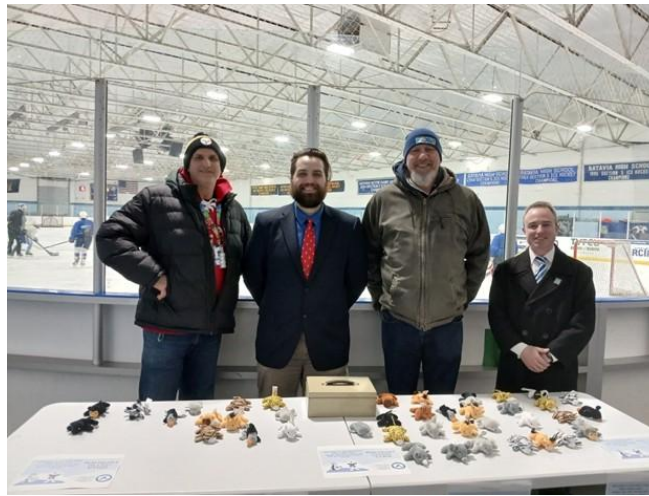


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Batavia Teachers' Association Hosts Community Teddy Bear Toss to Support Local Children



Pictured: BTA Members, Eric Knapp, Anthony Consiglio, Grievance Officer John McCarthy, Vice President Antonio Madau

Batavia, New York — December 2025 —The Batavia Teachers' Association (BTA) proudly hosted Batavia's first-ever Teddy Bear Toss on Wednesday, December 17, during a Batavia Notre Dame JV Hockey game. The event brought together educators, students, families, and community members in a spirited night of generosity benefiting local children in need.

Community members attending the game were invited to bring new stuffed animals, which were thrown onto the ice at the conclusion of the first period. The response was overwhelming, with approximately 300 stuffed animals collected during the event.

The donated bears will be distributed to local children through the Salvation Army, children's hospitals, shelters, and other community organizations serving families throughout Batavia. In addition to the stuffed animal donations, more than \$100 in cash was raised during the event, with all proceeds designated for the Salvation Army.

To ensure the success of the initiative, the Batavia Teachers' Association purchased 100 teddy bears in advance and coordinated the on-site sale of bears for attendees who wished to participate. The event required extensive planning and collaboration, further highlighting the Association's commitment to meaningful community engagement.

The Teddy Bear Toss reflects the BTA's ongoing dedication to supporting Batavia families beyond the classroom. By partnering with local organizations and creating inclusive, family-friendly events, the Association continues to strengthen connections between schools and the broader community.

The Batavia Teachers' Association extends its appreciation to the Batavia Notre Dame JV Hockey team, event participants, and all community members who contributed to making the evening a success.

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