

Reilly Scholarship Winners

Winners of the 2015 John J. Reilly Memorial Scholarships have been chosen from a field of 14 nominated high school seniors.

The scholarships are awarded annually to help defray the cost of a college education for outstanding children of NACST members.

The students will receive \$1000 in each of their four years of study, making each scholarship a \$4000 value over each student's course of collegiate studies.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2015 Reilly Scholarship:

Madeline R. Parker,
FPDT, Pittsburgh

Maira E. Stuart,
FPDT, Pittsburgh

The scholarships are awarded in remembrance of John J. Reilly, the founding President of NACST.

POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS TO CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

The following is from a March 16, 2015 address by Pope Francis to the Union of Italian Catholic Teachers, Directors, Educator and Trainers

Teaching is a very beautiful work. It's too bad that teachers are poorly paid, because it's not only the time they spend in the school. They must prepare themselves, they must think of each one of the pupils: how to help them to go forward. Isn't it so? It's an injustice. I think of my country, which is the one I know: poor things, to have a stipend that is more or less useful, they must work two sessions!

However, how does a teacher end the day after coping with two sessions?

It's a badly paid job, but very beautiful because it enables us to see the persons entrusted to our care grow day after day. It's somewhat like being parents, at least spiritually. It's also a great responsibility.

In fact, the duty of a good teacher – all the more so if he is a Christian teacher – is that of loving with greater intensity the more difficult, the weaker and the more disadvantaged pupils.

Jesus would say: if you love only those who study, who are well behaved, what merit have you? And if there are those that make us lose our patience, we must love them more! Any teacher is at ease with these students.

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Pope Francis *cont'd from p. 1*

I ask you to love the “difficult” students more, those who don’t want to study, those who are in conditions of hardship, the disabled, the foreigners, who today are a great challenge for the schools.

If a professional association of Christian teachers wants to witness its own inspiration, it is called to commit itself in the peripheries of the school, which cannot be abandoned to marginalization, ignorance and a bad life.

In a society that struggles to find points of reference, it is necessary that young people find a positive reference in the school.

It can do so or become so if it has within itself teachers that are capable of giving meaning to the school, to study and to culture, without reducing everything only to the transmission of technical knowledge, but aiming to build an educational relation with each one of the students, who must feel accepted and loved for who he is, with all his limitations and potentiality.

In this sense, your task is all the more necessary. And you must teach not only the contents of a subject, but also the values of life and habits of life -- the three things you must transmit.

To learn the content, a computer is sufficient, but to understand how one loves, to understand what the values and habits are that create harmony in society, a good teachers is necessary.

As an association you are by nature open to the future, because there are always new generations of young people to whom to transmit the patrimony of knowledge and values; . . . however, teaching is not only a job: teaching is a relation in which every teacher must feel totally involved as a person, to give meaning to the educational task to one's pupils.

I encourage you to renew your passion for man – one cannot teach without passion! -- in his process of formation, and to be witnesses of life and of hope.

Never, never close a door; open all of them wide, so that students will have hope.

*delegates
working at the
35th NACST
Convention in
Washington, DC*



37th NACST Convention

The 36th annual NACST Convention/Conference will be held **October 9-11, 2015** at the Hilton Columbus Hotel at Easton in Columbus, OH.

Keynote speaker Mike Milz, retired PSEA organizer, will address convention delegates on the topic "Internal and External Organizing."

Other topics to be addressed by Convention speakers are: the implementation of so-called Teacher-Minister Contracts; the effects of the Affordable Care Act on benefits in negotiated collective bargaining agreements; and, Acceptable Use of Technology policies and issues.

Labor Day 2015: *IT'S ALL ABOUT DIGNITY*

Back to school also means the celebration of Labor Day, a day to honor us as workers and as Union members. We often read about the “dignity of work.” In this year’s Labor Day Statement from the U.S. Bishops, Archbishop Thomas Wenski, Chairman of the USCCB’s Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, speaks of the tremendous opportunity we all have “to reflect on how dignified work with a living wage is critical to helping our families and our greater society thrive.”

It really is all about dignity, dignity for individuals, for the organizations that represent workers and for the process these organizations follow to ensure workers’ rights. Yet, unfortunately, the reality often falls far short of the mark.

Throughout the spring and summer, I have spoken with our affiliates who were engaged in collective bargaining as well as with teachers just starting out on their quest for representation.

The St. Rose Teachers Association was dealing with a rather disturbing proposal from the school. The school wanted all teachers 65 and older to pay for their health insurance. They were asked to use Medicare as their primary coverage and pay for Part B, Part D and the Supplemental Policy needed to cover what Medicare doesn’t. This adds up to thousands of out-of-pocket dollars. It also makes the school and parish the poster child for age discrimination.

DELTA, the NACST affiliate in Worcester, MA, had been attempting to settle their high school contract, but that is not easy to do when the Superintendent has trouble finding the time to meet. Negotiations couldn’t open until June. When I visited the teachers at the end of July, they were still waiting for the second negotiating session to be scheduled, sometime after the Superintendent returned from vacation around the middle of August. The Superintendent said she was still waiting for budget and enrollment figures.

