June 2024

Local 891 - AFL-CIO

The Gauge

General Membership Meeting

The Local 891 Picnic on June 15th will serve as our June General Membership Meeting

Variable Rate

Variable Rate Unit Value for May 2024: $149.706

Principal Rating

Members are reminded they only have 30 days to grieve a Principal's Rating. Any member wanting to grieve a rating should contact the Grievance Chairperson.

Renewals

Please be aware of your license and permit renewal date. Apply and renew on time to avoid fees and disciplinary action.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ALL RENEWALS MUST BE DONE ONLINE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Business Manager's Report

Brothers and Sisters,

Many of you are aware that operational changes are taking place in the Division of School Facilities. Kevin Moran, the Chief School Operations Officer for the Department of Education, seems to have taken on a more direct and hands-on approach to the facilities management in the DOE. Some of you have described to me, mostly positive, interactions you have had with Mr. Moran regarding work taking place at your assignments.

Recently, I had the opportunity to meet with Kevin Moran and Kim Moore-Ward (Chief Executive for Labor Policy at NYC Department of Education) to discuss several issues that affect the members of Local 891. Without going into too much detail, I believe it was an overwhelmingly positive encounter. They and their staff seemed knowledgeable about many aspects of building operations. Many of the things we discussed are subjects of negotiation and some are not. I look forward to meeting with them again to further discuss these subjects and others:

1. The pressing need for a new Custodian Engineer exam.
2. The need for improvements to the hiring of CEs, our members shouldn't have to spend months fighting for the health benefits they are entitled to from the date of hire.
3. The upcoming end to the use of a sole source vendor SDI and the opening of FAMIS to multiple vendor contracts.
4. The possible issuance or "P-Cards" to CEs.
5. Improvements in the operation and management of NYCSSS.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns or thoughts on these or any other subject please feel free to contact me to discuss. I am looking forward to seeing you at the Local 891 Annual Picnic, which also serves as our June General Membership Meeting.

Fraternally,
Robert

Vice President's Corner

Brothers and Sisters,

The below is quoted from The Constitution of The International Union of Operating Engineers for which Local 891 and its members are a part of. Please read it in its entirety. I believe it explains exactly what a Union is, what Local 891 has done and continues to do to better the lives of its members and their families.

"The objects and purposes of this organization are to elevate the trade of operating engineers (by which trade the membership thereof earn a livelihood for themselves and their dependents) to its proper position in all industrial activity and the ranks of organized workers; to encourage a higher standard of skill among its members; to cultivate feelings of friendship among the men of the craft and those who may employ its members; to organize all persons working in the jurisdiction of this International Union without regard to race, creed, color, sex, religion, age or national origin; to promote the health, welfare and safety of its members and their families; to promote, foster and develop apprentice programs, training programs and other means to advance the skills, efficiency and working knowledge of its members; to assist its members in securing and stabilizing employment; to assist employers in obtaining skilled craftsmen; to secure improved wages, hours, and working conditions through assisting affiliated Local Unions in negotiating collective bargaining agreements and through legislative action and other appropriate means; to further, directly and indirectly, the joint interest of the members of the International Union in the betterment of general economic and social conditions in the world, by engaging in legislative, political, educational, civic welfare, and other appropriate activities; while preserving the integrity and autonomy of this International Union, to work within the AFL-CIO and to cooperate with other International Unions for the advancement of the entire labor movement, and to assist and cooperate with free and democratic labor organizations throughout the world; to provide aid and assistance for, and to bring about cooperation and coordination of effort among affiliated Local Unions; to insure the better protection of life and property by securing the enactment of state, provincial and city Engineers' License Laws and by other appropriate means; and to protect and strengthen our democratic institutions and to vigorously oppose the efforts of those who advocate the overthrow of the established order, either of government or of this organization, by force or violence or subversive tactics."

