

**Our members were hard at work representing the BTA in our communities!
 Thank you for your continued dedication and support of our members!**



Lesly Martes traveled to Guatemala in July alongside the members of the Global Health Outreach (GHO) and the Christian Medical Dental Association (CMDA) to help the survivors of the volcano that struck last year. The group visited two villages and provided family visits, medical assistance and mobile clinics to those in need. The organization also assisted in repairing damaged schools and family houses. We also provided children the opportunity to attend school and training's for leaders. *"As witnessed in other mission trips, lives are transformed. Nothing is impossible to those who believe. Thanks for your support! God bless you!"- Lesly Martes, BOCES Teachers' Association member.*



In August, **Billie Dolan and Marty Sommer** (BTAR member and a WPCLB V.P.) attended the **11th Annual Labor Picnic** in support of the **Westchester/Putnam Central Labor Body (WPCLB)**, who have been great supporters of the BTA. The WPCLB is affiliated with the AFL-CIO Central Labor Council and the American Federation of Labor whose mission *"...is to organize in the community to promote social justice for all working people...By uniting the local community, the Councils play a critical role on local, state and national issues."*-WPCLB website



Darlene Brice, Tarik Curry, Ann Robertson, Matty Robertson and Allison Waskiewicz attended the 41st Annual NYSUT School-Related Professionals (SRP) Leadership Conference in Saratoga Springs, New York. They worked side by side with distinguished NYSUT Executive Board members and officials to discuss important matters effecting our members, students and profession. They took part in round table discussions specific to our BOCES and participated in workshops such as: SRP Power:Organizing in the Workplace, What would you do? What SHOULD you do? and Tarik even received his CPR certification!



Eileen McGarvey, Billie Dolan , Darlene Brice and Tarik Curry attended the August **Tarrytown Regional Office (TRO) Summer Leadership Conference** held in Parsippany, NJ. The conference provides an opportunity to offer our local leaders the training needed to play an active role in our local's future success as the tools they will need to provide advocacy for all members. They also worked alongside NYSUT Executive Board members like Vice President, Paul Pecorale, who is a great supporter of the BTA and attended our negotiations rally! Here's what they had to say:



"I attended a full day course on Basic Negotiations, and a short course on Strategic Planning. Both courses were taught by informed, dynamic NYSUT instructors. My time was well spent not only by immersion in the two topics, but also by having the opportunity to meet representatives from other NYSUT locals." -Eileen McGarvey, Vice President, BOCES Teachers' Association.

"During the NYSUT Tarrytown Regional Office Summer leadership conference I attended a seminar on the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) so that I am better prepared to support all BTA members who need information regarding retirement. I also attended a course about Mold in the Workplace and how to address this sensitive issue when it arises within the school environment." Billie Dolan, NYSTRS Delegate and BOCES Teachers' Association Political Action Delegate.

This August the BOCES Teachers' Association partnered with the Westchester Department of Correction (DOC) to support the Sharing Shelf Family Services of Westchester Backpack Drive. The BTA took part in donating supplies and our members, in the Incarcerated Youth Program (IYP), helped to fill 88 backpacks to be donated to elementary students in our area! Keith Mattos, Kevin McAllister, Natalie Anelli, Julie Brice, Carlos Cruz, Nitorche Destin, Jennifer Hamann, Josh Mendell, Joe Perez, Marjorie Venegas and Michelle Mitchell along with the representatives of the DOC donated their time and worked closely with prison officials and BOCES administration to support our community and the students we serve!



Welcome to our newest members!

Hollie Smith

Teacher-Mathematics

Jennifer Hogan

Teacher-Speech and Hearing Handicapped

Olivia Woodie

Teaching Assistant (was a Teacher Aide)

Alexis Papandrea

Teaching Assistant

Daniella Phelan

School Psychologist

Michele Hamilton

Teacher-English

Nicholas Ceglio

Teacher- Physical Education

Rachel Levenkron

School Social Worker

Katharina von Knorring-Dixon

Teacher-Speech and Hearing Handicapped

Fiona de Graaff

Teacher- Speech and Hearing Handicapped

Shira Sosnowitz

Teacher of Visually Impaired

If you have something that you would like to share with our membership please forward photos and blurbs to correspondingsecretary@bocesta.net

Have a question or concern? Contact your BTA Rep

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