



HAPPY Retirement!

Congratulations to our newest PPSTA Retirees!

*We thank you for your years of service and
wish you the absolute best in the future.*

Sue Brudnak

Maureen Charron

Dave Laffin

Steve Salese

Sue Vogler

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
POUGHKEEPSIE PUBLIC SCHOOL
TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

JUNE/JULY 2024

PPSTA Scholarship Awards

Congratulations to our

2023-2024 Student Recipients!



Michael White Memorial Award for Visual Arts

\$500.00 Marell Lewis

\$500.00 Zyaire Abrahams

UMR Award for Careers in Health and Human Services

\$500.00 Schuyler Birrittella

\$500.00 Genesis Cortes-Jimenez

\$500.00 Danasia Powell



John Falcone Award

\$500.00 Jiahni Higgs

\$500.00 Temple Moody

Rhinebeck Bank Scholarship

\$2500.00 Bradley Sweda

\$2500.00 Abass Na-Aata

PPSTA Outstanding Scholar Award

\$500.00 Olivia Groucher

\$500.00 Kate Lopez-Santiago

\$500.00 Bryan Lavariega-Arroyo

\$500.00 Peter Sealy

\$500.00 Saniya Jenkins



PPSTA extends its deepest sympathies and support to our colleagues who have lost a loved one...

**Christina Besko
Andrea Branciforte
Laura Donohue
Lynnece Edmond
Jacqueline Flaherty-Petty
Amber Grant
Lalana Hunt-Smiling
Debbie Kardas
Darienenne Lewis
Elizabeth Madara
Carolyn Montvidas
Donna Palumbo
Christine Pizer
Kate Tressler
Stacey Wilson**

Our deepest condolences to Debbie Kardas and Amber Grant on the loss of their father/grandfather, Mr. Elwood Arthur Thorne Jr..

Elwood Arthur Thorne Jr. began in Poughkeepsie City School District on or before 1955 at the Little Red School House (which was an Alternative School for Discipline) then taught 6th grade math at Franklin School in Poughkeepsie and, lastly, taught 6th and 8th grade Math at PMS. He worked for over 30 years in the district. He retired in 1985. We hold you both close in our thoughts and are deeply sorry for your loss.

**Office Secretary:
Olga Mirabilio
officesecretary@ppsta.org
Hours: M-F 8am-12pm**



**PPSTA is located at:
40 Garden Street, Suite 207
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
845.471.3376
FAX 845.471.6783**



**NEW
UPDATE**

Tools
myuhcvision.com

How to print your vision ID card using myuhcvision.com

CLICK
HERE!

Thanks to our convenient paperless benefits and claims, **you do not need a member ID card to use your benefits.** However, if you'd like one, you can easily print one.

Use Google Chrome

Be prepared to receive verification codes to move forward with the registration!

Steps to print your Vision ID card

Your ID card will be personalized with your name, member ID, as well as your exam and materials copay amounts.

- 1 Go to myuhcvision.com.
- 2 Log in or register. Do not register if you also have medical coverage with UnitedHealthcare. Use the single sign-on option through myuhc.com instead.
- 3 Click on "Print ID Card." If you do not see this option, click on the blue "Select" button next to your plan name.
- 4 From the drop-down menu, select the person whose ID card you would like to print. Click on "View."
- 5 This generates a document with your ID card called *How to Use Your Vision Care Benefits*. Scroll to the bottom of this document. A toolbar will appear; click on the printer icon to print.

UPDATE

Sample Personalized ID Card

	Vision Care Benefits
Member Name: [First, Last]	Exam Copay: [\$XX.XX]
Member ID: [XXXXXXXXXX-XX]	Material Copay: [\$XX.XX]
Member Web: www.myuhcvision.com	Submit Out-of-Network Claims to: UnitedHealthcare Vision Claims Department P.O. Box 30978 Salt Lake City, UT 84130
Customer Service: (800) 638-3120	
Vision Identification Card	Note to Providers: For more information about this UnitedHealthcare Vision plan, please visit us online at www.Spectera.com or call 1-800-638-3120.

UnitedHealthcare vision coverage provided by or through UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company, located in Hartford, Connecticut, UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company of New York, located in Islandia, New York, or their affiliates. Administrative services provided by Spectera, Inc., United HealthCare Services, Inc. or their affiliates. Plans sold in Texas use policy form number VPOL06.TX and associated COC form number VCOC.INT.06.TX or VCOC.CER.13.TX. Plans sold in Virginia use policy form number VPOL06.VA and associated COC form number VCOC.INT.06.VA or VCOC.CER.13.VA.

Facebook.com/UnitedHealthcare Twitter.com/UHC Instagram.com/UnitedHealthcare YouTube.com/UnitedHealthcare

MT-1172776.0 4/18 ©2018 United HealthCare Services, Inc. 18-7832

UnitedHealthcare®



PPSTA BENEFIT TRUST



Calendar Year Information:
Medical: January 1- December 31
Dental: July 1- June 30
Vision: July 1 -June 30
Legal: April 1- March 31
Opt-Out: September 1- August 31

Notice to all PPSTA/UMR Plan members:
Members can locate providers by logging onto **UMR** or through the **PPSTA website** under Benefits page, just scroll down to:
Health Benefit Summary Plan Description



GETTING MARRIED:

Call Olga at the PPSTA office for a change of status form. After you receive the marriage license, please send a copy to Olga. New family members must be enrolled within 30 days!!

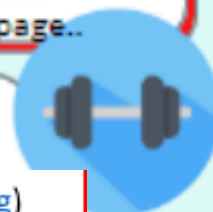
GYM REIMBURSEMENT:

Find this form on the **PPSTA website** under Benefits page..

