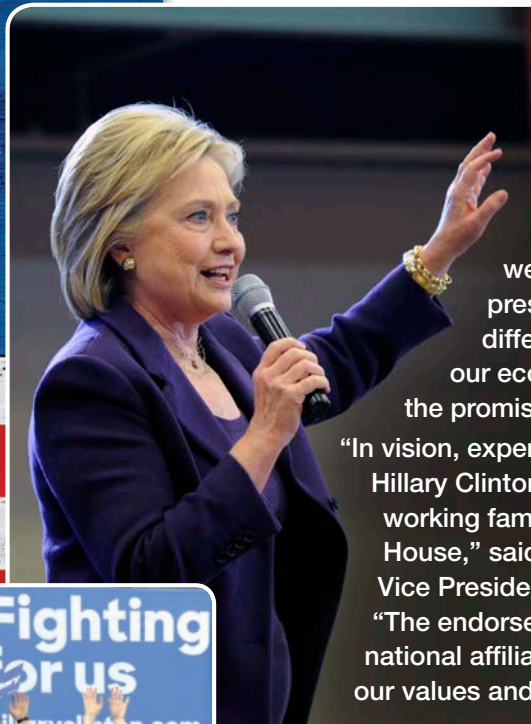
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*The NYSUT 2016 Voter Guide is made possible by voluntary contributions to VOTE-COPE, NYSUT’s political action fund. To download a copy, visit [www.nysut.org/voterguide](http://www.nysut.org/voterguide).*

Cover photos, clockwise: Hillary Clinton by El-Wise Noisette; Clinton supporters holding signs by Michael Davidson; Donald Trump by Gage Skidmore.

# Hillary Rodham Clinton

## Why Hillary?



**T**his is a crucial election. Who we elect as our next president will make the difference in reshaping our economy and reclaiming the promise of public education. “In vision, experience and leadership, Hillary Clinton is the champion working families need in the White House,” said NYSUT Executive Vice President Andy Pallotta. “The endorsed candidate of our national affiliates, Clinton shares our values and will fight for them.”



### She will fight:

- For a strong economy that works for everyone, not just those at the top;
- For strong public schools and debt-free higher education, including free community college, for as many students as possible;
- To safeguard our retirement security and keep public services public; and
- To protect and build on the progress of the Affordable Care Act.

Clinton is a tested leader who is prepared for a tough fight on behalf of all our members. She has shown she’s ready to work with us to confront the issues that matter to us most. On the whole range of issues that affect NYSUT members both on the job and off, Clinton is prepared to stand with us on behalf of our students, families and communities.

She understands that America’s workers are the backbone of our economy, and she is committed to strengthening working families and protecting collective bargaining rights.

She says: “As president, I will stand shoulder to shoulder with unions to fend off any attacks and help build a labor movement for the 21st century.”

- As a U.S. senator, Hillary had a 100 percent AFT voting record, and her stances on the issues reflect that strong record.
- On education, she promises to work collaboratively with educators on issues such as effectively implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act as well as ending the fixation on high-stakes testing, addressing the impact of poverty on students, holding charter schools accountable and providing universal prekindergarten.
- She has proposed a sweeping plan to make college more affordable and accessible by providing tuition-free community college, cutting the interest rate on student loans, allowing borrowers to refinance, and providing grants to states and colleges to reverse years of disinvestment in higher education.
- Clinton opposes privatization of public services and school district jobs. She has fought throughout her career to ensure public services are provided by public employees.
- She has stood up for nurses and health professionals and, as a senator, proposed a number of bills to address the nation’s nursing shortage and support nurse education and high-quality health care.
- Throughout her career, Clinton has worked to protect Social Security and Medicare and ensure they are adequately funded. She has fought attempts to privatize Social Security.

“The choice is clear; the alternative flies in the face of everything we stand for,” said Pallotta. “We’re with her!”

# In their words

The candidates for president this year couldn't be any more different on the issues we care about as union members. In their own words, see the differences yourself.



