



Back to School & Back to Union Wins!

As the 2023-2024 school year kicks off, CSEA paras have a lot to celebrate! Years of hard work and solidarity have led to some monumental wins for paraeducators, students and our school communities as a whole.

Progress on

Healthcare Costs

On September 5th, Cynthia Ross-Zweig, Paraeducator Council President, had the honor to represent CSEA at a press conference with our top elected officials - Governor Lamont, Sena-

tor Blumenthal, Comptroller Scanlon, Speaker Ritter, and many more. She took this opportunity to speak to these elected officials and the press about the struggles paraeducators have paying for their health in-

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Primary Results & General Election Endorsements

This year, CSEA is endorsing in over 70 elections across Connecticut. With so many seats up for grabs, and so much at stake, it is more important than ever to ensure that we elect pro-worker candidates who share our union values.

Our endorsement process is designed in a way to ensure that member input, values, and legislative priorities are at the forefront of the decision-making process. Below, please review the endorsement process and ways that you can get involved to ensure that pro-worker candidates are elected to the General Assembly and statewide offices. CSEA joins our fellow CT SEIU locals (SEIU 1199, SEIU 32BJ, 4Cs, and CEUI/MEUI Local 511) to hold candidate interviews and endorse

as a State Council. The process starts when a candidate reaches out to the State Council to request an endorsement. Any candidate running for public office, regardless of party affiliation, may request an endorsement.

Candidates are sent an in-depth questionnaire which they must complete before scheduling a candidate interview in front of members of the Legislative Action Committee (LAC) from each of the State Council locals.

After candidates are interviewed, the CSEA LAC makes a recommendation to endorse or not, these recommendations are then presented to the Executive Council where they vote to approve or deny the endorsement.

By using the candidate questionnaire and

interview, the LAC and Executive Council are aiming to ensure that candidates hold pro-CSEA and pro-union values and will be allies in their position upon a successful election.

Endorsement is only the first step in our involvement in these races - members must mobilize to make calls and knock on doors for these candidates while our communications program also sends out mailers to registered voters in their district.

Please review the list of endorsed candidates on page 6 and be on the lookout for emails and text messages reminding you to vote for pro-worker candidates in your local elections!

continue onto page 6

Childcare Members Win Bonuses Amidst On-Going Crisis

Union members in action leads to BIG #UnionWin

Childcare Council members have been busy fighting for higher wages and better benefits - they've rallied, made calls to legislators, showed up at the Capitol, spoke with the press, and demanded attention to the childcare crisis. And after several months of work, they are able to celebrate with raises and bonuses.

These wins were only made possible by members tirelessly fighting collectively - and it was not an easy fight. Just as most CSEA members faced, childcare providers fought against the

spending cap restraints which threatened to diminish any significant progress on wages and benefits. But by steadily and strategically raising the pressure on the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) and ultimately the Lamont Administration, CSEA childcare providers won a contract with double digit raise increases, bonuses, hundreds of thousands of additional professional development funding, special needs and NAFCC differentials, support for licensing, as well as guaranteed funding for new resource and

referral programs.

Without members being able to join together collectively, these gains would be unimaginable. But being part of a union means having a voice. A voice in union meetings, a voice at the workplace, a voice up at the State Capitol - a strong collective voice fighting for fair contracts, workers rights and the protection of the working class.

Dues

provide the resources to strengthen contract campaigns like these so that we can stand up for good jobs and benefits, decent working conditions and a better future for our families. That's why union workers earn around 10.2 percent more in hourly wages than their non-union counterparts with similar levels of education and training.

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Visit our union's website at: CSEA-CT.com

Postmaster: Please forward address changes to:
CSEA, 760 CAPITOL AVE., HARTFORD, CT 06106

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MEETING DATES

The October Council 400 Legislative Action Committee Meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting on **Wednesday, October 4th at 10am at the CSEA Union Hall and via Zoom**

The October Delegates Meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting on **Thursday, October 19th at 10am at the CSEA Union Hall and via Zoom**

Chapter 401 (Hartford area)
Thursday, October 5th - 1pm
Guest Speaker: Secretary of State, Stephanie Thomas
760 Capitol Ave., Hartford
Zoom Meeting ID: 833 1491 7718
Patrice Peterson - (860) 416-0306

Chapter 402 (Danbury area)
Wednesday, October 4th - 10am
Guest Speaker: Subby Puglisi, CSEA Regional Vice President
5 Clapboard Ridge Rd. Danbury
Linda Albanese - (860) 354-6965

Chapter 403 (Norwich area)
Tuesday, October 10th - 1:30pm
Guest Speaker: Aetna Representative
Rose City Senior Center
8 Mahan Drive., Norwich
Carol Burgess - (860) 859-3641

