

BOCES EDUCATORS of EASTERN SUFFOLK

440 Waverly Avenue, Suite 12, Patchogue, New York 11772

IMPORTANT ALERT

March 21, 2013

Dear BEES Members,

On behalf of the BEES Executive Board I wish to inform you that we have been working on a proposal with the Agency to change our current Tax Shelter Annuity payout from an Employee Elective Contribution to an Employer Non-Elective Contribution. The potential benefits of this shift to each and every member who shelters income and participates in the terminal leave payout are tremendous. Considerably more of your hard earned income becomes exempt from paying Social Security and NYS taxes.

Wording for the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for both the yellow and blue contract are being finalized between the Association and the Agency. Detailed explanations of the benefits, contractual changes, as well as a Q and A will be provided prior to your opportunity to vote on, and ratify, these improvements to your contract. This exchange is separate from regular negotiations and, is in our eyes, one of the returns on our past concession.

We would have welcomed more time to provide information to you, the membership, but also recognized that we could not let this opportunity pass by for the 104 BEES Members slated to retire in 2013. With that said, we are aware that exit interviews will be taking place in the two next months and adjustments may be required for the out-going members to access full benefits. In all cases we encourage you to speak with your financial advisors about this information.

Please mark your calendars for the projected MOA vote and ratification dates as follows:

April 17th – Blue Contract Members (Sherwood Instructional Support Center) 3:30

April 18th Yellow Contract Members (Sherwood Instructional Support Center) 3:30

As stated above **complete information** will be provided to you prior to these dates so you can make the most informed decision. Additional ALERTS though our website listserv and your reps will be coming. In the meantime, if you have questions to be included in the Q and A, or other concerns please send them to my attention at patcop@optonline.net.

In Solidarity and strength,

Patricia R. Copertino

BEES President