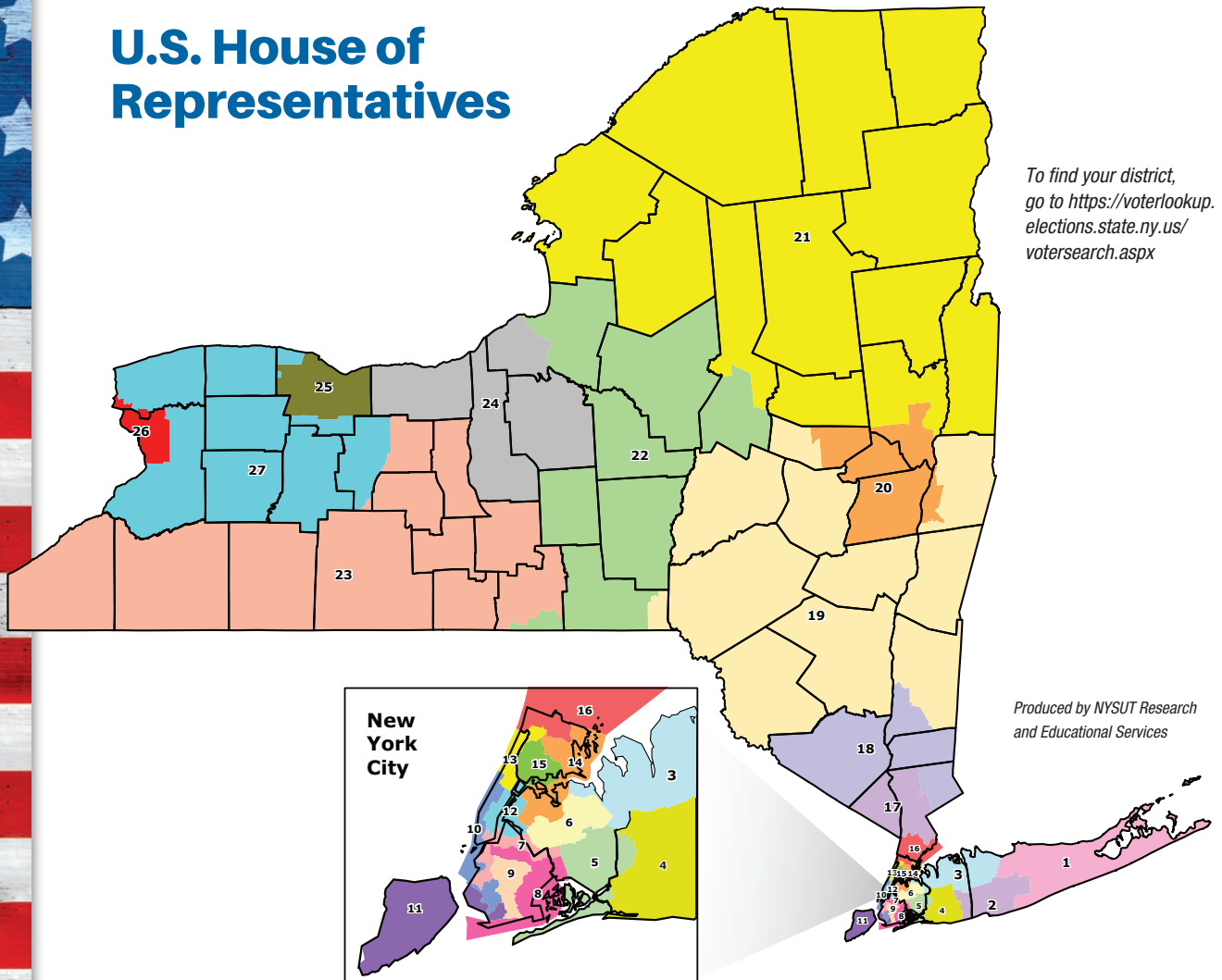
GAGE SKIDMORE

M. DAVIDSON

DONALD TRUMP	ISSUE	HILLARY CLINTON
<p>Vouchers are “the American way.”<sup>1</sup></p>	<p><b>PUBLIC EDUCATION</b></p>	<p>“Public education remains the foundation of our democracy, and we are going to fight for it.”<sup>2</sup></p>
<p>Started Trump University, which faces multiple lawsuits and state investigations for defrauding students.<sup>3</sup> “I don’t want to settle it because, look, the people that took the course, 98 percent of those people liked the school. We have report cards.”<sup>4</sup></p>	<p><b>HIGHER EDUCATION</b></p>	<p>She would eliminate in-state public college tuition for working families, provide free community college, and cut interest rates on federal student loans.<sup>5</sup> “... families are drowning in debt caused by ever-rising college costs.”<sup>6</sup></p>
<p>“It’s the balance of power: Teachers’ unions with too much power; parents with too little.”<sup>7</sup></p>	<p><b>UNIONS</b></p>	<p>“We’ve got to stand up for unions and working people who have been at the core of the American middle class.”<sup>8</sup></p>
<p>“We are going to repeal Obamacare.”<sup>9</sup></p>	<p><b>HEALTH CARE/ AFFORDABLE CARE ACT</b></p>	<p>“Affordable health care is a basic human right.”<sup>10</sup></p>
<p>“When Mexico sends its people, they’re not sending their best. They’re bringing drugs. They’re bringing crime. They’re rapists.”<sup>11</sup></p>	<p><b>IMMIGRATION</b></p>	<p>“If Congress refuses to act, as president I would do everything possible under the law to go even further [than President Obama].”<sup>12</sup></p>
<p>“The deal is so pathetic and so bad.”<sup>13</sup></p>	<p><b>TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP TRADE DEAL</b></p>	<p>“I don’t believe we can keep giving new agreements the benefit of the doubt.”<sup>14</sup></p>