Chapter 404 (Waterbury area)
Tuesday, October 10th - 10am
Guest Speaker: Bernadette Conway
CSEA Retiree Coordinator
Trinity Orthodox Church
937 Chase Parkway, Waterbury
Tina Franco (203) 721-4382

Chapter 405 (New Haven area)
Thursday, October 12th - 10:30am
Guest Speaker: Cigna Dental Rep.
Hamden Government Center Bldg
3rd Floor (elevator available)
2750 Dixwell Ave, Hamden
Ron Osokow - (203) 671-7685

Chapter 406 (Middletown area)
Tuesday, October 12th - 1pm
American Legion Post 75
58 Bernie O'Rourke Dr. Middletown
Joe Formica - (860) 347-4532

Chapter 407 (Bridgeport area)
Wednesday, October 18th - 1pm
Guest Speaker: Bernadette Conway
CSEA Retiree Coordinator
St. Josephs of Stratford Catholic Church
1300 Stratford Rd., Stratford (on Rt. 113)
Joan Matzonkai - (203) 751-0300

Chapter 408 (Willimantic area)
Thursday, October 12th - 12:30pm
Mansfield Senior Center
303 Maple Road. Mansfield
Doug Racicot - (860) 234-2537

Chapter 409 (University Professors)
Friday, October 20th - 10am
CSEA Union Hall & via Zoom
760 Capitol Ave., Hartford
Zoom Meeting ID: 868 8922 7158
Dave Walsh - (860) 684-4773

Chapter 410 (Windsor Locks area)
Monday, October 16th - 1pm
Guest Speaker: Kathy Holt,
Center for Medicare Advocacy
Suffield Senior Center
145 Bridge St., Suffield
Amelia Smith - (860) 687-1848

Chapter 411 (Rocky Hill area)
Holiday Luncheon - TBA
Sebastian Puglisi - (860) 529-8336

Chapter 412 (Putnam area)
Tuesday, October 17th - 1:30pm
Guest Speaker: Cigna Dental Rep.
The NEW Putnam Town Hall
200 School St., Putnam
Don Gladding - (860) 933-9998

Chapter 414 (Torrington area)
Monday, October 16th - 10am
Guest Speaker: Kevin Sullivan
CSEA Retiree Organizer
Cooperative Service Extension Bldg
843 University Dr, Torrington
Karen Pineman - (860) 354-6727

Chapter 415 (Manchester area)
Monday, October 23rd - 1pm
Guest: Jim O'Brien - AARP
Manchester Elks Lodge
30 Bissell St., Manchester, CT
Stuart Clark - (860) 205-0657 (c)
(860) 454-4818 (h)

Chapter 416 (New London area)
Tuesday, October 10th - 12pm
Guest Speaker: Kevin Sullivan
CSEA Council 400 Organizer

**Check out
Page 5 for more
Council 400 News!**

Groton Public Library
52 Newtown Road, Groton
John Knaff - (860) 857-4244

Chapter 417 (Plainville area)
Wednesday, October 11th - 1pm
Plainville Public Library - Auditorium
56 East Main St., Plainville
Mark Kirschner - (860) 882-2717

Chapter 418 (Community College Retirees)
No Meeting this Month

Chapter 421 (Daytona, Florida)
Wednesday, November 8th - 11:30am
Houlighan's - Port Orange
1396 Dunlawton Ave., Port Orange, FL
Ruth Finizio - (860) 680-1860

Chapter 422 (Ocala, Florida)
Friday, February 2, 2024
Frank Berlinkski - (860) 604-7688

Chapter 423 (Highland Beach, Florida)
Monday, February 12, 2024
Ron Herzig - (561) 994-6428

Chapter 424 (Sarasota, Florida)
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 - 9am
The Carlisle Inn and Conference Center
3727 Bahia Vista St, Sarasota, Florida
Bob Mackiewicz - (941) 497-2370

Chapter 425 (Clearwater, Florida)
Tuesday, February 6, 2024
Linda Callahan - (727) 821-4048

Chapter 426 (Ft. Myers, Florida)
Friday, February 9, 2024
Debra Gould - (203) 605-6690

Chapter 427 (Vero Beach, Florida)
Tuesday, February 13, 2024
Martha Jurek - (860) 558-8172

Chapter 431 (North and South Carolina)
Tuesday, February 20, 2024 - 11am
Golden Corral - 868 Oak Forest Lane
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
John Yopp - (203) 507-1022

Chapter 441 (Cape Cod, Massachusetts)
Sherrill Stott - (774) 237-0220

Important numbers to have on hand:

