Pedro Arroyo; Bronx Borough Chairman and Co-Santa announced his retirement at the February union meeting at Bayside High School.

Local 891’s retired members meet regularly for lunches and other events. To get involved please contact Eddie Leong at (646) 825-1287 or Robert Souto (631) 428-1478.
Local 891 Officials have been working in cooperation with the Division of School Facilities Officials to resolve disputes related to claims by our members who were directed to surrender personal funds to the Department when closing their HSBC checking accounts. Any Custodian Engineer who returned funds to the Department and can provide the necessary supporting evidence to prove the funds are personal in nature are now requested to notify Vice President Jeff Bilek of your claim in writing.

I met recently with the NYC Commissioner of the Office of Labor Relations (OLR), Robert Linn, to discuss several issues of great concern to the members of Local 891. One of the most pressing issues is the need for a new civil service Custodian Engineer exam. While the current list is still active and has eligible candidates for Level 1 positions, the list has been exhausted of licensed candidates. The Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) is the agency responsible for promulgating exams. They generally prioritize their exam schedule to test for candidates for those titles that have a high percentage of provisionals, not based on the number of vacancies in each title. The Division of School Facilities (DSF) hired twenty-six provisionals who met the requirements to fill Level II positions and two permanent Level I. Those new members will start their employment early this month. I welcome them to the union, I know you will as well. This will increase the need for the CE exam to be added to the DCAS schedule. We will continue to do all we can to get the City to give the exam. DSF indicates they will continue to fill all vacancies both from the list and with qualified provisionals.

Another important matter which I previously presented directly to the Mayor and subsequently discussed with the Commissioner is the need to have building manpower allocations increased when custodial helpers receive a raise. Twice now since the transition to the new system, custodial workers have received salary increases without an increase to our annual building allocations. The City claims we should have been notified by DSF in June that the amount we received would have to cover the mid-year salary increases. Any necessary cuts should have been reflected in our annual plans and spread out over the entire fiscal year. Now, some of us are forced to make more drastic reductions in staff and the services we provide. We continue to insist the City properly fund the buildings or the condition of the schools will undoubtedly deteriorate.

The final issue discussed with OLR was the need for us to meet and incorporate the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) of 2016 into a new consolidated Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The MOA modified our employer status and changed our purchasing and reporting protocols. Our salaries are now guaranteed and our financial liability is gone. A revised consolidated agreement, reflecting these changes, is called for in the MOA. Local 891 has been working hard to ensure only those changes approved by the membership are reflected in the modified CBA. I will continue to push to get this completed. As soon as a new civilian economic pattern is established for civilian City employees, we will push for those increases to our salary through the expedited negotiations also called for in the MOA. You deserve a raise!

## IN MEMORIAM

**ROBERT H. JESSER**  
RETIRED CE X440  
Condolences to:  
Andrew Jesser  
53 Cornell Road  
Danbury, CT 06811

**WILLIAM F. MAHER**  
RETIRED CE, K251  
Condolences to:  
Rosemary Maher  
2 Cloverleaf Drive  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**BIRTHS**  
**BIRTHDAYS**  
**ANNIVERSARIES**  
**SPECIAL EVENTS**

If any members have something they would like to announce, please contact editor@local891.com or call (718) 455-9732 ext. 253.
Divestment was the theme at the February 6, 2018 PEC Legislative breakfast in Albany. New York City is seeking to lead the assault on climate change and the current political administration with a plan to divest five billion dollars from fossil fuels and sue the world’s most powerful oil companies over their contribution to dangerous global warming. This decision affects us because it affects our pensions.

City officials have set a goal of divesting New York’s 189 billion dollars pension funds from fossil fuel companies within five years in what they say would be “among the most significant divestment efforts in the world to date.” Currently, New York City’s five pension funds have about five billion dollars in fossil fuel investments.

“New York City is standing up for future generations by becoming the first major US city to divest our pension funds from fossil fuels,” said Bill de Blasio, New York’s mayor.

The city’s stance is, as climate change continues to worsen, it’s up to the fossil fuel companies whose greed put us in this position to shoulder the cost of making New York safer and more resilient.”

De Blasio said that the city is taking the five fossil fuel firms — BP, Exxon Mobil, Chevron, Conoco Phillips and Shell — to federal court due to their contribution to climate change.

PEC will take into consideration what is best for union workers and their families. William Carroll; local 891’s Legislative Chairman addressed the panel by stating “Divestment seems as it would be an economic sanction on our pensions.” Peter Meringolo; PEC Chairman agreed.

**JANUS vs AFSCME**

The other big topic at the PEC breakfast was Supreme Court case regarding Janus vs AFSCME. The case pits unions, who say mandatory fees are necessary as a “fair share” to prevent “free riders” from benefiting from union contracts, against dissenting members, who argue that being forced to pay dues violates their First Amendment rights. The case is being argued now and will most likely be decided by the end of the court’s term in June. Announcements on big, controversial cases usually come near the end of the term.

