



Newburgh Teachers' Association  
52 Pierces Road  
Newburgh, NY 12550  
845.562.8120  
845.565.7905  
[www.newburghta.com](http://www.newburghta.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** April 18, 2017

**Contact:** Stacy Moran, President Newburgh Teachers' Association, [president@newburghta.com](mailto:president@newburghta.com)

**Local Children Turn Out for Book Give-Away Event  
Hosted by the Newburgh Teachers' Association**

NEWBURGH – On Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, Elementary school-age students and their families came out for a book giveaway hosted by The Newburgh Teachers' Association (NTA). The NTA, consisting of over 2,000 teachers, teaching assistants, substitutes and retirees, collected new and gently-used books to give to the students in grades K through 6<sup>th</sup>. The books were distributed by the NTA at the Newburgh Armory Unity Center (NAUC) during the Saturday Morning Enrichment Program.

Union members gave these books to help promote reading in early literacy and to ensure that the children in the Newburgh community have the necessary resources to have a stellar public educational experience both in and out of the classroom.

“We had a wonderful turnout,” said Stacy Moran, President of the NTA. “We met several families from our Newburgh elementary school system from Meadow Hill to Gidney Avenue to Fostertown. As teaching professionals, it was humbling that we could give our students something that will enrich their overall educational experience.”

“I spoke with many of the students who came out to get some new books,” said Matthew Scully, Vice President of the NTA. “They all realize that reading is fundamental and fun. They also see that reading helps them to get better at homework.”

Isaiah, a first grade student from Fostertown, felt that the event was good because “books expand your mind and take you on different adventures.”

Ophelia, a kindergarten student from Meadow Hill was very happy to get new books at the give away because she has already developed a love of reading.

“Thanks to the NTA,” said Philip Howard from the Executive Committee of the Newburgh Armory Unity Center. “We appreciate the efforts that were made to make our kids happy. Our biggest battle cry is that literacy is the equalizer. Helping us to put books into our kids' lives is priceless. Kudos to the NTA.”

Moran, her colleagues and fellow union members attended The Local Action Project (LAP) Planning Conference with NYSUT in the summer of 2016. “This program was designed to engage our members and educate our community in the everyday work of the local union,” she said. “Since this past fall, we

have worked to increase member engagement, strengthen political action, build our community relations and expand our communications plan. Through this event and many others, such as our recent Family Movie Day, we want to strengthen the ties with our community allies.” The three-year LAP program will also help local unions to achieve results in providing the best education programs and increasing parental involvement.