MOVING?



It is critical that when your address changes that you notify Olga (officesecretary@ppsta.org) and Debbie (benefittrust@ppsta.org). If we don't have your correct address things like dental and medical reimbursements will go to your old address and they don't always get sent back to UMR!



Are you expecting a new family member?

Newborns are automatically covered during the first 30 days following birth. Enrollment is required during the first 30 days to continue coverage! From date of adoption, provided family or dependent coverage is applied for within 30 days of adoption or legal custody. You **MUST** contact the PPSTA office in the first 30 days. Please send a copy of the birth certificate and Social Security Card to the PPSTA office.



Status Changes:

Members are responsible for updating the plan within 30 days of any changes in health or dental coverage. (for any covered member) or any changes in family status (divorce, separation, retirement, birth, death, adoption, change in full time student status, no longer an eligible dependent due to age, etc.) If you need to make changes to your enrollment status, or the enrollment of any of your eligible dependents, please contact the PPSTA Benefit Trust office.

Did your child graduate from college recently?

All children are covered under their parent's plan until the age of 26 as long as they are enrolled in the plan.



Do you have a child in College?

Dependents in colleges are enrolled in the plan regardless of how far they live from home. There is no Out of Area coverage needed.



Traveling to a foreign country this summer?

PPSTA Medical coverage is limited to Emergency Care and is subject to the Emergency Care Copay plus an additional \$250 Copay for foreign Travel. The bills need to be detailed in English or which are translated to English with the medical procedures clearly listed.

For a non-emergency situation, if you are out of the country less than 6 weeks, the \$250 Copay would apply to any service and the balance of the charges would be paid as an out of network benefit subject to the NPPO deductible (\$1,000) and coinsurance (30%).

When you travel in a foreign country, we recommend that you get some temporary travel insurance that is appropriate for the country you will be visiting.

***If you are returning from a leave of absence**, it is your responsibility to contact the PPSTA office to re-enroll for benefits.

Medicare Eligibility:

Once you and/or your spouse are no longer actively employed and Medicare Eligible, you need to update your enrollment status. Please provide the plan with an updated enrollment form along with a copy of your Medicare ID Card. You must enroll in both Medicare Part A & B once you are no longer covered under a plan of a member who is actively at work. You must contact the District for information on reimbursing your Medicare Part B premiums.

If you need to make changes to your enrollment status, or to enrollment of any of your eligible dependents, please contact the PPSTA Benefit Trust Office!

If you have other questions regarding your available benefits, including the preventive and routine services available to you and your dependents, contact:

UMR 800-826-9781 Monday-Friday from 8am - 5 pm

Questions about prescription drug, contact OptumRx 1-877-559-2955

If there is ever any problem with the adjudication of claims or with a provider, PLEASE call the PPSTA office!

NEWS

Benefit Trust Coordinator: **Debbie Kardas**

benefittrust@ppsta.org

Office hours: 10:30-1:30

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

845-471-3376

www.ppsta.org



Please visit **www.ppsta.org** to access your health care information & updates.

To comply with the federal Transparency in Coverage Rule, UnitedHealthcare, UMR and HealthSCOPE Benefits creates and publishes the Machine-Readable Files on behalf of the PPSTA Benefit Trust. This link will be active July 1, 2022.

To link to the Machine-Readable Files, please click on the URL provided:
<https://transparency-in-coverage.uhc.com/>



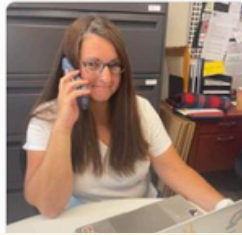
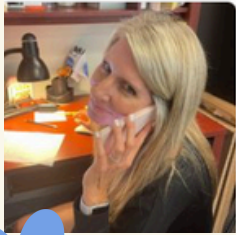
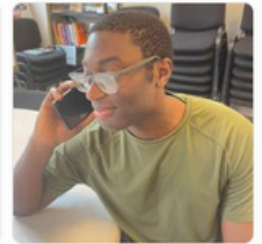
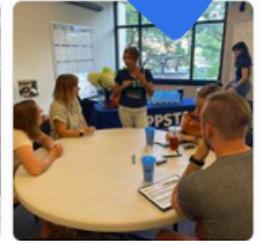


2023-2024

A Year in Review...



PPSTA Strong. PPSTA Proud.



PPSTA phone banking & fighting for a fair contract!





PPSTA members stand united supported by our union neighbors!





PPSTA members support community initiatives and collaborations!
 PPSTA advocates for educational reforms (APPR/Temperature/Safety/Receivership) at local & state levels.



WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS THIS SUMMER?

NYSUT Member Benefits offers a variety of endorsed programs & services that can help you enjoy today, while planning for tomorrow.



As a NYSUT member, you have access to participate in a number of programs and services endorsed by NYSUT Member Benefits. These products have been carefully cultivated to provide members with quality programs at competitive prices, including insurance programs to help you protect your family; legal and financial plans to help you plan for the future; and shopping, travel & personal services to help save you money.

Member Benefits also offers a number of benefits available free of charge to members such as the premium Calm service, Peer Support Line, Financial Learning Center, and more.

Participation in our endorsed programs features the added protection of having a trusted advocate on your side. Our staff take great pride in stepping in to support members with any questions, concerns, or issues that may arise.

No matter what your plans may be, NYSUT Member Benefits is a great place to start. Explore all that your union membership has to offer!



Learn more by scanning the QR code to the left, visiting memberbenefits.nysut.org, or calling 800-626-8101.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