PEC is watching this case closely and formulating plans and strategies to counteract a ruling in favor of Janus. Such a ruling will have devastating effects on how union benefits are managed and funded.
LOCAL 891’S BENEFIT FUNDS
Kevin Gallagher; Financial Secretary and Membership Committee Chairman

CHANGES IN FAMILY STATUS
If any members experience changes (divorce, birth, etc) in family status that will require beneficiary adjustments, please call Kevin Gallagher (718)455-9731 ext. 264.

International Union of Operating Engineers
LOCAL 891
ANNUITY FUND
Brooklyn Navy Yard, 63 Flushing Avenue
Building 292, Suite 401, Unit (358)
Brooklyn, NY 11205
(718) 455-9731 (718) 488-7122 fax

Trustees
KEVIN J. GALLAGHER
CHAIRMAN
FRANCIS J. BYRNE
TRUSTEE
ADELE A. McGREAL
TRUSTEE
ANDREW W. SAMBERG
TRUSTEE
ROBERT J. TROELLER
TRUSTEE
AND
PRESIDENT LOCAL 891

SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS
LOCAL 891 ANNUITY FUND

This is a summary of the annual report for the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 891 Annuity Fund, EIN 71-0877527, Plan No. 001, for the period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016

Basic Financial Statement

The value of the plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was $41,419,279 as of December 31, 2016, compared to $38,146,430 as of January 1, 2016. During the plan year the plan experienced an increase in its net assets of $3,272,849. This increase includes unrealized appreciation and depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan’s assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had a total income of $5,482,761, including employer contributions of $3,341,009, realized gains of $820,713 from the sale of assets, earnings from investments of $1,244,261 and rollover contributions of $76,778.

Plan expenses were $2,209,912 these expenses included $360,795 in administrative expenses and $1,849,117 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries.
SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT
FOR LOCAL 891 IUOE SCHOOL CUSTODIANS AND SCHOOL
CUSTODIAN ENGINEERS WELFARE FUND

This is a summary of the annual report of the Local 891 I.U.O.E. School Custodians and School Custodian Engineers Welfare Fund, EIN 13-3015202, Plan No. 501, for the period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

Insurance Information

The plan has a contract with Emblem-Health to pay certain claims incurred under the terms of the plan. The total premiums paid for the plan year ending December 31, 2016 were $278,460. Because they are so called “experience-rated” contracts, the premium costs are affected by, among other things, the number and size of claims.

The plan also has a contract with Amalgamated Life to pay life insurance claims under the terms of the plan. The total premiums paid for life insurance coverage for the plan for the year ending December 31, 2016 were $249,355.

Basic Financial Statement

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was $5,541,336 as of December 31, 2016, compared to $5,083,767 as of January 1, 2016. During the plan year the plan experienced an increase in its net assets of $457,569. This increase includes unrealized appreciation and depreciation in the value of the plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan’s assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. During the plan year, the plan had total income of $2,671,449, including employer contributions of $2,477,532, participant contributions of $6,063, realized losses from the sale of investments of $(16,613), and earnings from investments of $204,470.

Plan expenses were $2,213,880. These expenses included $154,754 in administrative expenses and $2,059,129 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries.
**EDUCATION**
Francis J. Byrne; Recording Secretary and Education Committee Chairman

The following In-Service courses, except Defensive Driving, are being offered by the Local 891 Education & Training Fund.

- **S-13/14 (Standpipe)** - Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 9:00AM
- **CPR/AED** - Will be offered if there are enough registrants. We must have a minimum of 20 people registered before we can arrange a class. If interested, please contact the Education Committee.
- **Defensive Driving** - No date is scheduled but as soon as we have the minimum number of members registered (at least 20) we will set a date for a Saturday morning.

- **Building Operation, Maintenance and Recordkeeping (BOMR)**
  This course is required for all those renewing their refrigeration license. It will be held on Thursday and Friday, March 1 and 2, 2018.

- **Certified Pool Operator** - The next class will be held on April 12 & 13, 8:00 to 4:00 both days.
  I will be sending information regarding additional courses related to the Fire and Life Safety Director soon.

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**SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT**
FOR IUOE, LOCAL 891 EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUND

This is a summary of the annual report of the I.U.O.E., Local 891 Education and Training Fund, EIN 30-0480358, Plan No. 502, for the period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

**Basic Financial Statement**

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was $286,982 as of December 31, 2016, compared to $262,393 as of January 1, 2016. During the plan year the plan experienced an increase in its net assets of $24,589. During the plan year, the plan had total income of $152,593 including employer contributions of $149,413 and income from non-members of $3,180.

