Policies for Convention Delegates

Attending conventions of our state and national affiliates (NYSUT and the AFT) is an opportunity for members of NTA to become involved and active in the larger union movement and to play a role in shaping the priorities and direction of our affiliates.

Sending delegates to conventions is an expensive but worthwhile endeavor of the Newburgh Teachers’ Association, which has a proud history of being an active local in our state and national organizations.

Prior to running for election as a convention delegate, members should be aware of the expectations the members of the union have for their convention delegates.

I. Responsibilities of Convention Delegates

A. Responsibilities of a Delegate at a Convention

The primary responsibility of delegates attending a state or national affiliate convention is to take an active role in the convention. This ordinarily means that a delegate would be expected to attend all sessions of the conventions with the NTA delegation. It is further expected that delegates will have selected committee assignments that reflect their interests and will attend the meeting(s) of their selected committee.

Delegates are encouraged, but not required, to become members of the Unity Caucus (NYSUT) and the Progressive Caucus (AFT).

B. Responsibilities to the Local

It is expected that delegates will bring back to the local information from the conventions, particularly regarding policies or initiatives adopted by body and resolutions and debates from the committees in which they participated. Delegates should be able to discuss at the Delegate Assembly the deliberations and issues raised in each of their committees.

It is hoped that, going forward, delegates will participate in discussions at Delegate Assembly meetings immediately preceding the conventions in order to get a sense of the Delegate Assembly opinions on resolutions that will be debated at the conventions.

Delegates to conventions will also be expected to attend either the NYSUT E.D. 13 meetings or the Hudson Labor Council meeting (at least one) and report back to the Delegate Assembly on matters of interest to the local. Delegates are expected to attend a minimum of at least five Delegate Assembly meeting each school year.