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News Release

Matthew Warner Receives NYSTRS Excellence Award *North Greenbush Resident Honored for 2008 Contributions*

ALBANY, N.Y. (Feb. 25, 2009) — Matthew Warner, a business systems information technology specialist for the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (NYSTRS), was recently honored as the inaugural recipient of the NYSTRS Significant Contribution for the Year award.

Warner, a resident of North Greenbush, was honored for his many 2008 contributions to the System's Information Services department. Among the successful projects he headed or significantly contributed to were the redesign of the NYSTRS Web site; the addition of an online change of address function to the Web site; a Web infrastructure upgrade; and, an internal online employee directory.

"Matt embodies the spirit and ideals of the Retirement System. He grabs hold of his assignments with enthusiasm and determination, always with the focus on serving our members and his fellow employees," said NYSTRS Board President R. Michael Kraus, who presented the award in his capacity as chairman of the System's Personnel and Planning Committee. "His combination of creativity, diligence and technical know-how make him a valuable NYSTRS employee and an exceptionally deserving recipient of this award."

The System began a program of recognizing its top employees in 1971 to celebrate the staff members whose achievements best contribute to the fulfillment of the System's goals and objectives. Warner was presented with a plaque during the Board's January meeting.

The New York State Teachers' Retirement System provides retirement, disability and death benefits to eligible New York State public school teachers and administrators. NYSTRS is the second largest public retirement system in the state and one of the 10 largest systems in the nation, serving over 275,000 active members and more than 130,000 retirees and beneficiaries.

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