Plan expenses were $128,004. These expenses included $73,151 in administrative expenses and $54,853 in benefit program expenses.

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**PENSION**
Christopher Attianese

The Maximum TDA contribution amount for 2018 has increased and is as follows. Members under 50 years of age can contribute a maximum of $18,500 or $24,500 for members 50 years of age and older.

Any member not currently enrolled in the TDA program that would like an enrollment kit should email or call me.

Email: Pension@local891.com
Phone: 718-455-9731 X268

The BERS End-Year statement of accounts will be mailed on time. You should see it the first week in March.
International Union of Operating Engineers

LOCAL 891
90TH ANNUAL
DINNER DANCE

Friday, May 4, 2018

Russo’s on the Bay
Howard Beach, New York

Early Bird Tickets for Active and Retired Members only.

Don’t miss out on getting your “Early Bird Tickets” for this great event

Members may buy two “Early Bird Tickets” for:
$160 until February 1, 2018
$180 until March 1, 2018
$200 until April 1, 2018

Single Ticket purchase price for members is $120 from now until the dinner dance

Make your check payable to: Local 891 Beneficiaries Fund

Send your check to: I.U.O.E Local 891
63 Flushing Avenue - Unit 358
Brooklyn, New York 11205

Please make sure to include the names of guests and a contact number

Kieran McKivergan:
Entertainment Chairman

SUPPLIES
Michael Kelly

SUPPLY COMMITTEE REPORT

For any CE currently not having their supply orders approved because of a new DDF, please email Mark Voros. Mark Voros is the Director of Field Operations and has the ability to approve supply orders citywide. The email should contain the reason for non-approval and the WR# you need approved. Also, CC the DDF and DF on this email.
mvoros@schools.nyc.gov

The requesting of additional supply allocations can only be done after you have exhausted your present allocations. After that, you should process a Famis order containing the items and total dollar value your assignment will need until the next allocation drop.

Rules and Regulations
Section IV; 4.1.1

Tools and Materials. Cleaning tools and materials will be provided by the DOE, it will be the CE’s responsibility to requisition same in ample quantity and proper type, and to maintain such property in an approved manner.

BLOOD BANK
Evan Manca

Local 891’s next Blood Drive is scheduled for Friday, May 25th, 2018. Both donating sites will be open, Local 891’s Union Hall at Brooklyn Navy Yard and the Melville, Long Island Blood Center. Be a hero and save someone’s life. You have the ability to save three lives by donating one pint of blood. It takes about one hour to donate blood, but the impact it makes can last a lifetime for someone. On average, about one hundred and thirty members donate at these drives. I would love to see that number increase going forward. Plan on donating on May 25th and help make our blood drive a continued success.

SAVE THIS DATE

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
EMERALD SOCIETY
Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance

Friday, March 9, 2018
Terrace on the Park
52-11 111th Street Flushing, NY
7:30 PM to 12:30 AM – $100. Per Person

Irish Custodian of the Year, Edward Brier, Jr.
Reservations will be accepted until March 1, 2018

ASBESTOS SCREENING

I would like to start taking applications for an April date. Please fax or scan completed copies of the form to (212) 941-4835. The forms can be obtained by calling me directly at (212) 941-4812 or on the Local 891 website.

SUPPLIES
Michael Kelly

OCCUPATION, SAFETY AND HEALTH
Joanne O’Neill

ASBESTOS SCREENING

I would like to start taking applications for an April date. Please fax or scan completed copies of the form to (212) 941-4835. The forms can be obtained by calling me directly at (212) 941-4812 or on the Local 891 website.
PAYROLL AND PERMITS

Andrew Foti

PERMITS AND SPACE SHEETS

Keep detailed records of your permits and space sheets in the event your Galaxy DAR reflects a deficit based on payments due but were not received.

- Print and keep copies of permits and space sheets
- Submit all space sheets as usual
- Keep track of dates/pay periods
- Document payment/non-payment amount discrepancies
- Document 113/113E/2025 discrepancies

COMPENSATION INSURANCE

John Maderich

Custodian Engineers, please submit a Statement of Account with your record request from the Office of Auditor General. A two-year Statement of Account was mailed to all Custodian Engineers by New York State Insurance Fund in April 2017, covering October 2014 to April 2017. If any Custodian engineer needs a copy of their Statement of Account, please call me at (718) 455-9731 ext. 251. I will request a copy from New York State Insurance Fund. If you do not submit a Statement of Account with your document request, you will get a disallowance from the Office of the Auditor General for all payments made to the New York State Insurance Fund.

EDDIE LEONG

OF LOCAL 891’S

Retirement Committee announces that Social Security COLA was increased by 2.0 percent for 2018