

## BI-WEEKLY *F O C U S*

Farmingdale Federation  
of Teachers  
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**Office Hours:**  
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12:30 pm- 4:30 pm

### **FFT OFFICERS:**

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FFT FOCUS  
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### **NEW WEIGHTED NYSUT COURSES BEGIN JULY 1, 2024**

The courses below have been approved for weighted credit by the district beginning July 1, 2024.

- Differentiated Instruction in Today's Schools  
SUNY Empire State College CURL 6517
- Enhancing Literacy for All Students  
Adelphi University UNY 802

Classes are open to ALL FFT members. Check the course availability through Frontline/My Learning Plan. Prior approval from the district must be completed 10 working days prior to the starting date of the course.

### **The Farmingdale Community Summit Expo and Health Expo**

Saturday, May 11, 2024  
12:00-2:30 pm  
Farmingdale Public Library  
116 Merritts Rd.  
Farmingdale, NY 11735

Volunteers are still needed to work  
at the FFT sponsored table.

Please contact Kathleen Gaghan at  
the FFT Office or email  
[fft2ndvp@gmail.com](mailto:fft2ndvp@gmail.com)



### **Legal Plan Signing Days:**

Saltzman East Memorial  
May 14, 2024  
Location TBD

Woodward Parkway  
May 15, 2024  
Location TBD



Help UFT  
and NYSUT



**FIX** tier SIX



## WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?

It's been over a decade since Tier 6 was added to the New York State pension system. Since then, over 50,000 UFT members may earn a significantly reduced pension as compared to earlier tiers.

## 63 MAKE IT 55!

**Fixing Tier 6 is about keeping talented educators in the classroom and recruiting new educators into the profession.**

Forcing younger members into a lesser pension system undervalues our profession. Our work is important. Our pensions should reflect that.

**Fixing Tier 6 is about unity and power.**

When we stand together in solidarity, we have power. We've made big changes before. We can do it again.

## CONSIDER THIS:

**Tier 6** Tier 6 members must work to age 63, regardless of years of service, or face heavy penalties.

**Tier 4** members can retire at age 55 with 30 years of service with an unreduced pension.

**Tier 6** Final average salary is the average of the highest 5 consecutive years.

**Tier 4** Final average salary is the average of the highest 3 consecutive years.

**THANKS TO OUR ADVOCACY, WE'VE ALREADY WON SOME PENSION IMPROVEMENTS.**



In 2022, member vesting dropped from 10 to five years, guaranteeing a pension benefit for over 50,000 Tier 6 UFT members.

## HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

We know how to fix this . . . but we can't do it without you. Whether you're a retiree or a Tier 4 or 6 member, you can help UFT and NYSUT Fix Tier 6.

- ➔ Join our **Fix Tier 6 Campaign** to be a part of the movement to reform Tier 6.
- ➔ Share the Fix Tier 6 message with other UFT members.
- ➔ Donate to COPE, UFT's voluntary, non-partisan political action fund. Your donations help us get our message out to lawmakers so we can make change!

## WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

**Fixing Tier 6 is about solidarity and fairness.**

It's unfair that some UFT members must work longer, and contribute more, to earn a significantly reduced pension. This should anger ALL union members.

**Fixing Tier 6 is about dignity.**

The hallmark of a public-service career is the promise of a dignified retirement. With Tier 6, the state abandons its commitment to that guarantee.