GET THE FACTS 1. Donald Trump, *The America We Deserve*, 2000. 2. Hillary Clinton’s remarks on K-12 education, Durham, N.C., 3/10/16. 3. *Huffington Post*, 9/10/15; *Boston Globe*, 9/9/13. 4. 3/3/16, *Good Morning America*. 5. *Washington Post*, 7/6/16. 6. *Inside Higher Ed*, 7/7/16. 7. Donald Trump, *The America We Deserve*, 2000. 8. *Vox*, 2/11/16. 9. *Washington Post*, 4/15/16, updated 6/8/16. 10. *Washington Post*, 4/15/16, updated 6/8/16. 11. *Washington Post*, 6/16/15. 12. *RealClearPolitics*, 5/5/15. 13. *Breitbart News*, 6/19/15. 14. *Time*, 10/7/15.

# U.S. House of Representatives



To find your district, go to <https://voterlookup.elections.state.ny.us/votersearch.aspx>

Produced by NYSUT Research and Educational Services

## U.S. House of Representatives

DISTRICT/ NAME/ (PARTY AFFILIATIONS)

1 Anna Throne-Holst (D)  
 2 DuWayne Gregory (D-WF-I)  
 3 Thomas Suozzi (D)  
 5 Gregory Meeks (D)  
 6 Grace Meng (D)  
 7 Nydia Velazquez (D-WF)

8 Hakeem Jeffries (D)  
 9 Yvette Clarke (D-WF)  
 10 Jerrold Nadler (D-WF)  
 11 Daniel Donovan Jr. (R-C-I)  
 12 Carolyn Maloney (D-WF)  
 13 Adriano Espaillat (D)  
 14 Joe Crowley (D-WF)  
 15 Jose Serrano (D-WF)  
 16 Eliot Engel (D-WF)  
 17 Nita Lowey (D-WF)

18 Sean Patrick Maloney (D-I-WF)  
 19 Zephyr Teachout (D-WF)  
 20 Paul Tonko (D-I-WF)  
 21 Elise Stefanik (R-I-C)  
 23 John F. Plumb (D-WF)  
 24 Colleen Deacon (D)  
 25 Louise Slaughter (D-WF)  
 26 Brian Higgins (D-WF)  
 27 Diana Kastbaum (D-WF)



## Key U.S. House races



**Anna Throne-Holst**  
**CD 1**

Anna Throne-Holst understands the importance of accessible quality education at all levels, from pre-K to life-long learning, and supports pre-K for every child. She spent the past eight years as supervisor in the Town of Southampton cleaning up the town's financial problems.



**Adriano Espaillat**  
**CD 13**

Twenty years ago, State Sen. Adriano Espaillat was the first Dominican-American elected to a state Legislature. Espaillat's education platform is aimed at creating ladders of opportunity, from increasing funding to Title 1 schools to putting the same focus on building a national technology curriculum.



**Zephyr Teachout**  
**CD 19**

Zephyr Teachout advocates for public education and stands with teachers and parents in the anti-Common Core movement to roll back the worst effects of high-stakes testing. She supports renewable energy solutions and opposes pipelines that threaten water and soil.



**Elise Stefanik**  
**CD 21**

U.S. Rep Elise Stefanik has been involved in politics since she was in high school. She will fight to make sure parents and teachers in New York State communities are the ones making the best educational decisions for students.



**John F. Plumb**  
**CD 23**

John Plumb has spent the past two decades serving his country in active duty and in the Navy reserves. He is committed to protecting health and reproductive rights for all women, and to ensure they have access to the health care they need.



**Colleen Deacon**  
**CD 24**

Colleen Deacon has spent the past six years working with U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand to serve people in Central New York. In Congress, she will fight for STEM programs, for hiring new teachers to reduce class sizes and for expanding Head Start.

## What's at stake nationally?

Nov. 8 is your day to choose the leaders who will help fulfill our collective obligation to help all students succeed and to help our communities thrive, all over the United States. Turnout will be exceptionally large during this presidential election year; every vote will count!

"Your votes will determine whether public officials in Washington, D.C., from Capitol Hill to the White House — and, yes, the U.S. Supreme Court — will be our allies against those who demand and pursue austerity, polarization, privatization and who want to undermine the professions in education and health care," said NYSUT's Executive Vice President Andy Pallotta.

In addition to the historic and critical presidential race, we need to elect members of Congress who will preserve and enhance earned benefits such as Social Security and Medicare, essential programs radical right-wingers in Congress want to dismantle and discard.

The continuing war against labor and collective bargaining rights will play out in these national elections again this year. Workers in many states have lost their rights to collective bargaining. It could happen here. If we end up with another anti-worker Congress and the balance on the Supreme Court falls to the conservatives again, the whole country could lose these rights.

