



Amalgamated Transit Union

1181 On The Move

Fall 2012

'Whatever it Takes' is Rallying Cry as Union Mobilizes to Defend EPP



Members at a May 'Fight for Justice' meeting, see page 5.

As the school year gets underway, Local 1181 members who safely transport New York City school children are preparing to do whatever it takes, including a strike if necessary, to preserve job protections enshrined in the Employee Protection Provisions, the Mollen Agreement.

The unprecedented Union mobilization comes because, as President Michael Cordiello says, "The City Department of Education is considering a plan to bid out our work without our EPP, our Mollen Agreement."

The EPP dates back to 1979 when an agreement was reached between the Union and the DOE to settle a 14-week strike of drivers, escorts and mechanics. The agreement, negotiated in Judge Mollen's chambers, protects all school

The EPP has resulted in the highest quality service for New York City school children, their families and their communities for over 30 years. An attack on the EPP is an attack on 1181 members and all of New York City's working people.

bus employees' seniority, pay, pensions and welfare benefits.

"The most important factor of the Mollen Agreement (EPP)," President Cordiello recently wrote in a letter to

members, "is when an employee loses his/her job which is picked up by another company, the new company must hire and place those employees covered by the agreement, behind his present employees on their seniority list. In case of a layoff," Cordiello continued, "New York City Department of Education drivers and escorts hold their tenure, pension credits and welfare benefits intact when they are placed with a new employer."

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Hoping for the Best, Preparing for the Worst!

Our contract with the companies that work for the New York City Department of Education (DOE) is due to expire in December, 2012. We know the employers are going to try to make us settle for less than you deserve.

The best way to make sure that doesn't happen is to be prepared. That's why we are doing everything we can now to ensure that we can fight off their attacks and bring home a contract that preserves your pay, benefits and working conditions.

Our employers who work for the NYC DOE have gone so far as to send a letter to our Union's International President, Larry Hanley, telling him they want to cut our wages by 20% and will seek give-backs in pension, medical and other benefits such as Christmas, Easter and the 10-hour spread.

One outrageous employer, who will remain unnamed here, went so far as to distribute a letter to our members saying, in part, "your jobs will be lost ... unless we bring your wages and benefits down...."

Employers, like this one, say they need to make cuts so they can continue to be competitive and win contracts for DOE work. They would do better if they joined us in our fight to have the Employee Protection Provisions (The Mollen Agreement) included every time the DOE bids out work.

The EPP ensures school children are safely transported to and from school because it protects those who do the work.

The employers want to save the City money on the backs of our members. We will not be part of any race to the bottom. The safety of the school children we transport, and the future of our families, and our communities, depend on the wages, benefits and work rules that Local 1181 members have fought for and won over many years.

We held an extraordinary May membership meeting to give an update on the EPP to thousands of our members.

We followed it up in June with intensive visits to each and every property serving the NYC DOE to take a vote to authorize your Executive Board to call a strike, if and when it becomes necessary. The results were 6,199 Yes, 73 No.

We are now fully prepared if the DOE goes out with a bid that does not include the EPP or if the Companies fail to negotiate a new agreement in good faith.



Michael Cordiello
President, Local 1181, ATU

"The safety of the school children we transport, and the future of our families, and our communities, depend on the wages, benefits and work rules that Local 1181 members have fought for and won over many years."

