



# AUCOE News

## Greater New York Conference Hosts AUCOEAC



*Superintendent, Maria Thomas (left), and President Alanzo Smith (right), from the Greater New York Conference.*

The Atlantic Union Conference Office of Education Administrators Council (AUCOEAC) met in Garden City, New York, from April 24 to April 26. The meeting was a joint meeting between the education and ministerial departments of the Atlantic Union Conference.

The AUCOEAC is made up of the Atlantic Union Office of Education director and associates, the six conference superintendents and their associates, and the six union academy principals.

One of the highlights of the week was a visit to Whispering Pines Adventist School where the council members were blessed to share worship with the students. The speaker first grader, Mikel Williams, spoke with passion! After worship, council members participated in community service projects: planting

flowers, organizing uniforms, and moving items from a storage room to a shed.

The meetings featured several speakers including Martha Ban, director of Technology & Support, NAD Office of Education; George Coke, pastor, Mt. Moriah and Majestic Heights Adventist churches/NEC; Elissa Kido, director, CRAE La Sierra University; Carol Macedonia, senior research fellow, The Institute for Education Policy, Johns Hopkins School of Education; Todd McFarland, deputy general counsel, General Conference Office of General Counsel, and Alanzo Smith, president, Greater New York Conference.

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## Retiring Teachers Recognized

The Atlantic Union Conference Office of Education extends its congratulations to our retiring teachers!

### Greater New York

Andrea Clarke

### New York Conference

Eduardo Urbina

### Northeastern Conference

James Bennett Sr.

Verolyn Roberts-Martin

### Southern New England Conference

Janice Ford



Andrea Clarke

These teachers have worked tirelessly throughout their years of service to educate God's children. As they enter this new phase of their lives, we pray that God will bless them abundantly!



James Bennett Sr.



Verolyn Roberts-Martin



Janice Ford at her surprise retirement celebration.

**T** TALENTED  
**E** ENERGETIC  
**A** ABLE  
**C** CHRISTLIKE  
**H** HELPFUL  
**E** ENCOURAGING  
**R** RESOURCEFUL  
**S** SUPERCALIFRAGILIS-  
 TICEXPIALIDOCIOUS

A very special thank you to every teacher in the Atlantic Union for the tireless hours and effort you put into educating God's children. May the Lord bless you abundantly as you minister for Him!

With grateful appreciation,  
 Marlene, Theresa, Lileth,  
 and Millie.

## Atlantic Union Welcomes Two New Superintendents



Mrs. Venetta Jarvis

The Atlantic Union has two new superintendents serving our educational system who are no strangers to Adventist education in the union.

On March 28, 2023, Mrs. Venetta Jarvis was elected by the Northeastern Conference Executive Committee to serve as superintendent of schools. Mrs. Jarvis was serving as the principal of Northeastern Adventist Academy Boston Campus for several years.



Mr. Jeremy Garlock

At the New York Conference Constituency Session on Sunday, April 30, 2023, Mr. Jeremy Garlock was elected to serve as superintendent of schools in conjunction with his position as principal of Union Springs Academy.

Both of these educators have a passion for Adventist education and work tirelessly toward its success in their territories. Please continue to pray for and support Mrs. Jarvis and Mr. Garlock in their new role as superintendent of schools.

## Parent Summit Helps Parents in Troubling Times

Parents have the most difficult job in the world! The first Parents Summit was held in Rosedale, New York, at the Victory Fellowship Worship Center Adventist Church on April 22, 2023. This summit was sponsored by the Atlantic Union Conference Office of Education and Children's Ministries Department.



Mr. Byas speaks to the attendees.

The summit titled "Guiding Children Through the Storms of Life" was presented by Willis Byas, intern consultant for the International Center for Trauma Education and Care at Andrews University, and Jharony Gibbs, pastor at the Harbor of Hope church in Benton Harbor, Michigan.

The presenters shared insightful information with parents about how to help their children when they experience trauma. Children experience many forms of trauma from mild to severe in today's society.

## ATTENTION KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS!

The kindergarten *Encounter Bible* series will be rolled out at the NAD Educators' Convention this August.

Be sure to sign up for the breakout sessions to learn about this exciting new curriculum.

Also, please watch the *Encounter Bible Elementary Training* on ALC before the convention, so you will be prepared.

In order to access the materials, you will need to have completed the ALC training as well as the live training.

Contact Dr. Coke when your training is completed to gain access.

