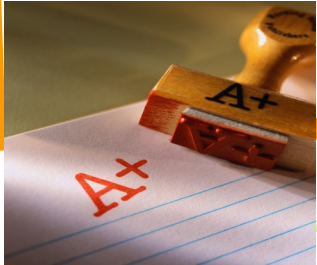




**You did It!  
Great Job!**



# F.O.N.T.

## Focus on New Teachers

A Publication of the  
Farmingdale Federation of Teachers

Linda McCoskey, Editor

**June**

**2018**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<b>Packing Up Your Classroom</b>	<b>Front</b>
<b>Message of Thanks</b>	<b>Front</b>
<b>Did you Know?</b>	<b>Front</b>
<b>What NYSUT Membership Means for YOU!</b>	<b>Back</b>
<b>Things to Remember</b>	<b>Back</b>

## PACKING UP YOUR CLASSROOM

Here are some tips for making the end of the year, and the beginning of next year, easier to handle.

- Before you pack up anything, take a picture of your room. This will help you to arrange your space in the fall when you return to your classroom.
- Label a box "DESK" and put your personal items away in one place. In September, this will make you feel at home more quickly.
- Think ahead! Copy what you will need for the first two weeks of school. Be sure to put these copies in a safe place.
- Plan September bulletin boards in June. Hang up your border paper and backing, then cover them so they stay intact over the summer. Uncover them in September.
- Purge! Discard or give away any items you did not use this year and will probably not use again next year.
- The teacher next door is packing up, too. Share ideas and chat about plans for the summer vacation.
- Assemble a new "Teacher Survival Kit". Put aside coffee money, Band-Aids, breath mints and any other supplies that will help you make it through the first few days when you return in September.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- The FFT website is up all through the summer!
- If you need to download and print dental claim forms or vision forms, you can do that from the website.
- You can get a list of participating providers in our plan from our website or go directly to [www.asonet.com](http://www.asonet.com)
- MetroDent is a dental discount plan available to anyone that does not have dental coverage. See the FFT website for info.

## A Message of Thanks to All the Great Teachers

Thank you for being such wonderful teachers, exemplary role models and caring people. Thank you for knowing your subjects and sharing your knowledge. Thank you for not being afraid to treat students like real people. Thank you for showing acceptance, approval and appreciation. These are all gifts that are so important to students' development and things your students will always remember, just as they will always remember you.

Words of encouragement, a little respect, simple gestures of kindness from a teacher promote the perfect climate for students to study, learn and grow. Your attitude translates into a spirit of friendliness and good will towards others in an atmosphere of creative freedom, joy and ease.

I salute the good work you've done. I appreciate the people you are, and I thank you for your positive influence. Thank you for answering the call to be teachers. Thank you for the enduring impression you've made in the lives you have touched. Every community needs people like you. Your contributions are immeasurable. Your lessons are permanent. You improve our world. You are SO important.

(An excerpt from a poem by Donna Fargo)



100 Broadhollow Road  
Suite 104  
Farmingdale, NY 11735

Office Hours:  
8:30AM-4:30PM  
(631)249-0773

*You made it! Now relax, recharge and  
enjoy the summer! You've earned it!*

**We're on the web:**  
[http://  
www.farmingdaleteachers.org](http://www.farmingdaleteachers.org)

## What NYSUT Membership Means for YOU!

1. Salaries are higher (nearly 30% higher!) when you're in a union.
2. You're salary, benefits & working conditions are protected by the contract.
3. You have better access to healthcare.
4. You're more likely to have a pension.
5. Unions set the standards for pay and benefits, even for non-union workers.
6. You have a strong voice at work and workplace safety is a priority.
7. NYSUT offers professional learning opportunities & specialized training.
8. A legal staff defends your rights, saving you thousands of dollars.
9. You have access to graduate courses for salary advancement.
10. You have a Labor Relations Specialist to help with the collective bargaining process.

**STICK WITH YOUR UNION BECAUSE IT WORKS FOR YOU!**

## THINGS TO REMEMBER WHILE TEACHING

1. Prioritize! Make a list of what needs to be done and then number it in order of importance. When you finish a job on the list, cross it off. It gives you a feeling of accomplishment.
2. Smile! Say hello. Engage in conversation with your students. They will not always remember what you've taught them, but they will remember how you made them feel.
3. Be nice to school custodians, secretaries and copy room attendants. Without them, your job will be so much more difficult.
4. Always try to help other teachers. Teachers, by nature, are nurturers and we should encourage our colleagues, too.
5. Remember, everyone has a bad day once in a while. Let it go. Go home, relax and unwind. Do not dwell on your mistakes. Tomorrow is another day!
6. Be flexible. Things do not always go according to plan. Go with the flow. Sometimes the best lessons, whether content specific or about life, come from spontaneity.
7. Know your worth! Teaching is an important profession. Do not let others get you down!

---

The FFT Officers, Building Representatives and Alternate Building Representatives wish you a safe, restful and peaceful summer vacation. See you in September!