Michael Cordiello

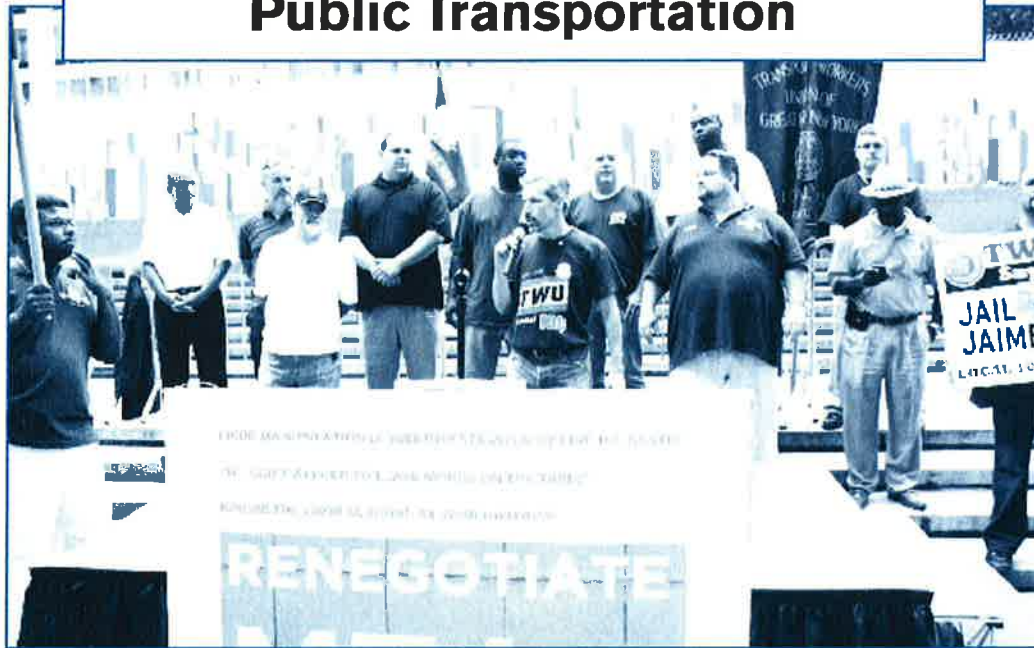


**Amalgamated
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Local 1181**
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Executive Board

Michael Cordiello <i>President / Business Agent</i>	Thomas Jemmott <i>Recording Secretary</i>	Angelo Sorrentino <i>Delegate</i>	Renee Jean Louis <i>Delegate</i>	Tomas Fret <i>Delegate</i>
Jean Claude Calixte <i>Financial Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Jimmy Hedge <i>Delegate</i>	George Martinos <i>Delegate</i>	Vincent Buttarro <i>Delegate</i>	
Edward Gigliotti <i>Vice President</i>	Walter Oakman <i>Delegate</i>	Vincent Catalano <i>Delegate</i>	Joseph Casalino <i>Delegate</i>	

MTA Coalition Rallies to Save Public Transportation



Local 1181 joined with the MTA Coalition on July 24 for a rally to save transportation funding. The rally took place at the corporate offices of JP Morgan Chase, a huge bank that has profited from toxic deals with the MTA. There, MTA coalition partners demanded the MTA and the banks renegotiate loan payments in order to make more money available for public transportation.

Growing Coalition Defends Passengers, Workers

Community outreach by the Union is continuing to pay off as organizations representing parents of school-age children and other riders are joining with Local 1181 to protect transportation services and good jobs.

In June, 1181 participated in a demonstration to protest the for-profit multinational Pearson corporation for its role in overemphasizing on testing in schools. The rally was organized by a coalition of groups, including ParentVoicesNY, Time Out From Testing and Change the Stakes.

Jim Cardiello, a school bus driver from Local 1181, said parents had told him that their children were exhausted from the long and frequent tests. "We transport all the children in New York City, so we're here to support them."

"Community outreach by the Union is continuing to pay off as organizations representing parents of school-age children and other riders are joining with Local 1181 to protect transportation services and good jobs."

In other coalition building news, Common Sense Busing leader Carin van der Donk recently met Local 1181 President Michael Cordiello and other officers. Her group represents parents on Staten Island. Her involvement with Local 1181 members will potentially add some star power to the

coalition as her husband is Vincent D'Onofrio, who plays Robert Goren, the know-it-all detective on NBC's Sunday-night series "Law & Order: Criminal Intent."

The Local also continued to build ties with the New York City Parents Union. Executive Board members Vincent Buttaro and Renee Jean-Louis led an 1181 delegation to a recent monthly meeting of the organization. Included were 1181 members Robin Benedetto, Sal Nacci, Danny Delhomme and Benny Pugliese. There they discussed ways of working together to stop school closings, child and afterschool budget cuts and bus transportation, among other things.

In other community news, 1181 organizers joined with Parents to Improve School Transportation (PIST) in a rally at City Hall to protect school transportation.

EPP and Its Impact on our Industry

Chronological Chain of Events Leading Up to Present

By President Cordiello

▶ In 2005, the Department of Education (DOE) in the City of New York took over maintaining operations of the pre-k transportation industry from the Department of Transportation (DOT) of New York.