"Make no mistake, this is the goal of many, many misguided elected officials and hopefuls," Pallotta said. "It's an agenda to lay siege

to the foundations of the middle class. We must elect those candidates and incumbents who will defeat it."

### Here's a rundown of some of the federal issues:

**ESSA:** To reclaim the promise of a high quality public education for all children, we must ensure that the Every Student Succeeds Act is implemented as it was written and intended. It must not resort to the testing obsession we've seen fail before.

**Affordable Care Act:** The ACA has allowed millions of people to obtain affordable health insurance, which is the only path to a more efficient and effective health care system in this country. The Republicans have vowed to repeal it, but it must be protected and expanded.

**Minimum wage:** NYSUT helped win a minimum wage increase in New York State, but a federal minimum wage remains on the table. No one who works full time and plays by the rules should have to struggle for basic necessities.

**Student debt and for-profit education:** Wall Street is making enormous fortunes off of higher education, paid for by students who finance their schooling with debt. At the same time, the agenda to privatize education for profit — in charter schools and higher education — has devastating effects on students and their communities.

**Safe patient handling:** We won it in New York State. A federal bill would decrease the potential for injury to all who provide and receive care.

**Nurse in every school:** A quarter of all school children have chronic health conditions, and school nurses are essential to their health and safety, as well as their ability to learn.



**Chuck  
Schumer**  
U.S. Senate

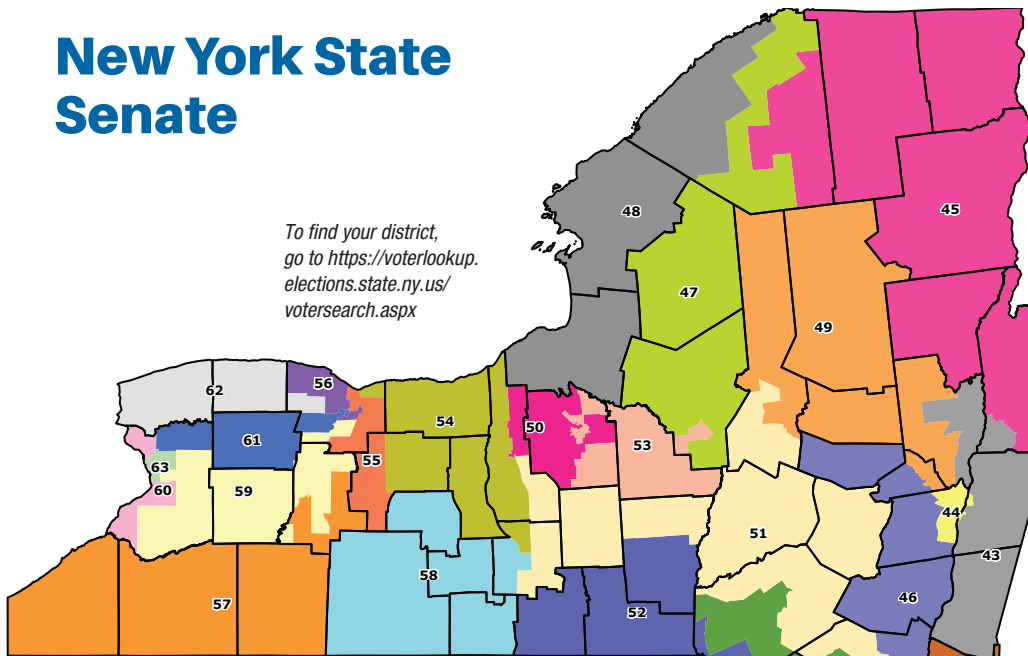
Sen. Chuck  
Schumer has

been a champion for NYSUT and the State of New York since the union helped him defeat anti-public education and anti-labor incumbent Al D'Amato in 1998. In recent years, Schumer's steadfast support against a regressive Republican majority has been a saving grace. We need him, more than ever.



# New York State Senate

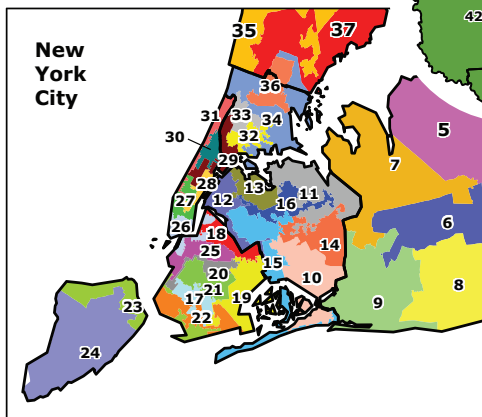
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## New York State Senate

DISTRICT/ NAME/ (PARTY AFFILIATIONS)

