The construction and repair bond won overwhelming support in March with over 3000 voters voting. To help assure the larger than average turnout, letters were sent out to NTA members who may have missed December’s opportunity to vote. In addition, joint advertisements paid by the District’s Civil Service Employees Association, the Newburgh Supervisors and Administrators Association and the Newburgh Teachers’ Association encouraged a positive vote.

“Being behind a repair project and field enhancements necessary to support grade re-configuration was a ‘no brainer.’ Fortunately for all of us, our entire educational community stood up and were counted,” commented NTA President Phil Cordella.

Of particular note for NTA members is the role the Union plays on the “Building Advisory Teams” when there is construction taking place on site. Each head delegate, or designee, must be an active partner with the District as the scheduled work proceeds. Any issues which might affect the staffs must have full review of each team.

At the April NTA Head Delegates meeting the complete list of projects were distributed and reviewed as well as the composition of each advisory group. Every school except Heritage, GAMS, Gardnertown and will have some sort of construction going this summer. Improvements to those other building will commence in the summer of 2008.

The construction and repair bond won overwhelming support in March with over 3000 voters voting. To help assure the larger than average turnout, letters were sent out to NTA members who may have missed December’s opportunity to vote. In addition, joint advertisements paid by the District’s Civil Service Employees Association, the Newburgh Supervisors and Administrators Association and the Newburgh Teachers’ Association encouraged a positive vote.

“Being behind a repair project and field enhancements necessary to support grade re-configuration was a ‘no brainer.’ Fortunately for all of us, our entire educational community stood up and were counted,” commented NTA President Phil Cordella.

Of particular note for NTA members is the role the Union plays on the “Building Advisory Teams” when there is construction taking place on site. Each head delegate, or designee, must be an active partner with the District as the scheduled work proceeds. Any issues which might affect the staffs must have full review of each team.

At the April NTA Head Delegates meeting the complete list of projects were distributed and reviewed as well as the composition of each advisory group. Every school except Heritage, GAMS, Gardnertown and will have some sort of construction going this summer. Improvements to those other building will commence in the summer of 2008.

The construction and repair bond won overwhelming support in March with over 3000 voters voting. To help assure the larger than average turnout, letters were sent out to NTA members who may have missed December’s opportunity to vote. In addition, joint advertisements paid by the District’s Civil Service Employees Association, the Newburgh Supervisors and Administrators Association and the Newburgh Teachers’ Association encouraged a positive vote.

“Being behind a repair project and field enhancements necessary to support grade re-configuration was a ‘no brainer.’ Fortunately for all of us, our entire educational community stood up and were counted,” commented NTA President Phil Cordella.

Of particular note for NTA members is the role the Union plays on the “Building Advisory Teams” when there is construction taking place on site. Each head delegate, or designee, must be an active partner with the District as the scheduled work proceeds. Any issues which might affect the staffs must have full review of each team.

At the April NTA Head Delegates meeting the complete list of projects were distributed and reviewed as well as the composition of each advisory group. Every school except Heritage, GAMS, Gardnertown and will have some sort of construction going this summer. Improvements to those other building will commence in the summer of 2008.

The construction and repair bond won overwhelming support in March with over 3000 voters voting. To help assure the larger than average turnout, letters were sent out to NTA members who may have missed December’s opportunity to vote. In addition, joint advertisements paid by the District’s Civil Service Employees Association, the Newburgh Supervisors and Administrators Association and the Newburgh Teachers’ Association encouraged a positive vote.

“Being behind a repair project and field enhancements necessary to support grade re-configuration was a ‘no brainer.’ Fortunately for all of us, our entire educational community stood up and were counted,” commented NTA President Phil Cordella.

Of particular note for NTA members is the role the Union plays on the “Building Advisory Teams” when there is construction taking place on site. Each head delegate, or designee, must be an active partner with the District as the scheduled work proceeds. Any issues which might affect the staffs must have full review of each team.

At the April NTA Head Delegates meeting the complete list of projects were distributed and reviewed as well as the composition of each advisory group. Every school except Heritage, GAMS, Gardnertown and will have some sort of construction going this summer. Improvements to those other building will commence in the summer of 2008.

The construction and repair bond won overwhelming support in March with over 3000 voters voting. To help assure the larger than average turnout, letters were sent out to NTA members who may have missed December’s opportunity to vote. In addition, joint advertisements paid by the District’s Civil Service Employees Association, the Newburgh Supervisors and Administrators Association and the Newburgh Teachers’ Association encouraged a positive vote.