Andrew W. Samberg

Electronic Communications

May 16 - Energy Management Institute

May 16 - Time sheets and Space Sheet

May 17 - Upcoming Holidays

May 20 - Space Sheet

May 23 - Transfer List Winners

May 28 - Procedure for attending an 891 Blood Drive

May 29 - FAMIS Issues

SUPPLY

Harry Cender, Supply Committee Chairperson

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to extend my congratulations to all the transfer winners. Please provide all relevant information about outstanding orders to the incoming CE and ensure that all orders are certified before you leave.

As fiscal year 24 comes to a close in less than a month, it's important to remember that, according to our annual Supply Program Circular instructions, we must certify our supply orders through FAMIS within five business days, using one of three options: Not Received, Partially Received, or Received in Full. Orders that are only Partially certified or certified as Not Received will require follow-up by the CE until the order is either fulfilled or canceled.

It is crucial that we maintain the highest level of accuracy in our supply order certifications. Under no circumstances should you certify an item as received if it has not been delivered. Certifying that an order was received in full before delivery will result in not receiving the order. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

There was an issue with FAMIS on April 17th and 18th, where some orders were not sent to SDI. DSF is working with SDI to retransmit the orders. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at Supplies@Local891.com.

Remember always to spend funds wisely and with good judgment.

Fraternally,
Harry W. Cender
Supplies Committee Chairperson

Temporary Care Assignment

Joseph Sanfilippo, Temporary Care Assignment Chairperson

Dear Brothers & Sisters:

I hope this finds you well. We have many Custodian Engineers receiving a Temporary Care (TC) for the first time and I have put together this message reminding you of the necessary Temporary Care responsibilities.

In addition to our regular duties, I have highlighted specific responsibilities associated with serving in a Temporary Care for a building. Prior to assuming the Temporary Care role, it is imperative to meet with the previous C.E. to become familiar with the building, principal and crew.

As a Temporary Care C.E.:

- You should visit the building daily. You are entitled to ($8.40) travel money.
- You are to check e-mails, order supplies and update supply certifications in Famis.
- You should keep organized. I suggest creating a Temporary Care folder containing essential information, such as, a list of current school permits, on going upgrades/construction documentation. You should get acquainted with the building layout, emergency procedures and key personnel.
- You should run the TC assignment with the same level of diligence as you would your permanent assignment. This includes employee/payroll data, maintaining log books, fire logs, universal waste, lead based paint, water flushing and other necessary records.
- You should provide support and communication with the crew members under your supervision. Schedule vacation time for the crew and coordinate staffing to ensure coverage during absences.
- You should handle disciplinary action with staff members issuing letters of warning as necessary to address performance or behavior issues, consulting with the Helpers Committee Chairperson.

By fulfilling these responsibilities, you should have a smooth transition between Custodian Engineers.

Thank you for your attention to these responsibilities. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Fraternally,

Joseph Sanfilippo
TCAssignmentChair@local891.com
718-286-8051

FMLA

Judith Koonce, FMLA Committee Chairperson

Brothers and Sisters,

To qualify and apply for FMLA you must have a full year of employment and be an active member. A member that has been removed from their work assignment cannot use this benefit until they are reinstated.

Please remember to submit your application for Paid Family Leave with at least 30 days notice when possible.

Thank you and have a great Summer.

DELEGATE TO THE NEW YORK CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL

Judith Koonce and Richard Gorgoglione, NYC Labor Council Delegates

Brothers and Sisters

The monthly meeting of the Central Labor Council was held on May 16, 2024 online.
The Annual Awards reception was held on May 14, 2024. In attendance were President/Business Manager Robert J. Troeller and Delegates to the Central Labor Council, Richard Gorgoglione and Judith Koonce.

Events in the month of June

Juneteenth will be celebrated on June 19th. On this day in 1865 all slaves in Texas were freed. This was two years after the Emancipation Proclamation had officially freed them.

The next meeting of the NYCCL will take place in person on June 20, 2024.

Elections

The Primary Elections will be held on the 25th. Register and vote.
Early voting will begin on June 15th and marks the last day to Register to vote in the upcoming Primary

Save the Date

This year's Annual Labor Day Parade will be held on September 7th, 2024.

Have a wonderful summer everyone.