▶ In 2006, the DOE notified me and then Trustee, Tommy Mullins that they were thinking about bidding out the pre-k industry work. I responded that it must include the EPP (Mollen Agreement) since Section 48 of our contract states that if any bid is put out by the DOE without the EPP, our "No Strike" clause would be waived and we can strike.

At that time the DOE prepared a bid which included the EPP and at the same time, submitted a bill in Albany to allow the EPP in the bids. The pre-k companies objected to many portions of the bid specs, including the EPP and took the DOE to court.

The DOE spent the next three (3) to four (4) years in Court (Appellate and Supreme) defending the EPP and why it should be in the pre-k bids. The City spent millions of dollars defending the EPP.

While DOE was fighting to support the EPP in this lawsuit, Local 1181 intervened to support the DOE sending our attorneys into court.

As the City continued to appeal the lawsuit, the City stopped pushing the EPP bill in Albany but Local 1181 with the help of our International and the ATU New York State Legislative Conference continued to push the EPP bill year after year.

▶ During the spring of 2011, the final Appellate decision about the lawsuit between the pre-k company owners and the DOE pertaining to the EPP was lost by the DOE and that decision states that they can put the EPP in the bids if the City builds a record that it is in the best interest of the city.

This record was easily proved by our attorneys who attended these same court proceedings, but the DOE turned a deaf ear to our advice.

▶ In July of 2011 – the New York State Assembly and New York State Senate both passed our EPP bill in Albany and it was sent to the Governor's Office for approval. At the same time, Mayor Bloomberg wrote a letter to the Governor asking him to veto the EPP bill stating that it would be anti-competitive.

The very same bill that Mayor Bloomberg introduced back in 2007 and defended in Court for over three (3) years of which he spent tax payers' money.

▶ In September of 2011 the Governor vetoed the EPP bill and in October of 2011, Mayor Bloomberg put out the pre-k bid without the EPP.

With the threat of a strike, by this Local Union, the Mayor went on television and announced the threat of a strike.

I and the Executive Board, in order to clear the way for a legal strike, followed the terms of Section 48 of our contract and called for a meeting with all contractors in November of 2011 demanding our pensions becoming fully funded and that our EPP would be honored in their contract whether or not the City contains it in their contract.

The contractors took us to arbitration slowing down our legal right to strike. Until the arbitration was scheduled, the contractors maintained the position that the language in Section 48 of our contract, which states in part... "any bid without the EPP", did not mean the pre-k industry.

While we fought contractors on this issue and arbitrations dates were set, Mayor Bloomberg filed a National Labor Relations Board charge against us claiming that we violated the Labor Board act by threatening a strike against the city which they claim was a third party which was not a party to our contract.

We then found ourselves taking on the Companies, the City of New York and the NLRB case. In the mean time, the pre-k bids went out and the City's preliminary numbers showed that those bids will save the City tens of millions of dollars. Those bids have not recently been awarded but our information is that by June there should be final award. The new pre-k contracts are to start in September of 2012.

▶ In December of 2011 to prepare for the National Labor Relations Board charge thru much hard work by myself and our attorneys we provided evidence showing that the DOE is not just a third party but are directly involved in every aspect of the work this Local Union provides to our contractors and the City of New York; for example: no one in our industry can get hired for a DOE company without DOE certification (so they hire), the DOE holds disciplinary hearings with our members with union representation, the DOE can decertify or fire a member of this Local Union. In 1995, 2004 and 2010 the DOE played an intricate part of negotiating increases for our escorts and last the fact that they pay for escorts' salaries, medical benefits and pensions. This is only a glimpse into the role the DOE plays in our industry. There is much more.

▶ On April 11th, 2012, the National Labor Relations Board, an arm of the United States Government in Washington, DC ruled in our favor stating that the New York City Department of Education actions have a direct effect on our members, their work and our contracts which preserves our right to a lawful strike.

▶ On May 15th, 2012 at the second arbitration date with the companies pertaining to Section 48 of our collective bargaining agreement, the companies withdrew their position and we have now opened up all avenues to defend ourselves. We will have every right to a legal strike if necessary.

Membership Meeting Addresses Special Order of Business Guest Speakers Support 1181 Fight for Justice

Thousands of Local 1181 members attended the General Membership Meeting on May 29 at Christ the King High School. The Special Meeting was held to bring the membership up to date on the New York City Department of Education's threat to bid out jobs without the

Employee Protection Provisions, the Mollen Agreement.

