

 Never before have teachers and public employees in New York State been so under attack as we are now. Our detractors are trying to convince the public that it is the teachers’ fault where there is poor student performance. We know that this is NOT true ! We need to fight back. It is time to rise up and take a stand against huge corporate interests such as Cuomo, his Charter School hacks, and Campbell Brown affiliates whose main focus is to take away the Tenure rights that allow us to be advocates for our students. These groups are outspending us **15-1**. Please take a stand and say, “ YES, I want to be supportive of NYSUT’s efforts to save funding for public education and to protect important features of our jobs such as tenure, pensions and our right to collectively bargain." NYSUT’s legislative department can NOT do the work it must on our behalf without our financial support. To that end we are asking you to consider giving a **minimum** of **1/10 of 1% of your Salary**. Simply put, are you contributing at least the first 2 digits of your step salary to VOTE-COPE ? (Example: ATA Member making $52,000 would give $52 dollars per year.) Of course many of you give more and if you can afford to do so NYSUT can use everything it gets to work and defend us.

**VOTE/COPE needs us and we need VOTE/COPE!!!!!! THANK YOU for your support!!!**

The top 5 list of why it is important to give to VOTE/COPE:

**5. Fight back against unfair APPR practices - please see Cuomo's Agenda !**

**4. Pension reform- Limits the amount of time members make a 3% contribution to the retirement system (previously it was for your teaching career- think of how much you are keeping in your pocket after 10 years), works to keep the age of retirment to a reasonable age and to limit the constant proposals of new tier levels as well as any other attacks on our pension and retirement rights.**

3**. Tenure – assures a fair process when dismissal charges are brought against any teacher, allows you to stand up for what is right for your students without the fear of termination, job security ( eliminates nepotism- if your princpal’s niece needs a job, she gets yours), eliminates termination based solely on cost – (the district saying that you’ve been here too many years and we can get a new teacher for a lot less cost, etc.)**

**2. Triborough Decision- keeps the terms of an expired collective bargaining agreement in place until a successor agreement is reached.**

**1. The Taylor Law – Gives us our collective bargaining rights which includes many rights in our contract.**

**How much would you be willing to give for these 5 issues alone, not to mention everything else NYSUT does for us ?**

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*\*This authorization is made voluntarily and without fear of reprisal. The making of contributions to VOTE/COPE is not a condition of membership in any labor organization. It will not impact my pension. The money will be used to make political contributions and expenditures in connection with federal, state, and local elections. It is not tax deductible.*

The undersigned authorizes the Greater Amsterdam School District to deduct from each of my regular paychecks

the sum of $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and to forward that amount to VOTE-COPE, P.PO. Box 5190, Albany, NY 12205-0190.

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_