In Unity,
Judith Koonce

LEGISLATIVE

Michael Kelly, Legislative Committee Chairperson

Upcoming Elections

Federal, State, and Local primaries will take place on June 25th. Early voting begins on June 15th and continues until June 23rd. With June 25th being the next to last day of the school year, we know the Pedagogical Staff and Administration will have their thoughts and eyes only on the summer break. We'll need to make sure no planned/unplanned events will infringe upon the areas contractually permitted to the Board of Elections.

When this occurs, the phone calls always end up with us. Remind the Administration a few times during the month and also in a casual email. This way on the 25th we'll have no confusion on our part.

Deadline dates for Voter Registration:

June 25th Primary

Mail Registration- Application must be received by the Board of Election no later than June 15th.

In Person Registration- registration is available at your local Board of Election or any state agency participating in the National Voter Registration Act. You can register on any business day throughout the year but to be eligible to Vote in the Primary your application must be received no later than June 15th.

November 5th General Election

Mail Registration- Application must be received by the BOE no later than October 26th.

In Person Registration- registration is available at your local Board of Election or any state agency participating in the National Voter Registration Act. You can register on any business day throughout the year but to be eligible to Vote in the General Election your application must be received no later than October 26th.

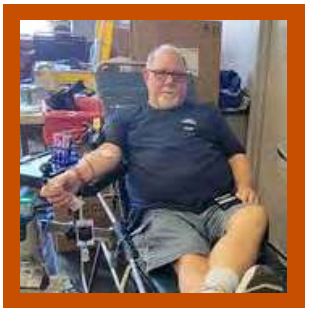
BLOOD BANK

Evan Manca, Blood Bank Committee Chairperson

THANK YOU LOCAL 891 DONORS!!!

Your generosity once again is greatly appreciated. Thank you for coming out in droves, to donate lifesaving blood.

Please be aware when attending an 891-blood drive, that you are required to check your building(s) first before you book out to donate blood. After checking your building(s) and attending the drive, you are entitled to the rest of the day off. Please ensure that you submit a copy of your donation receipt along with your monthly timesheet. We are not required to submit a PD-19 form. If you did not receive a donation receipt, or require a replacement, please call NY Blood center at (800) 933-2566 or create an online account



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to CE (Q575), Katherine Noutsis on being honored as NYC's High School Principal Association's Custodian of the year. Katherine was honored on Friday, May 17th, 2024, at Terrace on the Park.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY

Lionel Santiago, Occupational Health & Safety Committee Chairperson

I just wanted to send a thank you to all the members who participated in this month's Asbestos Health Screening. I hope to see a lot more of you in the Fall. Details to follow. Please see pictures below from our recent screening.

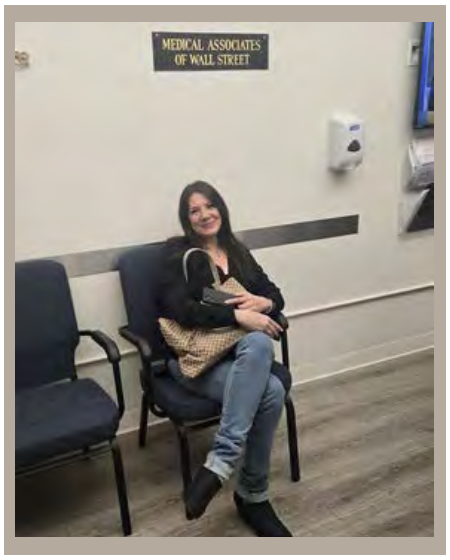
On another note, I would like to take this chance to remind everyone to prepare for Summer cleaning. Lots of accidents can occur during the summer & you can always help to make it a little safer for your staff as well as students.

Make sure workers wear proper footwear. Nonslip boots are worth looking into for your crews. Proper PPE when handling materials & liquids will go a long way in saving you from accident reports. Be mindful when boilers are being worked on. We must keep a safe building for everyone including ourselves.

I hope this message finds you all well. Enjoy the Summer & planned vacations. It's important to take time for yourself as well. Stress is real, so take time to enjoy the Summer & best to you and your families.