If the DOE goes through with his threat, it would be a direct attack on the union, and the livelihoods of bus drivers, escorts and mechanics.

President Cordiello extended invi-

tations to a number of special guests who rallied around the union and spoke forcefully in support of Local 1181 members and the EPP protections.

When they say a picture is worth a thousand words, they were talking about the photos on this page.

"Every working person in America is at war. This is not a war we chose but a war driven by billionaires who believe they should make more and we should make less. They believe bus drivers, matrons and mechanics make too much money. We have a right to decent wages, benefits and pensions, and to be treated fairly by employers. On behalf of the 200,000 members of the ATU, throughout the US and Canada, this International Union will stand with you side by side in this fight."



Larry Hanley,
President
ATU International

"You are showing everyone tonight that you are ready to stand up and fight for your rights and to fight for your livelihoods – a decent job, with decent pay. TWU Local 100, all 40,000 of us, are with you."

John Samuelson,
President
TWU Local 100



"There is no way in the world I want my child on a bus that does not have highly trained drivers and matrons. If you stand together, you can win your fight."

Sam Pirozzolo,
President,
Community Central Council 31
(31), Staten Island



"EPP is a no brainer. I am a parent of a four-year old who takes a bus. He deserves to have qualified, well trained drivers and escorts. 1181, you are not alone. We trust you. We thank you for making sure our children get to school and back home safely every day. We stand with you and we will have your back on this."



Mona Davids,
President,
New York City Parents Union

"We stand side by side with you in every single battle."

John Lyons,
President, Business Agent ATU
Local 1179



"We promise you that our network of special needs parents, advocacy groups and educators is with you. An attack on people who attend to children in the city is an attack on our children."



Sara Catalinotto,
Founder,
Parents to Improve School Transportation
(PIST)

"We are with you."

Danny Casella,
President,
ATU Local 726
Representing MTA bus drivers on
Staten Island



Contract Victories/Negotiation Updates

MV (Brooklyn) – Anthony Cordiello contract overwhelmingly ratified

MTA Bus – union coalition hard at work Franklin Square/Elmont School District – negotiations continue

TransCare Para – over 300 ParaTransit members – contract ratified

Midway Leasing Fuelers – negotiations ongoing

MVP Staten Island/Harlem locations – negotiations continue and are making progress

IAHD – parties decided to go to interest arbitration to settle dispute over the wage reopener

Royal Coach – ongoing

We Transportation – negotiations continue

Shop Steward Training Puts Power In Their Hands



Local 1181 Shop Stewards attended training classes in May and June. This was the first time special educational sessions were held to educate and empower Shop Stewards to represent members in their yards. The sessions were led by Executive Board member Edward Gigliotti and Debra Osofsky, a labor specialist and the Special Counsel for Operations at the ATU.



ATU Black Caucus Meets

“Focus on the Future”



The objective of the ATU Black Caucus is to actively pursue fair and equitable treatment, and to establish a positive and active rapport of Blacks and the diverse membership at all levels of the Union.

Local 1181 members recently participated in the 45th Annual Black Caucus Conference in Dallas, Texas hosted by the membership, President Kenneth Day and the Executive Board of Local 1338.

The objective of the ATU Black Caucus is to actively pursue fair and equitable treatment, and to establish a positive and active rapport of Blacks and the diverse membership at all levels of the Union.

Participants at the conference focused on turning back the attacks on working people and their unions and electing representatives who will support working families and transportation funding.

Union Comes to Defense of Member in Wrongful Suspension

When Atlantic driver Jean Aurelien received a temporary suspension from the Department of Education, as many drivers do, he served his time and that was supposed to be that.

But when his employer suspended him and docked his pay for the same reason, Aurelier knew that was wrong. Local 1181 contracts protect members from being penalized twice for the same infraction. So Aurelier talked to his representatives to get things straightened out.

"I talked to my Shop Steward and my Delegate and when the company suspended me, doing something they didn't have the right to do, the union

"I'm so proud that the union and the members worked so very well for me. The union knows the contract and they are doing a good job. They are working for the members"

— Jean Aurelien, Atlantic driver

fought for me and I got my week back with pay."

