Matt Saramak comes to Eden Central after teaching at Lake Shore for three years. He was born and raised right down the road in Lake View and attended Frontier Central Schools. In his teenage years Matt spent a lot of time tinkering with mechanical things, and in the water playing on boats and jet skis. That passion translated into a job at Appolson’s Performance Center for over ten years. After graduating from Frontier, Matt enrolled at SUNY College at Oswego where he majored in Technology Education. After earning his Bachelor’s degree, Matt moved back to Hamburg, enrolled at Buffalo State College to pursue his Master’s Degree, and began working in his chosen profession. Matt just recently completed his Master’s Program and is waiting to receive his verifying paperwork any day. Although he has only been an employee of Eden Central for a short time, he is already developing a great relationship with his students and staff members alike. The district is lucky to have hired such a qualified and committed young teacher.

New Faces--New Places at the GLP

Left to right: Erin Radke, Sue Schnaufer, Carol King, Katie Mathis, Jason Bernardone, Ashley Mason. Not photographed: Lynn Morgan, Jennifer Ersing, Kerry Daley, Jack Robbins
General Meetings & Events

November 4 - General Meeting @ Elementary Bldg. Room 211
December 2 - General Meeting @ JPs
January 6 - General Meeting @ GLP Bldg. Room 9
January TBA - ETA/PTA Movie Night
February 3 - General Meeting @ JPs
March TBA - Winter Leadership Conference @ Hyatt Regency
March 3—General Meeting @ High School, Room 124
April 7 - General Meeting @ JPs
May 5 - General Meeting @ Elementary Bldg. Room 208
June 2 - General Meeting @ JPs
June TBA - NYSUT Awards Dinner
June 6 - Awards & Retirement Dinner at Templeton Landing

GLP Reps
Carol King, Head Rep, 2014
Colleen Griffin, 2014
Linda Schwanz, 2015

Main Street Reps
Judy Maynard, Head Rep, 2014
Lorry Malkowski, 2014
Amy Witman, 2015
Kevin Witman, 2015

Jr./Sr. High Reps
Paula Farrell, Head Rep, 2014
Susan Gianiodis, 2015
Carrie Hamlet, 2014
Steve Jones, 2015
Keith Kwas, 2015
Lynn Morgan, 2015
Amy Porter, 2014

ETA Officers 2013-14
President: Colleen Kot, 2015
Vice President: Mark Vona, 2015
Treasurer: Laura Feasley, 2015
Secretary: Terri Blasz, 2015

ETA DRESS DOWN IS THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

TOGETHER is the official newsletter of the Eden Teacher’s Association and is published bimonthly.

Submissions are subject to editorial review and may be edited for clarity and length. Submission of articles and suggestions for this publication can be transmitted through ETA building reps. or via e-mail at: JRamaekers@edencsd.wnyric.org

Any information that needs to be communicated in a more timely fashion should be featured on our Website. To place information on the website contact Webmaster Lorry Malkowski

TOGETHER
The benefits of an online bank

Have you heard of online banks? These are banking institutions that do not utilize actual “brick and mortar” branches; instead, they offer banking services that are predominantly done online.

So why consider using one of these types of banks? Online banks are often able to offer superior rates and incentives since they don’t have physical locations -- thereby passing these savings along to their customers.

Many people decide to utilize online banks in conjunction with their current traditional bank to secure higher rates for supplemental accounts, such as term-based certificates of deposits (CDs), savings accounts or IRAs.

The Member Benefits Corporation endorses the GE Capital Retail Bank Deposit Program, which is an online banking service that allows NYSUT members and their families to take advantage of some of today’s most competitive interest rates.

GE Capital Retail Bank

4 reasons to use the GE Capital Retail Bank Deposit Program:

1. Earn preferred interest rates on Money Market Accounts, High-Yield Savings Accounts, CDs, and IRAs.

2. Access your money and account information 24/7 by phone or online.

3. Grow your funds, finance a vacation, save for retirement, and much more!

4. All GE Capital Retail Bank Deposit Program customers receive free identity theft resolution services.

Learn how the GE Capital Retail Bank Deposit Program can help you save by calling toll-free 866-226-5638 or visiting geeretailwork.com (enter “NYSUT” in the company or association name box).

Financial expertise customized for your situation

The program offers:

• Up to six hours of objective toll-free telephone consultations with a certified financial planner or registered investment advisor.

• In-person consultations at least once per calendar year at your NYSUT Regional Office or Stacey Braun’s New York City office

• Access to Stacey Braun’s password-protected website and a 24-hour email helpdesk for basic financial questions.

