

1. What is VOTE-COPE?

NYSUT's **non-partisan** political action fund. **VOTE-COPE** stands for **Voice of Teachers for Education (VOTE) - Committee on Political Education (COPE)**.

It is illegal for GNTA (or any public union) to use its members' dues for political action. VOTE-COPE is 100% voluntary & supports a pro-public school & pro-labor agenda. NYSUT members gave \$10 million to VOTE-COPE last year.

In the anti-teacher, anti-public education climate we live in, VOTE-COPE helps elect **Democratic & Republican** politicians in Albany & Washington, D.C. who support what we do in the classroom. VOTE-COPE dollars also support lobbyists, advertising, & phone banks.

2. Why is VOTE-COPE so vital?

ALL OF OUR PROBLEMS ARE POLITICAL!

VOTE-COPE funds our fight in Albany to address issues such as APPR, tenure rights, the Tax Cap, collective bargaining rights, & protecting the Triborough Amendment.

And, 20% of our VOTE-COPE contributions come back to GNTA. This helps us right here in Great Neck to support school budget votes & elect pro-teacher Board of Education candidates.

VOTE-COPE funds helped defeat the ConCon in 2017.

VOTE-COPE helped eliminate the worst parts of retirement Tiers 3 & 4. (*Members originally needed to work until age 62 & contribute 3% of their salaries towards their pensions for their **entire** career. VOTE-COPE funds helped lower the retirement age to 55 & limited the 3% contributions to only the first 10 years of our careers.*) VOTE-COPE continues to fight for improvements to Tiers 5 & 6.

Giving \$100 (just \$5 per paycheck) to VOTE-COPE a year will not change your life, but it will continue to protect your job & your pension.

VOTE-COPE is an investment in your career & your family.

If you have ANY questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Joan Greenberg or Jim Daszenski!