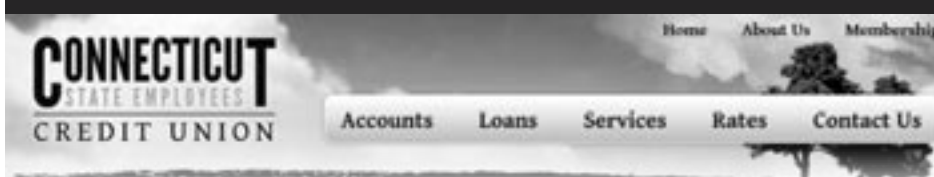
- Retirement Division Payroll: 860-702-3528
- Retirement Division Life Insurance: 860-702-3537
- Retirement Division Health Insurance: 860-702-3533
- Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield: 1-800-922-2232
- CSEA Retiree Organizer, Kevin Sullivan: 860-951-6614 x118
- Aetna Customer Service: 1-855-648-0391
- Caremark: 1-800-318-2572
- Cigna: 1-800-244-6224
- HEP Care Management Solutions: 1-877-687-1448 or visit them at their portal: <https://www.connect2yourhealth.com/ParticipantPortal/Default.aspx>



Manage your Visa Credit Card through our CSE Visa Credit Card Mobile App or online site. View transactions, lock or unlock your card for security, report your card as lost or stolen, set up travel notifications, access e-Statements, and make payments. Visit our website at www.CSECreditUnion.com for more details.

COMING SOON - We will be offering a Rewards Visa Credit Card later this fall. More information will be available on our website and in the winter newsletter.

Visit Our Website: www.CSECreditUnion.com



Find all the essential information about the products and services we have to offer. You can even print a loan application online! Best of all, it's accessible from your personal computer 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
www.CSECreditUnion.com

**Closed
Monday, October 9th**

Dividend Rates - Third Quarter 2023

	Dividend Rate	Annual Percentage Yield
REGULAR SHARES	2.75%	2.79%
SHARE DRAFTS (Checking)	1.25%	1.26%
CLUB ACCOUNTS	2.00%	2.02%

Minimum opening balance \$25.00. The annual percentage yield is accurate as of the last dividend declaration date. Rate may change after the account is opened. Fees or other conditions may reduce the earnings on the account.

7 Full Service Offices To Serve You

NORWICH
Uncas on Thames
401 West Thames St.
Norwich, CT 06306
(860) 889-7378

HARTFORD
84 Wadsworth St.
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 522-5388 (Savings)
(860) 522-7147 (Loans)

NEW HAVEN
1666 Litchfield Turnpike
Woodbridge, CT 06525
(203) 397-2949

MIDDLETOWN
15 Ward Street
Middletown, CT 06457
(860) 347-0479

STORRS
1244 Storrs Rd.
Storrs, CT 06268
(860) 429-9306

SOUTHBURY
Southbury Training School
P.O. Box 644
Southbury, CT 06488
(203) 267-7610

NEWINGTON
O'Neil Plaza
2434 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06111
(860) 667-7668

Hours: Main Office: Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm Branches: Mon-Fri, 9:30am-4pm
Drive-Up Teller (Hartford & Middletown): Mon-Fri, 8:30am-4pm; Paydays Open Until 5pm

**Gone too Soon:
CSEA Members Who Have Passed On**

The Office of the State Comptroller has provided CSEA with the following members that have recently passed away. Our condolences are with their friends, family and loved ones.

- Alterman, Denise "Dina", Department Of Public Safety
- Beeching, Barbara, Admin And Residual
- Bothwell, Sherwood, Judicial - Professional B
- Brandon, Donna, Social And Human Services
- Buinauskas, Kenneth, Service/Maintenance
- Burden, Robert, Engineer, Scien, Tech
- Burnell, Sheryl, Administrative Clerical
- Butterfield, Jean, Managerial
- Chasse, Elizabeth, Administrative Clerical
- Czarnecki, John, Service/Maintenance
- Dalton, Susan, Health Professional
- Derosiers, Joseph, Engineer, Scien, Tech
- Desteph, Joseph, Protective Services
- Dupuis, Wilfred, Service/Maintenance
- Griffin, Patricia, Administrative Clerical
- Locasto, Joseph, Managerial
- Lomask, Michal, Education A
- Martin, Alex, Service/Maintenance
- Mcquaid, Tracey, Administrative Clerical
- Pannone, John, Social And Human Services
- Rich, Ninetta, Protective Services
- Rodriguez, Carmen, Health Nonprofessional
- Rothfield, Naomi, Uhc - Faculty - Aaup
- Rothwell, Bruce, Engineer, Scien, Tech
- Shortell, Joseph, Judicial - Non-Professional
- Skinner, Annette, Confidential
- Tonkin, W Grant, Social And Human Services
- Walker, Patricia, Admin And Residual
- White, Enrica, Health Professional
- Zeitel, Kelly, Judicial - Non-Professional

CSEA NEWS

The Voice of Connecticut's
Public Service Employees & Retirees

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CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION

Local 2001, Service Employees International Union, CTW/CLC

- Travis WoodwardPresident
- Beverly LeeSecretary/Treasurer
- David GliddenExecutive Director
- Drew E. StonerCommunication Specialist
- Jason P. WebsterGraphic/ Technical Assistance

INSERTION DEADLINE: 1st of prior month.

