

On January 31, 2017, the NJREA Delegate Council voted to endorse

Marie Blistan for NJEA President and Steve Beatty for NJEA Secretary-Treasurer

These endorsements were based on recommendations from the NJREA Screening Committee, which met on Sunday, January 22, and interviewed all the candidates running for the two offices.

Marie Blistan has been and will continue to be a tireless advocate for NJREA members and retiree issues. She recognizes our contribution to education as professionals and support staff members, and our continuous concern for public school education. Marie always acknowledges retirees at events, welcomes our input, and is a strong voice for NJREA.

Steve Beatty is an enthusiastic NJEA member with a family history of union involvement. He has a strong background in organizing and government relations, which he will utilize to assist NJREA with our activities and issues. We feel confident that Steve, as the NJEA liaison to NJREA, will listen to us and bring our concerns not only to the NJEA leadership but also to the legislature if necessary.

Sean Spiller, currently NJEA Secretary-Treasurer, is running unopposed for the office of NJEA Vice-President.

NB: **Ballots for NJREA** offices which include the Delegate Assembly and delegates to the NEA-R and RA will be mailed on March 17 and must be returned in the envelope which accompanies the ballot by 5 PM on March 31.

NJEA balloting begins on April 1 and closes at 12 p.m. on April 14, 2017. Ballots must be returned in the envelope which accompanies the ballot by noon on April 14.

On behalf of the NJREA leadership team, I thank you in advance for voting in these two separate and important elections. Look for details regarding both elections in the March issue of the NJREA newsletter.

In unity,

Judy Perkins

NJREA Acting President

Judy Penking