



August, 2021



**To All ATU Local 1181-1061 Members Working for
N.Y.C. Department of Education Various Contractors**

Dear Members,

Welcome back to the 2021 – 2022 school year. New York City schools will begin to open on Monday, September 13th and this year will be as challenging as the last year. With updated protocols in place, coupled with a shortage of drivers, our priority is the health and safety of our membership and the children we transport. I urge you to be vigilant in your actions by following these simple guidelines:

- . Make sure that your Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) is always in full supply.
- . Maintain a good exchange of fresh airflow on your buses by opening windows and running defrosters.
- . Wash and sanitize your hands frequently.
- . Wear your mask regardless of vaccination status

Your vehicles are to be sanitized by your employers each and every day. If every protocol is followed, we can prevent the spread of COVID. Any violations of protocol must be immediately reported to your company, your shop steward and/or your delegate. Rest assured that we will act swiftly to make sure that any unsafe condition is rectified. If at any time you feel unsafe, let your company and union know.

We should not be fearful of the challenges that lie ahead. Our drivers, attendants and mechanics are well trained professionals and will always rise to the occasion. We have faced adversity before during September 11, 2001 and Super Storm Sandy and I have no doubt that we will rise above again. The parents and guardians of the children we transport should have complete confidence that we will do everything we can to ensure their children will be transported safely to and from their schools.

Our union is strong, we have your backs and we stand with each and every one of you throughout this challenge.

We are here for you, your families and as always, the children we transport.

Together we will overcome adversity! United we become strong!

God bless you and your families!
God bless the ATU Local 1181-1061

In Solidarity,

Michael Cordiello, President/Business Agent
and the Executive Board
ATU Local 1181-1061