

2017 NYSUT SRP LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 20-22, 2017 – DESMOND HOTEL, ALBANY

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

WORKSHOP SESSION I
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

1. First Aid for Pupil Transportation Staff

Participants will learn the latest guidelines for CPR and emergency cardiac care, starting with how to assess the scene of an emergency and take stock of the victim's condition. Included are hands-on activities, how to perform one-rescuer CPR and rescue breathing, and how to manage choking in a conscious person.

2. How Technology Can Assist in Engaging and Maintaining Members

NYSUT Information Technology staff and Legislative and Political will review the current technology platforms that NYSUT utilizes for updating, emailing, surveying and tracking member engagement. A demonstration of the platforms will help you understand and determine which of these might help your local.

3. Civic Engagement

This workshop is a learning and networking event planned and executed for NYSUT SRP Locals with the purpose of providing participants direction and resources for developing strong, mutually-beneficial relationships with communities and community organizations. You will learn to plan and organize activities and workshops with members and parents that focus on community civic activities. Current Community Engagement initiatives include the AFT Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools (AROS) initiative; Anti-Constitutional Convention programs; Family-School-Community Partnerships; and the First Book Literacy program.

4. New Health and Safety Laws, Rules and Regulations

New York State's Public Employee Safety and Health Bureau (PESH) and the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) are the major agencies protecting worker health and safety in New York. Covered in this session will be newly enacted New York State laws, rules and regulations and how they impact your members.

5. Our World, Our Students

This workshop examines the myriad of student populations representing diverse backgrounds and their families in New York State. Nationally and locally, our schools are educating more students from a broad array of cultures. These students offer unique strengths (cultural resources), but may also bring challenges to educators who are not familiar with the cultures they represent. We will examine how to become familiar with students' cultural abilities and needs in order to create a more conducive learning environment. In addition, the program will engage educators in discussing the importance of involving all students in the learning process while demonstrating how they can use cultural connections to assist students in appreciating each other's strengths.

6. Compassion Fatigue – Part 1

Compassion fatigue has been defined as a combination of physical, emotional, and spiritual depletion associated with caring for others who are in constant emotional or physical distress. You may even work harder and continue to give to others until you may feel out of balance. Caring for someone or working in an environment that depletes you can strain even the most resilient people and this emotional and physical stress is extremely common. This workshop identifies risk factors for and signs of caregiver stress and compassion fatigue and will provide tools and resources for managing its impact.

NOTE: *This session continues in workshop 9.*

7. Controlling “Critters” in the Workplace

Bedbugs, mice, flies, cockroaches, rats and birds are all “critters” that have invaded workplaces. How does that happen? How dangerous is it to you and others in your buildings? This session will: introduce how bugs and other pests enter buildings; discuss health hazards they may or may not pose; and demonstrate how to effectively control or eliminate them without creating additional hazards for the people in the building.

8. Beat Privatization by Making Connections: It’s About Your Job!

Privatization, contracting out, and outsourcing – these words describe a threat to public education. It means transferring the work of public school employees to private companies. Another word for privatization is FIRED! As schools privatize, SRPs lose their jobs. Come learn the signs to look for, how to organize your members to fight the threat and effective messaging. You will get a step by step plan to beat privatization.

WORKSHOP SESSION II

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

9. Compassion Fatigue – Part 2

This session is a continuation of workshop 6.

10. Best Practices in the Delivery of Mental and Behavioral Health Services

This workshop identifies warning signs of early-onset mental illness in children and adolescents. Included is an examination of collaborative behavioral intervention programs and strategies, including youth “Mental Health First Aid” - a program designed to teach parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff and human services workers how to help an adolescent who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or crisis.

11. Medical Protocols for Medically Fragile Students

The increasing population of children with multiple disabilities and medical complexities continues to challenge each health care professional, and care coordination services are critical to these children and their families. This workshop discusses complex medical needs, interventions, and technologies such as tube feeding, IV lines, catheterization, ostomy appliances, dialysis, and respiratory devices. Also included will be contraindications, recognition of medical problems requiring referral, monitoring, and equipment planning.

12. Empowering SRPs to Take Control of Their Professional Learning

This session will focus on what school-related professionals can do when it comes to advocating for keeping one's professional practices current and up-to-date. While not a session on certification, CTLE requirements will be briefly addressed and subsequent training options will be explored.

