



# DUTU NEWSLETTER

## DUTU ELECTION TIME!!!

Voting Date to be Announced

We will be Voting for:

Officers.....President, Vice President  
Secretary & Treasurer

Governing Council Chairs.....  
Grievance, Bylaws & Legislation,  
Newsletter, Social/Sunshine, Membership,  
Audit, Field Trip, Accident Review,  
Election, Benefit Resource, Technology,  
Staff Development, Student Discipline,  
Association Representative, Health/Safety

In the following pages you can read a statement from each Candidate.  
Please Read, keep yourself informed &  
**MAKE YOUR VOICE COUNT!!!**

# VOTE!!!



## **Laura Taets**

**Running for: President**

**Current DUTU Position: Audit Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I'm running for DUTU President because we need CHANGE. If you're in need of representation there's a reason why everyone says to get Laura Taets. We pay union dues for a reason, and when a member is in need, they deserve the representation that was promised to them, and not be thrown to the wolves. Some people rise above conflict, and some people cower down to it. I'm not a puppet or liaison for management, I stand up for what's fair and right for our members, and our union.

Together we must re-build trust in leadership, and create a stronger, more united union. This can be done through fixing the wage gap and having consistent verbal and written communication with our members. Listening to our members issues and concerns, getting their answers in a timely manner,

and keeping the membership informed and involved are my highest priorities.

Members deserve the right to be heard, included, informed, respected, and to be represented fairly no matter what job they perform. While I'm President that is what I will strive for.

It takes a considerable amount of determination and dedication to be the acting DUTU President; I'm highly motivated and I have a strong desire to see our union move into its rightful place as a first rate, strong and united body. Simply stated... Everyone should be, not just a select few. All means all!

If anyone is interested in contacting me, you can find us on facebook. Ask to be invited to our group page: Team Laura Taets for DUTU President, or contact us via email: [teamlaurataets@gmail.com](mailto:teamlaurataets@gmail.com)

Everyone please stay safe and hopefully we will all be back at work when this pandemic has ended.

Together we are One Voice One Union!

Vote for Laura Taets as your President!



## **Heather Weiss**

**Running for: President**

**Current DUTU Position: President**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

Our union needs strong leadership and I'm running for President of our Union because I've shown I can get the job done with a great team! My leadership speaks for itself. As President of our union I've unified our membership by listening to the needs of our members, expanded our Advocacy work enforcing our contracts, winning grievances, and continue to lead the fight to protect all working families. As an experienced union leader I have an unwavering commitment to build our union, the confidence to stand alone, and the courage to make tough decisions.

I've been an active DUTU member for 17 years, an active DUTU leader for 8 years. As President I successfully implemented our Members Only Facebook Page and DUTU website for transparency, to open the lines of communication and deliver factual information. I have a strong work relationship with Administration and plan to continue building relationships with the School Board by continuing my work on the School Board Communication Committee. I am ready to continue the work of building a strong union, bargaining good contracts, and involving our members in every aspect of our union. **VOTE FOR HONESTY AND STRONG LEADERSHIP.**

A few Accomplishments:

- Complete fulfillment of Governing Council Chairs.
- DUTU Bylaws Approved
- Won 13 out of 16 filed Grievances from 2016 until present.
- Creating DUTU Calendar
- Created DUTU's Members Only Facebook page.
- Transparency, Communication



**Tina Semock**

**Running for: Vice President**

**Current DUTU Position: Newsletter Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

Dear Members, I'm running for Vice President because we need CHANGE. My intent was never to divide us, as some rumors have spread, but to make OUR UNION STRONGER! Our current pay scale is dividing us, and it needs adjustment. This division clearly benefits Management, we're fighting amongst ourselves, spreading rumors like WILDFIRE..... it divides us even further. We can never truly be UNITED with this wage division in place.

I'm on the lower pay scale, and I'm ready to REPRESENT and fight for our FAIR STEP PROGRAM! This doesn't mean sacrificing anyone's pay to even it out. The district is no longer in a financial crisis, and they've taken from us and given back to themselves, the Administration, time and time again. Other U-46 locals have higher wages than DUTU; jobs that don't involve transporting the MOST PRECIOUS CARGO of U-46... IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS!!