• NYSUT members can purchase the Financial Counseling Program for an annual fee of $260; a 403(b) Limited Plan is available for an annual fee of $185.

For more information, call 800-626-8101 or visit memberbenefits.nysut.org.

Looking to learn how to properly invest your assets to build a college savings or retirement fund; what to look for when purchasing or financing a home; or maybe tips for getting your credit under control?

The NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation-endorsed Financial Counseling Program – provided by Stacey Braun Associates, Inc. – offers unbiased, objective advice customized to your specific financial situation.
Lorry’s Links

**Ultimate Titanic** is a site put together by teachers and historians dedicated to giving a clear understanding of the people and the events related to RMS Titanic. The site contains hours of footage from survivors, animations, and documentaries as well as hundreds of photographs and documents to explore. Use this site as a resource for information and ideas for teaching the Titanic as part of an early 20th century history lesson or as enrichment when reading any novel about the Titanic. Use the materials available here to talk about the difference between primary and secondary sources. [http://ultimatetitanic.com/](http://ultimatetitanic.com/)

**Math Worksheets Land**
Math Worksheets Land is a free resource to download math worksheets and assessments by grade level or topic. Every worksheet provides the Common Core Standard. Search by topic or grade level. Under the "Tests" section you will find multiple-choice, short response, and extended response questions to meet your assessment needs. [http://www.mathworksheetsland.com/](http://www.mathworksheetsland.com/)

**History and Politics Out Loud**
Listen to famous speeches by influential leaders of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Choose from the list of leaders including Winston Churchill, Richard Nixon, and Martin Luther King, Jr, and many others. View a short biography and background along with links to a famous speech (or speeches) given by that person. Some speeches are audio only, others are YouTube videos. [http://www.wyzant.com/help/history/hpol](http://www.wyzant.com/help/history/hpol)

**Curious George**
Join Curious George in his adventures with the Man in the Yellow Hat. Enjoy the antics of Curious George through online games, printables, and videos. Games feature matching, numbers, sounds, categorizing, shapes, Spanish, movement/dance, and animal sounds. Students earn stickers with successful completion of each game. In the teacher section, there are 16 "ready to go" activities. Each activity includes a description, topic, and tips! [http://pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/](http://pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/)

These and many more Internet resources can be found on our union’s website – [www.etaunion.org](http://www.etaunion.org)

Have a great school year!

Lorry
President’s Message

Hopefully you have settled into your routine for a new school year. This year the district has had several changing of the guards, with Sandy Anzalone as our superintendent, Thomas Murphy the district’s new business manager, Marc Graff now at the helm of the EE and Jeff Cervoni at the JR/SR High School. This should be seen as a new beginning and these positions can be utilized for positive change. The ETA, along with the PTA and BOE started fostering this positive change by sponsoring the Welcome Back Raider Reception in September. Thanks to everyone who helped make this a successful event.

The Union Leadership has met with Mrs. Anzalone to discuss the scheduling issues at all three buildings. It was agreed that scheduling labor management teams would be established at all three building levels. Your head building reps will be coming to you to address concerns in your building and prioritizing them. Please seriously consider serving on these scheduling committees. Due to the cut in staff, everyone needs to be mindful of their teaching duties. Be sure you are getting the correct amount of planning time and that you are not working longer then your .FTE allows. If you are not sure, contact one of your building reps. They have the newly developed chart that breaks down the minutes of .FTE teachers.

On Wednesday, October 2, several teachers attended the Partnership for Smarter Schools. They sponsored an outstanding program in collaboration with some of our local legislators (Tim Kennedy, George Maziarz, and NY State Assemblyman Sean Ryan). Their premise is for all of us to collaborate on how best to handle testing which supports academic and professional freedoms which we KNOW are appropriate for all of our classrooms. If you were unable to attend - please consider becoming part of the Partnership for Smarter Schools so you can become part of their future endeavors and lend your voice to State decision makers regarding what needs to happen in NYS to “Get Testing Right.” Every day all of us are confronting the negative impact from a system which is not designed to support instruction in a productive, timely manner for ourselves and our students. This partnership understands that we need to become politically active by joining forces with community, parents, teachers, and legislators. Our students should not have to endure being part of a system which pigeonholes them into believing they- and their teachers are not capable. Please join today. Partnership for Smarter Schools. Thank you to the Kenmore Teachers’ Association for summarizing this event.

So we need to embrace the changes of this school year, knowing that the administration respects our opinion and is willing to listen to our ideas and concerns. It is imperative you continue to be actively involved in the school community and the ETA.

Colleen Kot