

VOTE-COPE VICTORIES

Because of NYSUT members' voluntary contributions to VOTE-COPE, these are just a few of the victories we've been able to achieve in the past couple years:



MAJOR FUNDING WINS

UNIVERSAL SCHOOL MEALS



- Expanded to ALL 2.7 million NY students in participating schools
- Saves families an estimated \$165/month per child
- Means no child has to come to class hungry



BOCES & CTE FUNDING

- Increased the BOCES instructor salary cap
- Increases in Special Services Aid
- 9th grade now included in Special Services Aid

FOUNDATION AID INCREASED



43% increase in Foundation Aid over the past 5 years thanks to NYSUT advocacy.

INCREASES IN HIGHER EDUCATION OPERATING FUNDS

\$115.1
Million
SUNY

\$147.5
Million
CUNY

\$21.3
Million
COMMUNITY COLLEGES



SAVED SUNY DOWNSTATE

SUNY & CUNY RECONNECT



- Free community college for adults age 25-55 in high-demand fields
- Covers tuition, fees, books and supplies

HISTORIC POLICY VICTORIES



BELL-TO-BELL CELLPHONE RESTRICTIONS

New York became the largest state to enact a statewide bell-to-bell cellphone restrictions policy

FIRST-IN-THE-NATION SOCIAL MEDIA SAFETY LAWS



- SAFE for Kids Act
- Child Data Protection Act
- Social media warning labels law

AI OVERSIGHT



- Ensures human oversight of AI is required in public services
- Only state in the nation to introduce groundbreaking labor protections against AI threats



FIXES TO TIER 6

Lowered final average salary calculation from 5 to 3 years. Means bigger pension checks for life. Vesting reduced from 10 to five years, guaranteeing a pension benefit for 85,000 Tier 6 members.

EXTREME HEAT LAW

First law in NYS establishing maximum temperatures in schools



WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT

Expanded to include schools



PASSAGE OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

by New York voters



TOILETING & DIAPERING REGULATIONS

Set uniform standards statewide



FIXED APPR

- Ended test-and-punish teacher evaluations
- Returned evaluations to local control
- No longer required to use student test scores

WHAT WE'RE STILL WORKING ON

Because of VOTE-COPE, we get to fight for the things that matter to our students, educators and communities. We're continuing to fight for meaningful Tier 6 pension reforms and stronger investments in our public schools and colleges, and to defend public education against privatization efforts.

VICTORIES IN SCHOOL BUDGET & BOARD RACES

97%
of school budgets
PASSED

84%
of pro-public
school candidates
WON

73
NYSUT MEMBERS
ELECTED

vote
COPE

Learn more and
support at
VOTE-COPE.org