DUTU members need to stay INFORMED, be INCLUDED in major decisions regarding their futures, and never have a resolution to a problem negotiated that benefits one group of Members over another. YOU, as a member, deserve to be: REPRESENTED FAIRLY, TREATED & TALKED TO WITH RESPECT, and to know your Union representatives are working for YOU!

I have been an active member, on the Governing Council for the past 3 years. I know how our union works, and how it should work. I have fresh ideas to rebuild OUR Union's lack of communication, and inclusion.

I have driven regular & special ed / out-of-district / summer routes, been a trip / mid-day, and late-run driver, fleet assistant, and a bus washer. I've spoken with our mechanics, office staff, and assistants: I understand this isn't just about the Drivers, we need to represent everyone. ALL MEANS ALL!!



**Elsy (Macy) Morales**

**Running for: Vice President**

**Current DUTU Position: Vice President**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I started in transportation 26 years ago as an assistant, became a trip driver, bus washer and I'm aware first hand of what we do. Along with being current DUTU Vice President, I am serving on labor management, contract bargaining, governing council as well as the ethnic and discipline committees.

Through experience and understanding the contract, I've been able to represent members called into the office, protecting their job and their rights.

I work with a talented group with different points of view, opinions and needs. Recognizing all is what this job is about. I have built positive relationships and communication skills to impact management for your/our best outcomes. Being Vice President is a volunteer job that takes countless hours of dedication to represent our members.

I have devoted my life to this department and I have a long way to go. Please Vote Elsy (Macy) as your Vice President.



## **Laura Taets**

**Running for: Vice President**

**Current DUTU Position: Audit Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

DUTU Vice-President, been there done that.

As President, I will revitalize an inclusive attitude that is missing in our union. A renewed commitment to a well-informed membership will result in a collective peace of mind that will allow us to put forth a truly united front. This renewal to commitment is intended to help maintain our current financial position and a secure future.

Together, we have to resolve ourselves to get things done. There is much that our union can accomplish, and you need to allow me to prove to you that I am more than capable of doing the job.

I've been a school bus driver, an active IEA member for the past 20 years; an active DUTU member for the past 13 years. A member like you, who shares the same struggles and worries; with your help determined to make a difference for all of us.

**CURRENT positions:** Region 63 Chair, IEA Board of Directors, Delegate to IEA/NEA Representative Assemblies, Audit Chair, Health Care Committee, Trip Committee, Grassroots Political Action Committee, & School Board Communication Team.

**PAST positions:** DUTU Vice-President, Bargaining Team, Labor Management, Accident Review Committee, Newsletter Committee, Bylaws & Legislation Committee, Social/Sunshine Chair, Benefit Resource Chair, One Conference Attendee & Facilitator, Summer Leadership Academy Attendee, & School Board Recommendation/Advisory Meetings.

**TRAININGS I've attended:** Member Engagement, Leadership, Arbitration/Grievance, Bargaining/Negotiation, Financial, Election, Associate Representative, Stronger United Bootcamp, and the list goes on.

Vote for Tina Semock as your DUTU Vice-President. We need new members involved, who are in it for the long haul. They bring fresh and innovative ideas to the table and have a vested interest in all of our futures



## **Shawn Bernhardson**

**Running for: Secretary**

**Current DUTU Position: Secretary**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I have started my 25<sup>th</sup> year with DUTU. I started my Union involvement by going to DUTU meetings. I educated myself before I jumped in. I became co-chair for By-Laws & Legislation, I then held the chair for Social/Sunshine and was asked to run for an officer's position. I choose Secretary, to which I have held for 6 years. I bargained our last contract in 2016 and am bargaining for this contract. In addition to my normal secretarial duties, my goal as an officer is to represent all

members fairly without judgement. Getting correct answers to all questions, or directing you to who would have the correct information. I am here to help with any situation whether it be discipline, or contractual to make sure management follows and respects our contract. I am always available by phone, text, email or can be found at base to talk about whatever your needs are.