Aurelier, a six-year driver, continues, "I'm so proud that the union and the members worked so very well for me. The union knows the contract and they are doing a good job. They are working for the members

I met with my, Delegate, the union Vice President and President Cordiello. They all came together for me. That means a lot. When you are working you need the union to fight for you be behind you 100 percent. I now know that when something is wrong, if it is not fair, if something is not right, they will fight and win."

Know Your Weingarten Rights!

At one time or another, a situation may occur on the job where you are asked to attend a meeting with a management supervisor which may result in disciplinary action. If this happens to you, know your Weingarten Rights, which simply means you have the right to union representation during an investigatory interview. It could just save your job.

Weingarten Rights were declared by the US Supreme Court in 1975, during a case between the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) vs. J. Weingarten, Inc.

An investigatory interview occurs when:

1. Management questions an employee to obtain information and
2. The employee has a reasonable belief that discipline or other adverse consequence may result from what he or she says.

If you suspect that a meeting with a supervisor could result in disciplinary action, you have the right to request that a union representative be at the meeting with you. If you are not sure if a meeting could lead to disciplinary action you should ask, "Could this meeting lead to discipline?" Unless the supervisor clearly says "no," you should request a union representative attend the meeting.

After this request is sought, an employer can do one of three things:

- Grant your request for union representation and wait for the union rep to arrive before proceedings.
- Deny the request and end the interview immediately.
- Give you the choice of a.) having the interview without representation or b.) end the interview.

Speak with your shop steward or any union representative. He/she can request a private meeting with you to discuss the case. This is called a caucus. The employer must give the union representative adequate time and privacy to caucus with you and prepare for the interview.

IT IS UP TO YOU!

Under the Weingarten rule, employers have NO obligation to inform the employees of their rights to union representation. Therefore, it is up to YOU to seek union representation in such meetings. Remember, you cannot be punished for this request.

If the employer denies your request for union representation, and continues to ask questions, it is an unfair labor practice and you have the right to refuse to answer. The employer may not discipline you for such a refusal.

Long Island

Not in Our Yard!

First Student Members Enforce Contract, Win Big Back Pay Awards

Anyone who doubts the power of a Local 1181 contract needs to talk to a member from First Student's Freeport Long Island yard.

There, 1181 members recently shared thousands of dollars in back pay that was denied them when their employer disregarded their union contract. Their contract clearly states that mid-day and late runs are paid on top of regular runs and the company did not do so during a five-month period.

"When you get your package, which is guaranteed for 30 hours, late runs and mid-day runs are paid separately," explains Eric McCar-

"We have to stand our ground and see to it that the contracts we have are enforced and not eroded by management and their skillfull manipulations!"

– Eric McCarthy,
Shop Steward, Freeport Yard.

thy, the Shop Steward from the Freeport Yard. "They wanted to pay regular hours for everything. We fought them and won."

This means money in the pockets of more than 200 members.

"The lesson we have learned is that we all have to be vigilant," McCarthy says. "It seems like there is a concerted effort by employers to try to use the economic situation to get around the contract and get all the money they can. We have to stand our ground and see to it that the contracts we have are enforced and not eroded by management and their skillfull manipulations."

Keeping the Pressure On

Contribute to COPE

Striking isn't the only way to defend job security. Local 1181 continues to take its case for Employee Protection Provisions and student safety to parents, other unions, and everyone affected by the threats to school bus workers' jobs. Many groups have already responded to calls for solidarity.

Local 1181 is using its Committee on Political Education, ATU-COPE, to help elect pro-labor, pro-transit candidates. ATU-COPE works to get elected officials to support such things as transit funding and the EPP on the legislative front.

This work is crucial for the future of the industry, especially in the months leading up to the next

mayoral election. There is a real chance that political action can change City Hall's current course.

ATUCOPE, the largest transit worker political action committee (PAC) in the United States, relies entirely on voluntary financial donations from ATU members to continue its work. Contact your Shop Steward to join the COPE program.

The city and state see job cuts and lower paid hires as a way to make do. But for Local 1181 members, job security is crucial, especially in tough times. The public response to cuts in jobs, wages, rider safety and education services in general, will be decisive in 2012.

Benefits

Recently Retired with a Division 1181 Pension

The following members of Local 1181 retired in recent months after working for NYC contractors. The Executive Board of Local 1181 thanks them for their years of service and activism in the union. We hope that their involvement in the union will continue. Retirees are a vital part of our union. We wish them long, healthy and happy retirements.