- 1 Kenneth LaValle (R-C-I)
- 3 Tom Croci (R-C-I)
- 4 Phil Boyle (R-C-I)
- 7 Adam Haber (D)
- 9 Todd Kaminsky (D)
- 10 James Sanders Jr. (D-WF)
- 11 Tony Avella (D-I)
- 12 Michael Gianaris (D-WF)
- 13 José Peralta (D-WF)
- 14 Leroy Comrie (D-WF)
- 15 Joseph Addabbo (D)
- 16 Toby Stavisky (D-WF-I)
- 18 Martin Dilan (D)
- 19 Roxanne Persaud (D)
- 20 Jesse Hamilton (D)
- 21 Kevin Parker (D-WF)
- 23 Diane Savino (D)
- 24 Andrew Lanza (R-C-I)
- 25 Velmanette Montgomery (D-WF)
- 26 Daniel Squadron (D-WF)
- 27 Brad Hoylman (D-WF)
- 28 Liz Krueger (D-WF)
- 29 José Serrano (D-WF)



**New York City**

- 30 Bill Perkins (D-WF)
- 33 J. Gustavo Rivera (D)
- 34 Jeffrey Klein (D-I)
- 35 Andrea Stewart-Cousins (D-WF-I)
- 36 Jamaal Bailey (D-WF)
- 37 George Latimer (D-WF)
- 38 David Carlucci (D-WF-I)
- 39 Chris Eachus (D-WF)
- 40 Terrence Murphy (R-C-I)
- 41 Terry Gipson (D-WF)
- 43 Kathy Marchione (R-C-I)
- 44 Neil Breslin (D-WF-I)

- 45 Elizabeth Little (R-C-I)
- 47 Joseph Griffo (R-C-I)
- 48 Patty Ritchie (R-C-I)
- 49 Jim Tedisco (R-C-I)
- 50 John DeFrancisco (R-C-I)
- 51 James Seward (R-C-I)
- 52 Fred Akshar (R-C-I)
- 53 David Valesky (D)
- 55 Rich Funke (R-C-I)
- 56 Joseph Robach (R-C-I)
- 57 Catharine Young (R-C-I)
- 58 Leslie Danks Burke (D-WF)
- 59 Patrick Gallivan (R-C-I)
- 60 Amber Small (D)
- 62 Robert Ort (R-C-I)
- 63 Tim Kennedy (D-WF-I)

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## Key State Senate races



**Tom Croci**  
**SD 3**

Tom Croci is a strong supporter of public schools. He has sponsored legislation to ameliorate the tax cap and has stood up for local control in his school district and against charter schools. He chairs the Committee on Homeland Security, Veterans and Military Affairs.



**Phil Boyle**  
**SD 4**

Phil Boyle has been a strong advocate for public education from pre-K through post-graduate. He sponsored legislation to exempt community colleges from the MTA tax and stood up for public schools against charter schools.



**Adam Haber**  
**SD 7**

Adam Haber is an outspoken advocate for reforming the Common Core, which, he says, has unfairly burdened schools, teachers and students. He will continue working for the expansion of athletics, arts and after-school programs, and all the necessary tools for success.



**Todd Kaminsky**  
**SD 9**

Todd Kaminsky's education reform plan decouples teacher evaluations from test results; reduces test-taking and increases transparency; repeals state authority to take over failing schools, and puts the school reform process back in the hands of local educators, parents and other stakeholders.



**J. Gustavo Rivera**  
**SD 33**

Since he took office in 2011, Sen. J. Gustavo Rivera has focused on health inequity, as well as promoting better nutritional and exercise habits through his initiative, Bronx CAN. In 2013, he became the ranking Democrat on the Health Committee.



**George Latimer**  
**SD 37**

George Latimer is the highest-ranking Democrat on the Education Committee. In that role, he has successfully fought to increase education aid to every single school district in Westchester County and against the flawed implementation of the Common Core standards.

## Key State Senate races



**David Carlucci**  
**SD 38**

David Carlucci has played an instrumental role in standing up for progressive issues. He is an advocate for all-day kindergarten and an outspoken voice against hydrofracking, he has fought to protect a woman's right to choose, and is a key supporter of marriage equality in the state.



**Chris Eachus**  
**SD 39**

A distinguished public school educator, Chris Eachus is a long-time member of the AFT, NEA, NYSUT and AFL-CIO. In 2015, he received the Lifetime Service Award from the Hudson Valley Area Labor Federation and was recognized for Leadership in Education by SUNY Orange Foundation.



**Terrence Murphy**  
**SD 40**

Terrence Murphy has opposed over-testing and supported the opt-out movement by sponsoring the parental refusal act. He sponsored legislation to exempt BOCES capital expenses from the tax cap. He says he is running for re-election in the Senate to provide opportunities for all.



**Terry Gipson**  
**SD 41**

Sen. Terry Gipson supports public schools. He led the fight to ban Pearson, the foreign for-profit testing company from the state. He says the economy will be stronger when every child has access to a high quality public school education.