My goal in Bargaining is to get what is most important to our Members. Financial is priority, which involves a pay raise for all members, closing the pay gap in all Classification of all members. Keeping insurance for all and affordable. Many other topics will be discussed, language will be cleaned up and updated. We have a very strong Bargaining Team, very diverse in all classifications, knowledgeable in procedures and the contract.

Our Team of Officers have many years of experience, we are dedicated to helping our union get stronger. Grievances are a major priority, Heather Weiss and Macy Morales have gone to bat on behalf of our members. I am proud to be part of this team and would greatly appreciate your vote for Secretary to continue supporting and fighting for our members of DUTU.

Thank you,

Shawn Bernhardson



**Liane Pizzo**

**Running For: Secretary**

**Current DUTU Position: Association Representative Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I've been a DUTU member since March 2016. My campaign is called "CHANGE".

I'm running for Secretary because we're in need of a change. How can we improve our union participation if we're continuously doing the same thing with the same people? We need to be innovative and ready for the challenges that are ahead of us.

We're presently going through a lot of changes with the current pandemic of COVID-19. We're all learning to adapt and using different means to stay informed and keeping our members informed. The technology opportunities that are available to us are limitless. I'm very knowledgeable with many computer programs, apps, and tools that are available to us through the IEA. I have a keen sense to detail and I'm excellent at capturing the most relevant information from meetings to share with our members. Accuracy in our minutes are very important because we need to make sure our members' issues are discussed and resolved in a timely manner. I have some great ideas regarding note taking and verifying the information from our meetings. Consistency and transparency are a must!

I'm approachable and willing to work hard to get our Union members what we deserve. If issues do arise, I will do my best to resolve them quickly and with the correct information. I'm highly motivated and have a strong desire to see our union move into its rightful place as a first rate, strong and united body. We need to rebuild the trust in our leadership and create a stronger more united union. Together we are one voice, one union!

VOTE FOR LIANE PIZZO FOR DUTU SECRETARY !  
#WEARESTRONGERUNITED

**Sheri Slania**

**Running For: Treasurer**

**Current DUTU Position: Treasurer**

**Transportation Position: Driver**



Hello fellow DUTU members. My name is Sheri Slania and I am once again running for DUTU treasurer.

I have been your DUTU Treasurer for the past 6 years. I maintain and balance the six different DUTU accounts along with creating a yearly budget. I've had successful audits with our Audit Chair Rep. throughout the 6 years.

With holding this position I am committed to attending monthly Governing Council meetings and scheduled General Membership meetings.

Please make your vote COUNT and vote for me SHERI SLANIA.



**Tina Semock**

**Running for: Grievance Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Newsletter Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

DUTU Members, I am running for Grievance Chair because I believe we need strong leadership in this important roll. Someone who is willing to spend time with you and listen to your side of the grievance. Help you in all aspects of this process. Never make you feel like the fight is not worth making. Never tell you that as a member of DUTU you will not be backed because others don't believe in your cause.

As paying members of DUTU you should be represented fairly and always feel the people you voted in or pay through union dues are on your side whether they agree with you or not.

Grievances are only filed when Management violates our Contract. With that being said, there are many problems that don't involve our contract. When this arises and you speak to your Union Representatives they should always be understanding, compassionate, and willing to help in what ever manor is necessary for the given situation. I will always be that person, willing to help, listen, be understanding and give suggestions that will benefit you!

We need people that believe they can win! People that start off with a defeatist attitude will never win! We must AIM HIGH, THINK POSITIVE, BELIEVE IN THE CAUSE, and most importantly, WORK HARD FOR DUTU MEMBERS, not management. Let's make this a STRONG UNION.

I believe I can better benefit DUTU by being VICE PRESIDENT, but I am willing to serve this Union in which ever position I am elected to.

I believe that if you Elect LAURA TAETS as PRESIDENT, TINA SEMOCK as VICE PRESIDENT and LIANE PIZZO as SECRETARY, you will see strong leadership that works for YOU, and POSITIVE CHANGE that will benefit ALL!!! Don't let previous storms cloud your vision for a bright future!