John Adams	Orville Germain	Lydia Meneses	Abner Raphael
Gilbert Barkman	Michael Hart	Ann Bruno Merchant	Edward Rice
Jacqueline Blanchard	Joseph Hernandez	Debra Meyer	Don Rocher
Deborah Burns	Pierre Jean Jacques	Angela Montaruli	Ellen Rochester
Madeline Casbianca	Emilienne Joseph	Susan Moore	Surrofin Rochester
Linda Carbonaro	Michael Lizzi	Lynn Osgood	Lourdes Santos
Walter Chusac	Maureen Loesch	Marie Painson	Barbara Schry
Audrey Dent	Angelo Lombardi	Steven Papkoff	Louise Senatus
Anthony Feliciano	Appollonia Manniello	Marie Peras	Giorgia Tramontana
Josephine Galestro	John Marchetti	Earnie Quiles	Julianne Wrede
Sherry Gelardo	Peter Memon	Mable Quimberly	Preyger Yuriy

Recently Deceased

Local 1181 recently lost the following members. The thoughts and prayers of the Local go out to their families

Bernadette Benante	<i>Pioneer</i>	Frank Kircheim	<i>Varsity</i>
Grace Bruno	<i>Hillside</i>	Alfred Leonelli	<i>Varsity</i>
John Bueti	<i>Royal Coach</i>	James Macchio	<i>Carant</i>
Christine Cabral	<i>United</i>	Anthony Makowski	<i>Jo-Lo</i>
Joseph Cassidy	<i>Croton Harmon</i>	Salvatore Mattera	<i>Varsity</i>
Michael Cericola	<i>Pioneer</i>	Arthur Mattor	<i>Atlantic Express</i>
Frank Comeforo	<i>Pioneer</i>	Wanda Page	<i>We Trans</i>
June Curran	<i>Atlantic Express</i>	Ralph Palladino	<i>Atlantic Express</i>
William Daniels	<i>Mini Bus</i>	Edward Pellikan	<i>Pioneer</i>
Joseph Dellicurci	<i>Hoyt</i>	Laura Polizzi	<i>Hoyt</i>
Rita De Salvo	<i>Cifra</i>	Maria Probst	<i>Elmont S.D.</i>
Agnes Digit	<i>Sunnyside</i>	Joseph Ricciardi	<i>Atlantic Express</i>
Thomas Eliely	<i>Varsity</i>	Josue Rodriguez	<i>Atlantic Express</i>
Edward Fitzgerald	<i>Varsity</i>	Rosalinda Salzillo	<i>Atlantic Express</i>
Josephine Fusco	<i>Varsity</i>	Natalie Salvietti	<i>Varsity</i>
Edith Gamby	<i>Varsity</i>	Gloria Shim	<i>Anj</i>
Humberto Gomez	<i>Boro</i>	Zelma Storrod	<i>Reliant</i>
Jean Hippolyte	<i>Cifra C/K</i>	Marie Victor	<i>Hoyt</i>
Raymond Hauges	<i>Boro</i>	Charles Wendelle	<i>Atlantic Express</i>
Girjadei Janack	<i>Atlantic Escorts</i>	Mohamed Yusuff	<i>Atlantic Express</i>

Benefit Funds Reminder and Information

Pension Fund

Since the last issue of the Newsletter, the Pension Fund did not send out any Notices.

If you have moved and have not furnished us with an address change, please contact the Fund Office and we will gladly send you a form so we can update our records.

In order to satisfy our members and to run efficiently, the Pension Department encourages appointments in order to have a workup of what your Pension would be upon retiring, and/or if you plan on leaving your job in the near future. Please contact the Pension Department for an appointment so we can have all of your relevant records available and calculations performed.

In addition, if you had a workup of your Pension Statement and have questions, please contact the Pension Department to set up an appointment to come in and go over any questions you have.

In order to eliminate some confusion that we have had in the past, I would like to emphasize if you are on Disability or Workers' Compensation for the maximum amount of time, one year, and are not able to return to work, please contact the Pension Office for them to determine if you are eligible to retire or vest your Pension benefit for a future date. This could prevent any loss in your monthly Pension benefit if you are eligible due to any late filing. They will do a work up and inform you if there are any Pension contribution shortages that you may owe while you were out of work.