**ENCOUNTER**  
ADVENTIST CURRICULUM





## New SIS Available for Next School Year!

North American Division's new SIS, AEConnect, will be available for K-8 elementary schools for the 2023-2024 school year and for K-12 schools the following year.

When developing AEConnect, the NAD solicited the advice of teachers including multigrade teachers. It has features that you will love!

If you are interested in onboarding for fall, speak to your superintendent.

## Training Videos and Resources Available for New SS Texts

Did you miss the online training sessions for the new social studies textbooks? Don't worry. All the sessions were recorded and are available to you! They can be found on the Adventist Learning Community website or use the link and password below.

### K-5 IMPACT Social Studies

[bit.ly/NADsdaSS2023](https://bit.ly/NADsdaSS2023)

password: NADsdaSS2023

### 6-8 Voices and Perspectives Social Studies

[bit.ly/NADsda2023SS](https://bit.ly/NADsda2023SS)

password: NADsdaSS2023

Also feel free to explore the curriculum on the demo site available until September 2023.

Website: [my.mheducation.com](https://my.mheducation.com)

User: NADSDA2022

Password: NADsda2022

## Atlantic Union Early Childhood Educators Participate in Professional Development Day

Early childhood educators from across the Atlantic Union Conference met together on April 27, 2023, at the Northeastern Conference headquarters for a full day of collaboration and learning.

The presenter was Dr. Laurie Casna, director of Special Education at Codman Academy Charter Public School in Dorchester, Mass. As an educational leader, she teaches graduate courses, provides professional development, and coaches on inclusion practices.

She spoke about scheduling and hands-on learning. Participants were excited about the knowledge and skills they learned to bring back to their classrooms.



*Atlantic Union ECE educators discussing and collaborating as they learn new strategies.*

One participant said, "I always come out of the ECE PDs with something useful to implement in my classroom. Thank you to the leaders for hearing and seeing ECE teachers."

## Greater New York Commissions Teachers

On Sabbath, May 20, at the North Bronx Adventist Church, a commissioning ceremony was held to honor seven teachers. A Commissioned Ministry of Teaching License is bestowed upon teachers who



*Teacher commissioning candidates during the ceremony.*

have at least three years of satisfactory service, have demonstrated a commitment to Adventist education, support the beliefs of the church, and lead an Adventist lifestyle. The teachers commissioned were Ms. Sandra Ball, Mrs. Andrea E. Clarke, Mrs. Celes Elliott, Mrs. Naomi Y. Jardiniano-Manassian, Ms. Brigida R. Matos, Mrs. Nicole Pitter-Smith, and Mr. Walter Szoboszlai.



*Pictured above: Greater New York Academy's student award celebration.*

## Teacher Spotlight

We would love to feature YOU, our amazing teachers, in future newsletters. Let other members of the Atlantic Union educator family get to know you!

Please click the link below to fill out your information:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/>

## Student Spotlight

We would love to feature some of your precious students and the outstanding things they do. If you have a student with an extraordinary story, please email one of the team members at the Atlantic Union Office of Education, and we will include it in future issues of the AUCOE newsletter.



## Engage Newsletter to Feature Educators' Convention

The NAD *Engage* newsletter will focus on the Educators' Convention and your voice is needed. Please consider sharing a quote and/or a one-word description of the convention experience through this form: <https://nad.adventisteducation.org/June2023Engage>

Current and archived editions of *Engage* can be found here: <https://engageae.com/> The most recent issue has a wonderful article about two long-serving Atlantic Union educators: Dick and Julie Kamieneski.



## NAD Education Website Updated and Enhanced

Have you visited the NAD Adventist Education website (<https://adventisteducation.org/>) lately? The site has been updated and enhanced to include many new features.

One new feature is the ability to search for schools by postal code or state or province. Parents will easily be able to find schools. Has your school information been updated? If not, just your school name will appear. Administrators please contact Martha Ban at [martha-ban@nadadventist.org](mailto:martha-ban@nadadventist.org) to get information to update your school!



## NAD EDUCATORS' CONVENTION GETTING CLOSER

Have you made arrangements to attend the NAD Educators' Convention? You won't want to miss out on this amazing experience.

Check out the updated website.

<https://convention.adventisteducation.org/>

The deadline for Spark Tank has been extended to the end of June. Spark Tank is an opportunity to pitch an idea for outreach/evangelism in your community and possibly be awarded funds toward the project. Let's be the hands and feet of Jesus in the Atlantic Union Conference.

When: August 7-10, 2023

Where: Phoenix, AZ

Hope to see you there!