**Joe Haubert**

**Running For: Grievance Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Grievance Chair**

**Transportation Position: Lead Mechanic**

District U46 employee for 23 years, holding the Grievance Chairperson position for the past year. During my tenure, our team has successfully won 3 out of 5 grievances filed on behalf of the DUTU members.

It would be a privilege to continue to serve the Union in this position for the next 2 years. Therefore, I am requesting for your support and vote as your Grievance Chairperson for this upcoming term.





**Heather Weiss**

**Running for: Grievance Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: President**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I've been an active DUTU member for 17 years, an active DUTU leader for 8 years. I have a strong work relationship with Administration and plan to continue building relationships with the School Board by continuing my work on the School Board Communication Committee. This is important because in the grievance process you have to present the issues in front of many Administrators and possibly even the School Board. My FIRST choice and BEST choice for our Union is for me to continue as DUTU

President. As current DUTU President, I have been working with Joe Haubert, (our current grievance chair as of 2019) in the grievance procedure. From 2019 until today we have filed 5 grievances and won 3 of the 5.



**Mary Boyd**

**Running for: Grievance Chair**

**Current Position: Field Trip Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I have been a driver for over 16 years. I have seen U-46 Transportation grow from 310 drivers and assistants to over 400. U-46 is not a perfect place to work but no place is perfect. Change takes time

and effort.

I have been involved for 4 years as trip chair. During that time I've improved the trip book by making it more organized. This has made it easier to find answers when they are needed

I have also tried to educate myself on employees' rights and responsibilities. Please know that I am here for you and I am ready to resolve issues which come up as part of your employment here.

I am asking for your support . I am running for the following:

Safety Chair: In my employment here I've seen things that I would like to see changed. I would like to make U-46 safer than it already is. Not that we are not already safe. We are. But I think there are areas we can improve.

Grievance Chair: I want you to have a voice when it is needed.

Trip Chair: I enjoy being involved and I want what's best for all of us. I feel like I have a good relationship with all aspects of U-46 Transportation. I would enjoy helping you out when needed.

Please consider me first for Safety, 2nd for Grievance and 3rd Trip Chair. Also, please write me in for Region 63 Representative. I will be someone to represent each and every one of you!



## **Jay Niehus**

**Running for: By Law/ Legislation Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: By Law/ Legislation Chair**

**Transportation Position: Mechanic**

My name is Jay Niehus, and I have served the U-46 transportation union in many different capacities for over two decades. Some of my different positions have included by-laws and legislation, bargaining, labor-management, and also Region 63 Vice Chair. I am currently serving as Region 63 Vice Chair and the DUTU By-laws and legislation Chair, which I will continue to serve you in the future providing I have your vote of confidence.

Thanks, Jay (Mechanic bay 8)



## **Girolamo Ciolino**

**Running for: Social/Sunshine Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: DUTU Member**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

Hello Fellow Co-workers, My Name Is Girolamo Ciolino and I'm running for Social Sun Shine chair person.

I had served on my class board in high school, I held the treasurer position all 4 years of high school. I have been part of lots of groups in my city and church. I helped run a group at church that helped the community by doing different tasks. Such as spring clean-up at cabins that a group owned and rented out, and proceeds went to Michigan LGBT issues, collect home goods and clothing for the giving tree at Christmas time for families falling on hard times, organized a community coat drive for seniors that are in care facilities and have to go out for medical treatment.

At U-46 I have helped and been behind some ideas for lunch parties. I was one of the 3 leaders in the retirement lunch put on for Connie L. The future Cinco De Mayo lunch in May. Helped set up at the Western Party held at the Casino. As Your Social Sunshine Chair person, I would be able to use my creativeness and ideas to put on fun events, fund raisers, and serve the people who elect me into this position. I can devote my time to this title and fully run it. Previous chair persons have had to back out or have been unable to keep up with time lines. I don't have any children that would take my time away from my elected position.