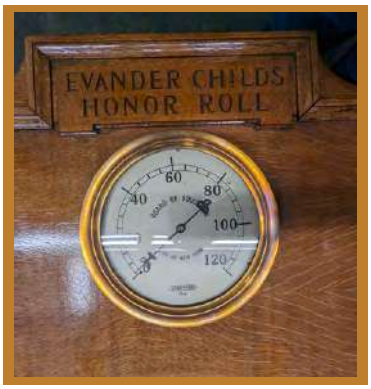
ASBESTOS SCREENING

Thank you all for participating in the June 2, 2024, Asbestos Screening. The comprehensive medical exam checks for more than just asbestos related issues. The screening's results can be shared with your primary care physician for additional assessment. Please take advantage of this valuable exam whenever it is offered. The results can be life saving.



THE PLANT

In this month's "Plant", we are featuring Evander Child High School. The shared effort of CE Frank McGreal and his Local 94 staff keeps this historic time piece running smoothly. The last High-Pressure plant in the Bronx, operates on three different mediums, Mechanical, Steam and Air atomization. In the past, all the peripheral equipment were operated by steam. The Plant was Converted from coal to #6 oil in the 1950s and recently to #4 oil.



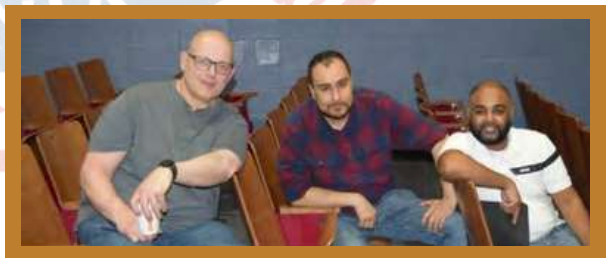
Gauge cluster in CE's Office is still functional

The crew that keeps the plant in tip top shape

The original HP installation from Union Iron Work, Erie P.A.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thank you for attending the May 2, 2024, general membership meeting at M167. Local 891 encourages attendance at the monthly meetings so you can be informed and let your voices be heard.



IN MEMORIAM

JAMES J. KEANE
RETIRED CE, R053
Condolences to:
Rose Marie Keane (Spouse)
62 Newton Street
Staten Island, NY 10312

The Gauge

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
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Borough Chairpersons

Bronx	Michael King	ext. 220
Brooklyn	Andrew Foti	ext. 221
Manhattan	John Brennan	ext. 222
Queens	Kevin Fitzgerald	ext. 223
Staten Island	Nicholas Souto	ext. 224

Committee Chairpersons

Children's Party	Peter Maddaloni	ext. 249
Blood Bank	Evan Manca	ext. 250
Compensation Ins.	Stephen Hourihan	ext. 251
E.P.E.C.	Gregory Sutton	ext. 252
Editor "The Gauge"	Daniel Danvers	ext. 253
Education	Francis J. Byrne	ext. 119
Engineers' Protective	Frank Felix	ext. 255
Entertainment	Kieran McKivergan	ext. 256
FMLA	Judith Koonce	ext. 278
Good & Welfare	Theresa DiCristi	ext. 258
Custodial Helpers	Marvin Rodriquez	ext. 259
Grievances	John Maderich	ext. 260
Hospitalization	Kevin Troy	ext. 261
Indoctrination	Dwight Woodley	ext. 262
Legislative Chair	Michael Kelly	ext. 263
Membership	Kieran McKivergan	ext. 264
Membership Assistance	Theresa DiCristi	ext. 258
Occupational Health & Safety	Lionel Santiago	ext. 266
Payroll & Permits	Philip Navetta	ext. 267
Pension	Frank Sirabella	ext. 268
Rating & Transfer	Robert Calamia	ext. 269
Store Keeper	Stevo Pepdjonovic	ext. 270
Supplies	Harry Cender	ext. 271
Temp Care Assign	Joseph Sanfilippo	ext. 272
Webmaster	Dan Morgan	ext. 274
NYC Central Council Delegate	Judith Koonce	ext. 275
NYC Central Council Delegate	Richard Gorgoglione	ext. 276