13. New York State and Local Employees’ Retirement System

This workshop covers the critical elements involved in pension benefit calculation in order to maximize these benefits. Included will be information on how and when to contact NYSLERS. Questions are welcomed. **NOTE:** *This workshop is for all SRPs EXCEPT teaching assistants, New York City paras and secretaries (who have their own city system) and members of private sector locals.*

14. Presidents and Chapter Chairs Roundtable

Shaping a stronger future for SRPs requires leadership and collective strength at both the state and local levels. During this open forum, local presidents and chapter chairs will have an opportunity to share union and workplace issues of importance to their members.

15. Dealing with Difficult Students in the School Environment

This seminar will offer strategies for dealing with students who exhibit chronic and extreme misbehavior, including violence. Participants will learn what motivates students to misbehave; intervention techniques to use at the moment of misbehavior; how to avoid and defuse confrontations, and ways to reinforce desirable behavior.

16. What Would You Do? What SHOULD You Do? – Part 1

This popular workshop discusses legal and common sense responses to situations that face SRPs in the workplace. Multiple scenarios will be reviewed to help SRPs in a variety of job titles respond to diverse issues legally and practically. *This session continues in workshop 24.*

17. Rules and Regulations on NYSDOT Testing

Bus drivers operate a motor vehicle, defined as a 'Bus' in the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law, to transport passengers to pre-planned destinations. Bus drivers must pass a qualifying physical examination, and be able to see at least 20/40 in each eye.

WORKSHOP SESSION III

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

18. Trauma Awareness in Education: Supporting Resiliency and Preventing Conflict

Increasingly our students experience exposure to multiple or prolonged traumatic events, such as child abuse, neglect, and exposure to domestic violence. This experience directly affects their social and emotional development and negatively impacts their behavior and academic growth in school. It is becoming more common that educators are faced with the challenges of connecting with and educating students who have endured complex trauma. Often the hurt that is felt by the students is placed on the educator and it can manifest in a variety of ways. This seminar will engage participants in understanding the roots of trauma, its prevalence and causes, the characteristics and associated behaviors, as well as learning how to work with traumatized students in a proactive and positive way.

19. Motivating Students through Music: A Whole Child Approach

This seminar will seek to enhance the skills and knowledge needed to empower educators to impact the life of students inside and outside of the classroom through music, lyrics, and poetry. Music speaks to the heart of caring individuals when faced with struggles and hardship in the school setting. Words are the key to bringing about change in the life of a child. Motivating Students through Music: A Whole Child Approach empowers educators to use the arts to engage students in learning and to promote positive behavior.

20. NYSUT Member Benefits Programs and Services: What Your Union Does for You

Often the member's only contact with NYSUT is through the regional office and labor relations specialist. What else does your union do for you? This workshop reviews the many additional programs and services available to NYSUT members including legal services, financial planning, communications assistance and endorsed plans available through NYSUT Member Benefits.

21. Illegal Substances (Current Trends in Substance Abuse)

This workshop will provide up to date information on the primary drugs of abuse as well as associated trending data and the impact on students and families. Discussions will primarily focus on prescription pain medications and heroin; marijuana and the re-emerging synthetics; tobacco and E-cigarettes; alcohol and binge drinking.

22. NYS Teachers Retirement System

This workshop is for teaching assistants and will focus on pertinent legislative items, steps to take in retirement planning, the retirement system benefit, reading the annual statement and the retirement options. Questions are welcome throughout the presentation.

23. Engaging Members in the Work of the Local Union

This session presents a connection between engaging members and engaging the community using traditional organizing practices: identifying members, their issues and interests; improving the degree of member participation in essential union functions; seeking to involve every member in the union; developing relationships between leaders of the locals and members; and providing opportunities to develop future local leaders.

24. What Would You Do? What SHOULD You Do? – Part 2

This session is a continuation of workshop 16.

25. Gang Awareness

Societal pressures follow students into schools every day. This seminar focuses on the significant challenges that students confront in and outside of school, including the complex reasons students engage in harmful social relationships, specifically gang activity. As a result, students find it difficult to focus on academics when they have legitimate concerns about their safety. This program addresses how gang involvement impacts the community, academic achievement and the day to day running of schools. The learning environment is a crucial indicator of student success. This training empowers educators with proactive strategies to assist in engaging “at risk” students in healthy and positive ways that leads to building strong relationships and student learning.

26. What Free Speech Means in Politics and Public Relations

NYSUT Communications staff will cover the ins and outs of free speech in an era of anti-union attacks and share what you need to know to confidently exercise your rights.