Vote in Girolamo Ciolino on election day for Social Sunshine Chair Person





**Liane Pizzo**

**Running For: Social/Sunshine Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Association Representative Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I've been a DUTU member since March of 2016. As a member of a union, I believe a Union is stronger when we are united. I believe in giving back to the employees as many of you have noticed me volunteering for luncheons and give- a-ways. I'm very attentive to details when planning events/fundraisers. I've organized many lucrative fundraisers before I started working here at U-46 transportation, and I'm more than ready and willing to share my talents and experience for our union.

I understand how important it is to raise money through fundraising, and the importance of encouraging new members to participate.

As many of you know, I volunteered and organized our first party at the Grand Victoria. In its first year we brought over 200 members together to have a wonderful night with dinner and dancing. The goal for each year is that the participation level grows as we encourage our members to come together. Every Union function is an opportunity for us to include our members and show them what it is to be in a Union.

I believe these events/fundraisers are a way to recognize our members, let them know we appreciate them, and to give back to them.

Please vote for me as your Social/Sunshine Chair so I can continue my efforts to contribute and show that we appreciate all our members.

Together we are one voice, one union!

#WEARESTRONGERUNITED

VOTE FOR LIANE PIZZO



**Elsy (Macy) Morales**

**Running for: Health/Safety Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Vice President**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

We need a work environment that can provide an injury free building, lot and surroundings. Every year we are faced with too many employees falling and going on workman's compensation. I will be addressing the facts and needs to have a properly maintained lot, cleaning supplies for our buses and buildings.

Now more than ever being mindful and proactive is the answer to protect our health and safety. Elsy (Macy) Morales vote me as your representative



## **Mary Boyd**

**Running for: Health/Safety Chair**

**Current Position: Trip Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I have been a driver for over 16 years. I have seen U-46 Transportation grow from 310 drivers and assistants to over 400. U-46 is not a perfect place to work but no place is perfect. Change takes time

and effort.

I have been involved for 4 years as trip chair. During that time I've improved the trip book by making it more organized. This has made it easier to find answers when they are needed

I have also tried to educate myself on employees' rights and responsibilities. Please know that I am here for you and I am ready to resolve issues which come up as part of your employment here.

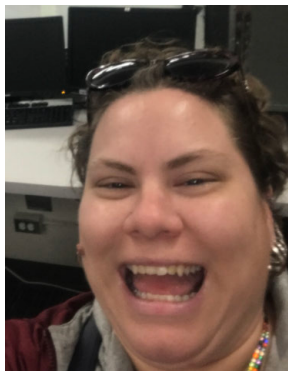
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**Safety Chair:** In my employment here I've seen things that I would like to see changed. I would like to make U-46 safer than it already is. Not that we are not already safe. We are. But I think there are areas we can improve.

**Grievance Chair:** I want you to have a voice when it is needed.

**Trip Chair:** I enjoy being involved and I want what's best for all of us. I feel like I have a good relationship with all aspects of U-46 Transportation. I would enjoy helping you out when needed.

Please consider me first for Safety, 2nd for Grievance and 3rd Trip Chair. Also, please write me in for Region 63 Representative. I will be someone to represent each and every one of you!



## **Kristal Day**

**Running for: Audit Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Social/Sunshine Chair**

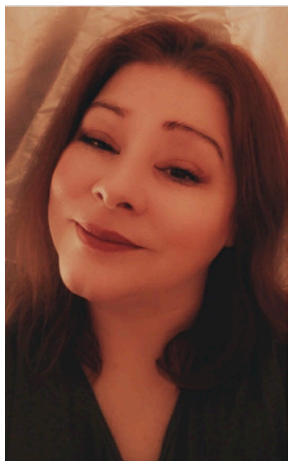
**Transportation Position: Driver**

Hello my name is Kristal Day.

I have been an employee of District U-46 for 14 years. I am running for audit chair. I have been the social/sunshine chair the last 2 years and looking for a new adventure.

I am hard working and looking to make a difference.

Vote Kristal Day for Audit Chair



## **Laura Taets**

**Running for: Audit Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Audit Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I only ask that as a union member you vote your conscience. There are many of us that have volunteered our time, and we do have your interests at heart. Some of us have the ability to retire in the very near future and some of us have another 20 years and hope that a retirement will be an option for us.