**Leslie Danks Burke**  
**SD 58**

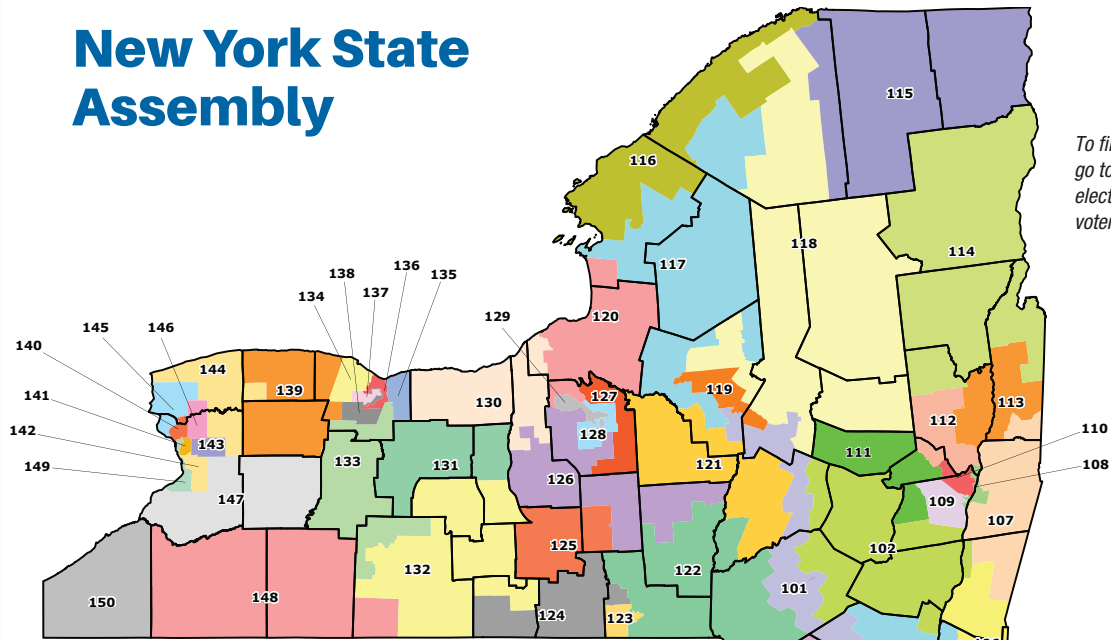
Leslie Danks Burke serves on the boards of the Tompkins-Cortland Community College Foundation, Planned Parenthood of the Southern Finger Lakes and the Tompkins County Public Library Foundation. She prioritizes getting all children the great schools, safe communities and good job opportunities they deserve.



**Amber Small**  
**SD 60**

Amber Small heads the Parkside Community Association, where she has worked to improve the quality of life for thousands of residents. She has served in municipal government, where she worked to ensure women are represented in the halls of power.

# New York State Assembly

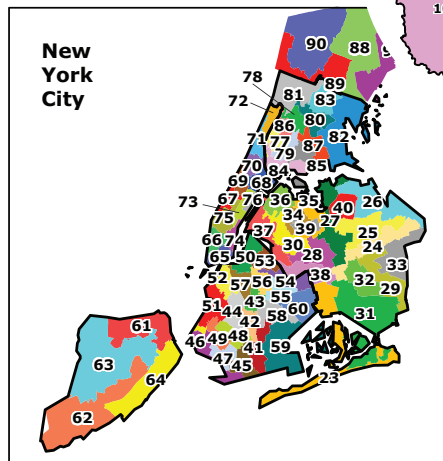


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## New York State Assembly

DISTRICT/ NAME/  
(PARTY AFFILIATIONS)

- 1 Fred Thiele Jr. (D-WF-I)
- 2 Anthony Palumbo (R-C-I)
- 3 Dean Murray (R-C-I)
- 4 Steve Englebright (D-WF-I)
- 5 Alfred Graf (R-C-I)
- 6 Phil Ramos (D-WF-I)
- 7 Andrew Garbarino (R-C-I)
- 8 Richard Macellaro (D)
- 9 Joseph Saladino (R-C-I)
- 10 Chad Lupinacci (R-C-I)
- 11 Kimberly Jean-Pierre (D-WF-I)
- 12 Andrew Raia (R-C-I)
- 13 Charles Lavine (D-WF-I)



- 14 David McDonough (R-C-I)
- 15 Michael Montesano (R-C-I)
- 16 Anthony D'Urso (D-WF)
- 17 Tom McKeivitt (R-C-I)
- 19 Edward Ra (R-C-I)
- 20 Anthony Eramo (D)
- 22 Michelle Solages (D-WF-I)
- 23 Stacey Pheffer Amato (D)

