



WELCOME TO THE EDUCATOR

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Division 399 Council

Leader & Steward: Kathy D'Arminio

Ass't Leader & Steward: Richard Fletcher

Stewards: Erin Divers

Dr. Allan Hochberg

James Shelp

Scott Staub

E-Board: Kathy D'Arminio

Treasurer: Cheryl Snyder

Secretary: Lee Prager

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PEF FIGHT-BACK

In a memo from President Brynien on 1/21/2011"

"Governor Cuomo has until February 1st to present his Executive Budget to the legislature. As part of PEF's efforts to prepare our budget fight-back, our Legislative Office and Research Department has put together talking points for our leaders and members to use to respond to the many misrepresentations for the state workforce that are reported in the

media and have become the basis for many of the attacks against us.

Over the next two weeks we will be contacting our membership through robo-calls, e-mails, and our mobilization and steward networks to continue to help get out our message to friends and neighbors, the legislature, the media and the governor, that the state work force did not create the fiscal crisis and that the burden of the fiscal crisis needs to be shared fairly.

As we know continued cuts to the state work force will make it harder and harder to maintain services and in some instances could potentially endanger citizens; there is a better way to address the budget shortfall that will not threaten services or the jobs of our members who provide them.

I ask that you familiarize yourself with the [talking points](#) and budget solutions and use them when you address attacks against us. Additionally, we will need your help in identifying the specific impact of past cuts in the work force to assist in our efforts to fight any

additional cuts that may be proposed in the Executive budget.

If you have any examples, please send them to Darcy Wells Director of Public Relations at dwells@pef.org.

I would like to thank our PEF leaders and members who have done TV and radio interviews and have written letters and blog entries to publications around the state debunking misinformation used to attack our jobs, pay and benefits.

Your continued support is vital to our efforts as we prepare for the upcoming budget fight-back."

To see a copy of this memo and the talking points, please visit your web site at:

www.pef399.org

Click on "Fight Back"

PEF DIVISION 399 BUDGET

It is hard to believe but it is that time again. We are in need of a budget committee to propose a new budget for the upcoming year that starts April 1, 2010.

Please contact your treasurer – Cheryl Snyder at ext.

4057 if you are interested in joining this committee.

To view a copy of the current budget, please visit your web site at:

www.pef399.org and click on "Budget"



PENSION FACTS



- New York’s pension fund is fully funded and is protected from financial manipulations that have led to problems in other pension funds.
- Our pensions are not overly generous. The average pension benefit payment for a New York State and Local Employee Retirement System (ERS) retiree for State Fiscal Year 2009-10 was \$18,300.
- As of March 31, 2010 there were 290,979 pensioners or beneficiaries of the ERS.
- New York’s pension fund has been recognized as the “nationwide pension leader” by Governing Magazine. Also, the Pew Center, an independent national research center, and Institutional Investor magazine cite New York’s pension fund as one of the strongest in the country.
- State and local pension funds in New York and other states paid a total of \$17 billion in benefits to New York residents in 2006. Retirees’ expenditures from these benefits supported a total of \$24 billion in total economic output in the state supporting an estimated 136,914 jobs.
- In 2009 the legislature adopted a Tier 5 pension reform that will save taxpayers \$35 billion over the next thirty years. These savings will increase over time.
- The current increase in pension costs for state and local government is due mainly to the sharp decline in the stock market. After the market recovers over the next few years these costs will level out and may decline.

“Tell me and I will forget, show me and I may remember; involve me and I’ll understand”

Chinese Proverb

Average Annual Pension



PEF 399 CHARITABLE DONATION

Sherrie states: "I can not Thank you enough for the funds !! We were able to get a lot of medical supplies. We saw 100-150 people per day, mostly children and the elderly. Thank you again from the people we treated and from the Mission of the Heart of Jesus who arranged the trip."



Our Hats our off to you Sherrie !! We are so proud of you and the work that you do.

Sherrie Rinker went on a Medical Mission to Haiti on 1/1/11 for 8 days. She went with a team of 2 MDs and 2 RNS and 2 others through MHJ. [www.findingthetreasure.com]. They worked in a clinic in Cite Soliel for 5 days and helped out at the Samaritan House Orphanage for 2 days. PEF 399 was able to donate our charitable donation of \$150 to this wonderful cause. We were also able to get \$150 from PEF and \$200 from PEF Region 5 for a total of \$500. They were able to uses these funds for medical supplies—nebulizers, Albuterol, IV supplies, meds and syringes.



Here's some of the children of the Home of Destiny orphanage in Port au Prince, Haiti. The mission I traveled with are affiliated with this Orphanage. Most of these children lost their parents in the earthquake. There are 26 of them ages 3 to 14. They are the most beautiful, warm children you'll ever meet. On the days we went out to the rural areas, we saw people who had never had medical attention. Sherrie is hopeful of getting people in the US to "sponsor" them.

We set up field clinics in various areas of Haiti. This one is in Grand Saline about a 4 hour drive from the Port au Prince. This little gal had a slight fever and a distended belly. Cute as a button !!!

PEF DIVISION 399
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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

PEF Albany1-800-342-4306 or (518) 785-1900
www.pef.org

PEF Region 5.....1-800-724-4998 or (607)-785-1699
www.pefregion5.org

PEF Membership Benefits.....1-800-324-4306 or(518) 785-1900
ext. 243 www.pefmembershipbenefits.com

PEF Travel Corp.:.....1-800-767-1840 or (518) 782-9045
www.peftravel.com

PEF Retirees:.....1-800-342-4306 or (518) 785-1900

Civil Service:.....www.cs.state.ny.us

General Information (518) 457-2487

Civil Service Exams (518) 457-6216

Civil Service Lists (518) 457-4295

Dental Plan: GHI Preferred Planwww.ghi.com
1-800-947-0101

Optical Plan: Eye Med Vision Care Plan.....www.cs.state.ny.us
1-877-226-1412

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