It is our duty to lead and encourage all of our members, but when we choose to keep electing the same people over and over, we are not listening to the voices of our membership. We need to be more inclusive, and let these new members learn what we have learned and listen to what they have to say. They're our future, and we need to encourage and help them learn our history. Now is the time to

encourage our members, and not shut them out. Everyone deserves an opportunity... I have been here for 13 years. I was shut out when I first started, but a very dear friend, Gary Snyder encouraged me not to give up and to continue on my path. Only 13 years, and I have accomplished much more than many of the 15 to 30-year veterans that are still here. I have a vested interest in my future as well as my fellow members, and I fight for every member no matter your seniority or job classification.

There is no difference between what I pay in dues or what a new union member pays when they walk through the door. Vote for who you believe has your interests in mind.

**MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT!!**

**VOTE FOR LAURA TAETS FOR DUTU PRESIDENT!**

**IT IS... YOUR VOICE YOUR UNION**

**#WEARESTONGERUNITED**

**CONTACT US:**

**FACE BOOK: TEAM LAURA TAETS FOR DUTU PRESIDENT**

**Email: [TEAMLURATAETS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TEAMLURATAETS@GMAIL.COM)**



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**Trip Chair:** I enjoy being involved and I want what's best for all of us. I feel like I have a good relationship with all aspects of U-46 Transportation. I would enjoy helping you out when needed.

Please consider me first for Safety, 2nd for Grievance and 3rd Trip Chair. Also, please write me in for Region 63 Representative. I will be someone to represent each and every one of you!



**Laura Taets**

**Running for: Field Trip Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Audit Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

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**Email: [TEAMLURATAETS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TEAMLURATAETS@GMAIL.COM)**

**Shawn Bernhardson**

**Running for: Accident Review Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Secretary**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

If I do not get re-elected for the officer's position of Secretary, I would be honored to hold the governing chair for Accidents & Review. It would give me the opportunity to make sure all Members are represented fairly in determining if an accident is a Preventable, Non-Preventable or an incident. To view all tapes when needed and to speak with the Member/Members involved. I will help them write their reports for management and go into managements office if needed with the Member/Members.

I have been involved with this great union for many years, and I would love to continue helping this union stay strong and grow stronger!

Thank you,

Shawn Bernhardson



## **Randall (Randy) Brooks**

**Running for: Accident Review Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: DUTU Member**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I'm running for this position because I want to be more involved with the union. I want to make a difference in the union with more transparency as to how accidents are handled. I want my fellow members to know that I have their back when it comes to accidents.



## **Laura Taets**

**Running For: Accident Review Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Audit Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I only ask that as a union member you vote your conscience. There are many of us that have volunteered our time, and we do have your interests at heart. Some of us have the ability to retire in the very near future and some of us have another 20 years and hope that a retirement will be an option for us.

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CONTACT US:**



## **Joe Haubert**

**Running for: Accident Review Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Grievance Chair**

**Transportation Position: Lead Mechanic**

District U46 employee and DUTU member for 23 years. Prior to employment at U46, employed for First Student as a mechanic for 17 years. I am currently serving as the Grievance Chairperson and an active member of the Labor Management Committee. I am also serving on the Negotiating Team for the future DUTU contract.

I have previously held the Accident Chairperson role for 8 years. During that time, I led our team in reversing 3 “preventable” to “non-preventable” judgements. We also reversed 10 “preventable” to “incident” judgements.

Throughout my experience, I have become very well versed in the National Safety Council Accident guidelines to render the correct and fair conclusions reviewing all traffic accidents in the Transportation Department.

Our team had also established a respectful and cordial relationship with Administration, adding to our accomplishments.

Serving within the committee, I contributed to building positive relationships and creating successful outcomes. It would be a great privilege to once again serve the DUTU members in the role as the Accident Review Chairperson for the next term. Therefore, I am seeking your support and vote in this upcoming election



## **Laura Taets**

**Running for: Election Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Audit Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I only ask that as a union member you vote your conscience. There are many of us that have volunteered our time, and we do have your interests at heart. Some of us have the ability to retire in the very near future and some of us have another 20 years and hope that a retirement will be an option for us.