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- 24 David Weprin (D-WF)
- 25 Nily Rozic (D-WF-I)
- 26 Edward Braunstein (D-WF-I)
- 27 Michael Simanowitz (D-C-I)
- 28 Andrew Hevesi (D-WF)
- 29 Alicia Hyndman (D)
- 31 Michele Titus (D-WF)
- 32 Vivian Cook (D)
- 33 Clyde Vanel (D)
- 34 Michael DenDekker (D-WF)
- 35 Jeffrion Aubry (D)
- 36 Aravella Simotas (D-WF)
- 37 Catherine Nolan (D-WF)

38 Michael Miller (D-I)  
39 Francisco Moya (D-WF)  
40 Ronald Kim (D-WF-I)  
41 Helene Weinstein (D-WF)  
42 Rodneyse Bichotte (D-WF)  
43 Diana Richardson (D)  
44 Robert Carroll (D)  
45 Steven Cymbrowitz (D-WF-I)  
46 Pamela Harris (D)  
47 William Colton (D-WF)  
49 Peter Abbate Jr. (D-WF-I)  
50 Joseph Lentol (D)  
51 Felix Ortiz (D)  
52 Jo Anne Simon (D)  
53 Maritza Davila (D)  
54 Erik Martin Dilan (D)  
55 Latrice Walker (D)  
56 Tremaine Wright (D)  
57 Walter Mosley (D)  
58 N. Nick Perry (D)  
59 Jaime Williams (D)  
60 Charles Barron (D)  
61 Matthew Titone (D-WF)  
63 Michael Cusick (D-C-I)  
64 Nicole Malliotakis (R-C-I)  
66 Deborah Glick (D)  
67 Linda Rosenthal (D-WF)  
68 Robert Rodriguez (D-WF)  
69 Daniel O'Donnell (D)  
70 Inez Dickens (D)  
71 Herman (Denny) Farrell (D)  
73 Dan Quart (D-WF)  
74 Brian Kavanagh (D-WF)  
75 Richard Gottfried (D-WF)  
76 Rebecca Seawright (D-WF)  
77 Latoya Joyner (D-WF)  
78 José Rivera (D)

79 Michael Blake (D)  
80 Mark Gjonaj (D)  
81 Jeffrey Dinowitz (D)  
82 Michael Benedetto (D)  
83 Carl Heastie (D-WF)  
85 Marcos Crespo (D)  
86 Victor Pichardo (D-WF)  
87 Luis Sepúlveda (D-WF)  
88 Amy Paulin (D-WF)  
89 J. Gary Pretlow (D-I)  
90 Shelley Mayer (D-WF-I)  
91 Steven Otis (D-WF-I)  
92 Thomas Abinanti (D-WF-I)  
93 David Buchwald (D-WF-I)  
94 Brian M. Higbie (D-WF)  
95 Sandy Galef (D-WF-I)  
96 Kenneth Zebrowski (D-WF)  
97 Ellen Jaffee (D)  
99 James Skoufis (D-WF)  
100 Aileen Gunther (D-C-WF-I)  
102 Peter Lopez (R-C-I)  
103 Kevin Cahill (D-WF-I)  
104 Frank Skartados (D-WF-I)  
105 Joe Torres (D)  
106 Didi Barrett (D-WF-I)  
107 Steve McLaughlin (R-C-I)  
108 John McDonald III (D-I)  
109 Patricia Fahy (D-WF)  
110 Phil Steck (D-WF-I)  
111 Angelo Santabarbara (D-WF-I)  
113 Carrie Woerner (D-I)  
114 Dan Stec (R-C-I)  
115 D. Billy Jones (D-WF)  
116 Addie Russell (D-WF)  
117 Ken Blankenbush (R-C-I)  
118 Marc Butler (R-C-I)  
119 Anthony Brindisi (D-WF-I)



120 William Barclay (R-C-I)  
121 William Magee (D-I)  
122 Clifford Crouch (R)  
123 Donna Lupardo (D-WF)  
124 Christopher Friend (R-C-I)  
125 Barbara Lifton (D-WF)  
126 Diane Dwire (D-WF)  
127 Albert Stirpe Jr. (D-WF)  
128 Pamela Hunter (D)  
129 William Magnarelli (D-WF-I)  
130 Bob Oaks (R-C)  
131 Brian Kolb (R-C-I)  
132 Philip Palmesano (R-C-I)  
134 Peter Lawrence (R-C-I)  
135 Mark Johns (R-WF-C-I)  
136 Joseph Morelle (D-I)  
138 Harry Bronson (D-WF-I)  
140 Robin Schimminger (D-C-I)  
141 Crystal Peoples-Stokes (D-WF)  
142 Michael Kearns (D-R-C-I)  
143 Monica P. Wallace (D)  
145 John Ceretto (D-WF-I)  
146 Steven Meyer (D-WF)  
147 David DiPietro (R-C-I)  
148 Joseph Giglio (R-C-I)  
149 Sean Ryan (D-WF-I)  
150 Andrew Goodell (R-C-I)



## Key State Assembly races



**Latrice Walker**  
**AD 55**

A longtime labor and community activist, Latrice Walker has fought against the tax credit/voucher bill. She says she will continue to improve workers' lives by fighting for equal pay for men and women, supporting the DREAM Act and working to raise the minimum wage.