Also, if you are not able to return to work and are not eligible for a Pension, you still need to contact the Pension Department for them to do a work up for you to get a refund of the contributions and interest that you are entitled to.

In addition, if you were on Disability or Workers' Compensation and did return to work, your employer will be doubling on the Pension deduction for the amount of time that you were out on Disability or Workers' Compensation for which there were no contributions made on your behalf. This will prevent issues coming up at retirement because of failure to pay your portion for the time you were out.

Welfare Fund

Since the last Newsletter, the Welfare Fund has sent out several important mailings:

- HIPAA Privacy Notice
- Active – Notice of Waiver from the PPACA Annual Limit Requirement
- Retiree – Notice of Waiver from the PPACA Annual Limit Requirement
- Annual Notice of Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act
- Medicare Part D RX Creditable Coverage Notice

If you have not received any of these mailings, please contact the Fund Office or go on the website <https://atu1181.org/nwfund.asp>.

In addition, if you have recently moved and have not notified the Fund Office, please call and we will gladly send you a form to complete so we can update our records, and for you to be able to receive all future mailings timely.

We encourage you to go to the website from time to time to see if any new documents or information have been added to keep you informed.

We have recently contracted WellNet Interactive's Health Management services, which Division 1181 ATU, New York Welfare Fund, has made available to you and your dependents covered under your medical benefit plan. WellNet Interactive offers Reg-

istered Nurse Health Coaches who are committed to your health and well-being and are available through several communication options. WellNet Services are designed to provide support and resource for any healthcare related issue, question or concern.

The service is completely confidential, free and voluntary. If you should receive a call from a Health Coach we encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to speak with them. Please give WellNet a call to talk to a Health Coach today, our toll free number is 1-877-396-1402.

In order to eliminate some confusion that we have had in the past, I would like to remind you that if you are suspended from work or laid off through furlough, your Welfare benefits will cease at the end of the month that you were suspended or laid off. You have the right to take Cobra and will receive a Cobra Notice in the mail from Conexis.

The month in which you are reinstated, your Welfare benefits would commence in its entirety for that month and going forward. If there is a gap, it is your responsibility for any Health and Welfare claims that you incur, unless you opted to take Cobra.

Also, if you are on Disability or Workers' Compensation, you are covered for Welfare benefits up to one year while on either Disability or Workers' Compensation. After the one year is exhausted, you will no longer have Health and Welfare coverage unless you opted for Cobra, or if you are eligible to retire with at least ten years of service.

As a reminder, if you are on Disability or Workers' Compensation and return to work, your Employer will be doubling up on the Cafeteria deduction for the period of time that you were out of work.



Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1181
 101-49 Woodhaven Boulevard
 Ozone Park, NY 11416

Have you moved?

Please mail this information and the mailer panel above to:

1181 On The Move
 101-49 Woodhaven Boulevard
 Ozone Park, NY 11416

Then
let us
know!

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____



Back to School, Back to Work

The beginning of the school year is always an exciting, hectic time for Local 1181 members and their Union.

Over the summer, the Local's leadership undertook a number of initiatives to strengthen the Union and its ability to represent drivers, escorts and mechanics.

Among these was the training of Shop Stewards on the intricacies of labor law, their contracts, and how best to enforce them (see page 7).

The Local also continued to build a strong coalition with a number of parent and community groups to defend public transportation in their communities and the rights of passengers to safe, reliable service and workers to good union jobs (see page 3).

This year will prove momentous. Contracts covering thousands of Local 1181 members are coming up for renewal. New York City will bid out work to companies employing thousands as well. And, in November, the Presidential election will determine the fate of our nation for the next four years.

IT'S A MUST

CHECK YOUR BUS!

Remember to pre and post-trip your bus. Always check your bus after your riders exit. Leaving children unattended is a continuing problem, with big consequences. Drivers and escorts who leave kids alone face severe discipline. It only takes a few seconds. Check your bus after every run!



ATU LOCAL 1181-1061 ENDORSES

NEW YORK STATE SENATOR JOSEPH P. ADDABBO, JR. (D-Queens)

For the 15TH Senate District in the Nov. 6th General Election

www.nysenate.gov/senator/joseph-p-addabbo-jr