“Being behind a repair project and field enhancements necessary to support grade re-configuration was a ‘no brainer.’ Fortunately for all of us, our entire educational community stood up and were counted,” commented NTA President Phil Cordella.

Of particular note for NTA members is the role the Union plays on the “Building Advisory Teams” when there is construction taking place on site. Each head delegate, or designee, must be an active partner with the District as the scheduled work proceeds. Any issues which might affect the staffs must have full review of each team.

At the April NTA Head Delegates meeting the complete list of projects were distributed and reviewed as well as the composition of each advisory group. Every school except Heritage, GAMS, Gardnertown and will have some sort of construction going this summer. Improvements to those other building will commence in the summer of 2008.
The NTA Pendulum • May 2007

Our Entire Educational Community Needs to Elect Woodhull, Bowles, and McAfee

In an era when public service is called into question by the quality of candidates, this election year the NTA is confronted with a situation where there were many excellent candidates running for the Newburgh Board of Education Tuesday, May 15, 2007.

The candidates include the incumbent and long time friend of the NTA, Tom Woodhull. Never a week goes by without seeing Tom out in front on a District health and safety issue on behalf of our members. Married to an elementary teacher and having raised two sons who graduated from NFA, Tom is attuned to our Union’s educational issues and a proud student advocate. The NTA voted to support Mr. Woodhull candidacy for re-election at a Special Board of Directors meeting held Monday, April 30, 2007.

Incumbent Grace Bowles, an NTA member and retired NFA music teacher, is clearly pro-education and pro-teacher, and, like Tom, deserves re-election based on her commitment to educational issues and to students. Grace is married to a City of Newburgh councilman and retired Newburgh teacher and NTA member George Bowles. Grace’s daughter Anita is also a teacher; she works at GAMS. The NTA has also voted to support Ms. Bowles re-election bid.

After serious consideration and discussion, and in a Board of Education election year so ripe with promise, the NTA Board of Directors passed an “endorsement motion.” The NTA proudly backs Tom Woodhull, Grace Bowles, and Judy McAfee, and now the Union will urge its voting members to support these candidates for public office.

“...as well as supporting the budget, phone bank callers will be telling District voters to vote for Tom, Grace, and Judy, ballot positions 1, 5, & 6,” noted NTA Educational Issues Advocacy Chair Joe Loito.

In addition, NTA President Phil Cordella stated, “We could have easily played the incumbent card and stopped at two. After all, Tom and Grace were sitting Board members when our historic, four year, NTA contract was ratified.” Cordella went on to say, “But how do you turn your back on a new candidate whose commitment to educational issues and to students are so apparent to all who listen to what Judy has to say?”

Please remember to vote Tuesday, May 15, 2007. Polls are open 12 noon – 9:00 PM.

Student Safety at Stake

The third ballot proposition on the May 15, 2007 vote is an important one for District voters to decide. Current District policy requires those secondary students who live one mile away from their schools to be allowed to use District transportation, rather than have students walking near or off the shoulder of roads, like Meadow Hill and Fostertown Roads. While the current policy is more lenient than the 3 mile/2 mile minimum requirement, the District fearing unsafe road conditions, has set the proposed figure to "zero" walking for both groups. Although the District has been busing children using this “zero policy,” this cannot continue without a permissive referendum passing by voters in the District.

Phil Cordella, NTA President, has made the NTA’s position on this busing issue clear: “In order to avoid dangerous walking situations for our youngsters, the District’s ‘zero distance’ policy has the overwhelming support of the NTA.” President Cordella further stated: “If this proposition were to fail, come September our young people would be in harm’s way, which is totally against everything our Union believes in about the health and safety of our children. We must come out in force in order to keep our children safely in school buses and not walking on or near roads or across busy intersections.”

The NTA in D.C.

NTA Officers and Delegates recently attended the NYSUT Representative Assembly in Washington, D.C. There they visited the U.S. Capitol and are seen above at the office of U.S. Congressman John Hall.

Pictured above (l. to r.): Robin Grove, Carol Franklin, NTA President Philip Cordella, NTA Treasurer Angela Sartori, David Brown, Patty Van Duser, Sheila Manning, Jeff Gebhardt, NTA Vice-President Vicky Pittman, and Jim Nee.

For more information call 845-451-1551 ext. 2415.