**Carrie Woerner**  
**AD 113**

Carrie Woerner has advocated for schools to receive their fair share of state funding, including full restoration of the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) and increases in Foundation Aid. She has advocated for commonsense changes to Common Core curriculum and assessments.



**D. Billy Jones**  
**AD 115**

D. Billy Jones says the state needs to promote good education, a safe living environment, business expansion and cultural attractions to keep residents in the North Country. In addition, he says the state must invest in training and education in the vocational trades.



**Addie Russell**  
**AD 116**

Addie Russell co-sponsored legislation that would require acute care facilities and nursing homes to adopt minimum staffing requirements for a safe nurse-patient ratio. She also says state economic development programs must better serve areas like the North Country.



**Diane Dwire**  
**AD 126**

Diane Dwire is a strong advocate of women's rights and pay equity. She'll push for passage of the full Women's Equality Act. She supports a ban on hydrofracking until it's deemed completely safe for our communities and drinking water.



**Mark Johns**  
**AD 135**

Mark Johns has been a champion for pension security. He voted "no" on Tier 6. Johns has secured almost \$300 million in economic development funding for the Rochester area and restored cuts to the pharmaceutical program for seniors.



# What's at stake in New York State?

The results of the 2016 election will reverberate like aftershocks from Montauk to Massena and Kiamesha Lake to Kenmore. “Every school district, every college and university, every health care institution, non-profit agency and municipal government will be affected — not only in relation to funding, but also in their ability to determine the willingness of residents and citizens to dictate and decide the future of their own communities,” said NYSUT Executive Vice President Andy Pallotta.

## Here are some key issues:

**Learning standards:** The results of the flawed implementation of the Common Core standards by SED’s former leadership hurt parents, students and NYSUT members. The Legislature we elect for the next two years will influence how New York responds with its own set of learning standards and regulations.

**Teacher evaluations:** NYSUT has prevailed in forcing the state to rethink much of the ill-advised, punitive, time-consuming and destructive Annual Professional Performance Review law. However, it is still in process, and the next Legislature will shape its direction.

**Charter schools:** The laws and regulations governing charter schools are very much in play, and the moneyed advocates of privatizing education have spent heavily to elect their friends.

**Funding for education:** It’s been 10 years since the courts decided in the Campaign for Fiscal Equity lawsuit — with subsequent legislative action — that the state must provide more to guarantee a fair and equitable education for all New York State students.

**Tax cap:** We need to elect officials who understand that cutting state aid while limiting — or eliminating — the ability of local districts and governments to raise local revenue is a recipe for disaster.

**Public higher education:** The next Legislature must address the insufficient level of state funding for public higher ed to ensure quality, accessibility and affordability at SUNY, CUNY and community colleges.

**Health care:** NYSUT backs candidates who support access to quality health care, seek to preserve SUNY medical centers and support commonsense legislation, such as safe staffing ratios for nurses.



## Key State Assembly races continued



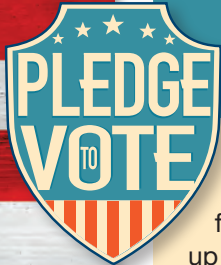
**Monica P. Wallace**  
AD 143

A law school professor and UUP member, Monica P. Wallace says she will ensure that college remains affordable so students don’t have to mortgage their futures. She says she will support public schools and give teachers the resources they need and respect they deserve.



**Steven Meyer**  
AD 146

Amherst native Steven Meyer is running as one of the youngest candidates for state Legislature in the entire nation. A recent college graduate and small business owner, Meyer has support from the community, labor organizations, businesses and elected officials.



## Take the Pledge!

It's not too late to take the Pledge to Vote!

NYSUT is running the Pledge to Vote campaign everywhere NYSUT members are employed. The pledge form is available online at [pledge.nysut.org](http://pledge.nysut.org). In the run-up to the election, NYSUT will contact those who signed the pledge and remind them that they promised to get to the polls.

The campaign does not tell people how to vote; it engages members to become active in the political process.

## VOTE Nov. 8 **Make a difference!**

### Where do I vote?

If you live in New York State, double-check your polling place at <https://voterlookup.elections.state.ny.us/>.

### What time can I vote?

All polling sites in New York State must be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. for the general election. If you live out of state, check with your board of elections.

### Do I need ID?

New York State has not adopted a voter identification law, but if you are among the many NYSUT retirees who live in other states, you should check your state's requirements.

# YOUR ELECTION 2016

# HQ:



[mac.nysut.org](http://mac.nysut.org)