The most egregious example of the lack of respect for the dignity of work and the worker comes from a diocese in Florida, which required its non-unionized teachers to sign an EMPLOYEE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT if they wanted to continue to work in the schools. The following paragraph says it all. “I understand that except for my employment at-will status, any and all policies or practices can be changed at any time by the Diocese, and I recognize that there may be other policies and procedures that are not identified in the manual. The Diocese reserves the right to change hours, wages and working conditions at any time.”

Yes, it is all about dignity; it is all about respect for the human person.

Happy New School Year, everyone.



Affiliated Locals

Altoona Johnstown Catholic School Teachers Association
(Diocese of Altoona Johnstown PA)
Michele Kirk

Association of Catholic Teachers
(Archdiocese of Philadelphia PA)
www.act1776.com
Rita Schwartz

Catholic Teachers Union - NJ
(Diocese of Camden NJ)
www.ctunj.com
Bill Blumenstein

Central Ohio Association of Catholic Educators
(Diocese of Columbus OH)
www.coace.com
Erica Gowitzka

Cleveland High School and Academy Lay Teachers Association
(Diocese of Cleveland OH)
Michael DeSantis

DELTA
(Diocese of Worcester MA)
Jonathan Meagher

Diocesan Elementary Teachers Association
(Diocese of Buffalo NY)
Joann Biggie

Federation of Pittsburgh Diocesan Teachers
(Diocese of Pittsburgh PA)
Brian Klisavage

Greater Hartford Catholic Education Association
(Archdiocese of Hartford CT)
Paul Fitzpatrick

Greensburg Diocesan Teachers Association
(Diocese of Greensburg PA)
Will Merchant

2014-2015 Lay Teachers' Salary Survey

- Affiliated Locals*
- NACST @ St. John Vianney**
(Diocese of Trenton NJ)
Helena Rosato
- Queen of Peace H.S. Lay Teachers Association**
(Archdiocese of Newark NJ)
Lynn McGill
- St. Louis Archdiocesan Teachers Association**
(Archdiocese of St. Louis MO)
Patricia Spellman
- St. Peter Prep Teachers Association**
(Archdiocese of Newark NJ)
Steve Caslowitz
- St. Rose Teachers Association**
(Diocese of Trenton NJ)
Dee Badach
- Scranton Diocese Association of Catholic Teachers**
(Diocese of Scranton PA)
- Secondary Lay Teachers Association**
(Diocese of Buffalo NY)
Chris Rusin
- South West Ohio Catholic Educators Association**
(Archdiocese of Cincinnati OH)
Sherry Smith
- Union County Catholic Education Association**
(Archdiocese of Newark NJ)
Jaclyn Church
- Youngstown Confederation of Diocesan Teachers**
(Diocese of Youngstown OH)
Barbara McVicker

diocese	Basic Scale with BA/BS			Basic Scale with MA/ equivalent		Top Salary			Tuition Charged		comment
	starting	maximum	#steps to reach max	starting	maximum	beyond MA	# credits or degree	# steps to reach	elementary	secondary	
Hartford CT diocesan secondary	31122-39750	57258-62363	18	31721-42705	62634-73555	77375	MA+30	18	n/a	8,500-14,000	5
Worcester MA diocesan elementary/secondary	33990	61660	19	36490	64160	65660	MA+30 or PhD	19	4125	7,129-7,775	1
St. Louis MO diocesan secondary	28821	47536	27	30121	66310	68389	PhD	37	n/a	6,700-10,750	1
Camden NJ diocesan secondary	29870-35561	72679-74139	36-38	31690-37866	74984-76598	77286-79057	2MA/PhD	36-38	n/a	8,200	5
Newark NJ individual secondary school	35000	-	-	36200	-	-	-	-	-	8,900	1
Trenton NJ Holy Cross High School	37950	74327	53	38400	75099	76040	MA+30 or PhD	53	n/a	11,140	1
Buffalo NY parish elementary	23450-25525	24050-45137	20-45	26300-26525	26900-46137	n/a	MA+30	20-45	1800-3350	n/a	5
Cleveland OH diocesan secondary	29900	50610	39	32192	62692	64884	PhD	39	n/a	7,700-9,100	1
Youngstown OH parish/private elementary/secondary	19000-32000	60000	30	20000-33000	65000	70000	MA+30	30	2,200-4,500	8,000	5
Youngstown OH diocesan secondary	30086	48563	30	32745	54866	57368	MA+30	30	n/a	6,725-7,150	5
Altoona/Johnstown PA parish elementary	18500	21852	11	20775	36209	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,025-3,600	1
Greensburg PA diocesan secondary	27400	68156	40	28200	68956	69456	PhD	40	n/a	8,950	1
Philadelphia PA diocesan secondary	38850	75415	40	39350	76215	76855	PhD	40	n/a	6,450	1
Pittsburgh PA parish elementary	32611	54467	21	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0-4,000	n/a	1
Pittsburgh PA diocesan secondary	35700	72430	30	36700	74207	75507	PhD	32	n/a	4,500-12,500	1

comments: 1 - there is 1 scale standard for the school reported; 5 - salaries vary from school to school, numbers represent highs and lows, other schools fall in between