It is our duty to lead and encourage all of our members, but when we choose to keep electing the same people over and over, we are not listening to the voices of our membership. We need to be more inclusive, and let these new members learn what we have learned and listen to what they have to say. They're our future, and we need to encourage and help them learn our history. Now is the

time to encourage our members, and not shut them out. Everyone deserves an opportunity... I have been here for 13 years. I was shut out when I first started, but a very dear friend, Gary Snyder encouraged me not to give up and to continue on my path. Only 13 years, and I have accomplished much more than many of the 15 to 30-year veterans that are still here. I have a vested interest in my future as well as my fellow members, and I fight for every member no matter your seniority or job classification.

There is no difference between what I pay in dues or what a new union member pays when they walk through the door. Vote for who you believe has your interests in mind.

**MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT!!  
VOTE FOR LAURA TAETS FOR DUTU PRESIDENT!  
IT IS... YOUR VOICE YOUR UNION**

**#WEARESTONGERUNITED**

**CONTACT US:**

**FACE BOOK: TEAM LAURA TAETS FOR DUTU PRESIDENT**

**Email: [TEAMLURATAETS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TEAMLURATAETS@GMAIL.COM)**



**Tina Semock**

**Running for: Benefit Resources Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Newsletter Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

Fellow DUTU Members, The Benefits Resource Chair is a position I am very passionate about. I have always been very diligent about understanding our benefits & Health Insurance, and the best way to make the most of these benefits!

As the Benefit Resource Chair I will attend meetings with the district, and work to improve our insurance benefits and lower deductibles.

I will attend classes from IMRF to better understand how we can all make the most of this for our individual retirements. I am willing to talk with DUTU Members and give them accurate information.

I Believe I can best Serve DUTU as your Vice President, but I would appreciate your support as Benefit Resource Chair also.

Please join Myself, Laura Taets and Liane Pizzo on Facebook: Team Laura Taets for DUTU PRESIDENT !!!

Email: [teamlaurataets@gmail.com](mailto:teamlaurataets@gmail.com)

Don't let Previous Storms Cloud your VISION for a Bright Future!

#WEARESTRONGERUNITED



**Dee Valenti**

**Running for: Staff Development Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Staff Development Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

My name is Dee Valenti. I have been in the School district for 10 years and have held the Staff Development position with DUTU for the past 3 years.

I am renewing my candidacy so that I can continue to work closely with Carin Bjorn, bringing your ideas and suggestions for our in-service meetings that will benefit and implement better training tools for us all.



**Liane Pizzo**

**Running For: Association Representative Chair**

**Current DUTU Position: Association Representative Chair**

**Transportation Position: Driver**

I've been a DUTU member since March of 2016. I'm the current Associate Representative Chair, and communication is the key to including our members and making our union stronger. Association Representatives are an important resource that is available for us to communicate issues and differences between our members and our Governing body.

I have learned from personal experience and from IEA that "Face to Face" conversations are the best way to build an all-inclusive relationship; to know what the real important issues are to our members; and is an effective way to communicate accurate information in a timely manner. I've concluded that we lack the communication between our members, and I've been actively working with IEA to address this issue. We're in the process of using new technology to reach out to our members, but I'm waiting for the green light.

Members have come to me with questions/concerns, and I answer to the best of my ability. When I don't have all the information, I'm motivated to do the research and follow up in a timely manner. I'm excellent with follow up and holding people accountable to get the facts, and that's why I can always count on our elected chairs and officers to assist if needed. We're a TEAM and I will continue to use every resource available to keep our members informed. I thrive on researching issues and resolving them for our union members to make sure our contract is being adhered to. Members haven't been informed with accurate information, and this has led to a lot of uncertainty amongst our members. Surveying our members periodically to make sure their needs are being met, engaging more members, and increasing the flow of accurate information are my top priorities as AR Chair.

**VOTE FOR LIANE PIZZO!**

**#WEARESTRONGERUNITED**