MAILING ADDRESS: CSEA/SEIU Local 2001, 760 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106;
PHONES: (860) 951-6614, toll-free: (800) 894-9479, FAX: (860) 951-3526; INTERNET:
www.csea-ct.com.

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The inclusion of advertising in the CSEA News does not constitute an endorsement



Paras Back to School & Back to #UnionWins

continued from Page 1 insurance. CSEA members worked tirelessly throughout the last several sessions to highlight these rising healthcare costs and in the 2023 Legislative Session their work helped lead to the creation of a \$5 million Paraeducator Healthcare Subsidy Program which will pay 70% of the deductible for paraeducators with a Health Savings Account in a High Deductible Health Plan. This will impact over 4,000 paras across Connecticut.

As Comptroller Scanlon describes, this program will make a huge difference for those paras, "If a paraeducator has a \$2,000 deductible, and they get a \$1,000 contribution from their board of education, that means that their responsibility is \$1,000. That's a lot of money for somebody making what a paraeducator unfortunately makes in many of these school districts. [The Paraeducator Healthcare Subsidy Program] would be paying a stipend of \$740 to cover the cost of those costs." This leaves the para with a deductible of \$260, instead of \$2,000.

In addition to the subsidy program and again thanks to the work of CSEA union members, the General Assembly and Governor Lamont created a paraeducator health care working group to develop legislative and policy recommendations to ensure that all paraeducators have access to high quality, affordable health insurance. The working group includes union representation as well as staff from the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange, the Office of Health Strategy, and the Comptroller's office. The

working group has already started meeting and has until July 1, 2024 to present their recommendations.

This new program is a huge start, but there is much more work to be done. The appropriation for this healthcare stipend was only made for one year and the amount is not nearly enough to address all of the many issues paras have with accessing quality, affordable healthcare insurance.

Progress on Air Quality

For the past several legislative sessions of the Connecticut General Assembly, CSEA members who work in Connecticut's public schools have been advocating for legislation and funding to ensure safe air quality in our classrooms. Thanks to the work of CSEA members and our partners in the broader school air quality coalition, Connecticut is starting to implement a program to improve, create, and maintain high air quality and temperature standards in our schools.

With everything that has happened over the course of the deadly, global COVID-19 pandemic, we know firsthand the importance of air quality. And, as the school year is just getting started, we have already seen multiple districts cancel classes or move to half days because of the excessive heat coupled with substandard heating, ventilation, or air conditioning (HVAC) systems.

In 2022, Governor Lamont signed legislation that CSEA members lobbied for that established a new grant program to encourage public school districts to install, replace, or upgrade, their HVAC systems. The pro-

gram is designed to assess school district HVAC needs and to fund renovations that are needed to support healthy learning environments in our schools. The Department of Administrative Services (DAS), which is administering the grant program, has opened the application for the FY24 HVAC Indoor Air Quality Grant Program for Public Schools.

Over the coming weeks, DAS will be rolling out webinars and other communications to encourage districts to apply and to answer questions they may have.

Coming Up Ahead

As we forge our way ahead, we are preparing for the upcoming fights to improve para wages, benefits and working conditions so that we can better support our students. The 2023 Municipal Elections are our first opportunity to ensure that our local elected officials are not only pro-union, but pro-para! From city council and selectpersons to Board of Education members - local officials have a direct impact on our livelihood. Be sure to check out the October CSEA News for our full list of endorsed candidates.

The 2024 Legislative Session is also just around the corner. We will need paras to testify at public hearings, send emails to their electeds, sign petitions, attend rallies and more! We can only be successful if we stand together and raise our collective voices!

Family Child Care Provider News

Noticias para Proveedores de Cuidado Infantil

continued from Page 1 The childcare crisis is once again hitting the front pages with states facing a drastic reduction in federal childcare funding starting September 30th as the \$24 billion Child Care Stabilization Program grant is set to expire. The funding cutoff could result in the loss of 70,000 programs and more than 3 million child care spots nationwide - delivering a near fatal blow to the already fragile childcare infrastructure.

To make matters worse, Care4Kids providers are particularly concerned about the \$15 billion for the Child Care Development

Block Grant (CCDBG) that is set to expire in September 2024 since about 85% of Connecticut's Care4Kids program is funded by this block grant.

So while childcare providers take a moment to celebrate these monumental gains, it's critical that we look ahead and prepare for the fights coming up. We must stand together as proud union members and raise our collective voices to demand better - better wages, better benefits and a better future for Connecticut's children.



ABOVE: Members celebrated their #UnionWin with a picnic and quality time together!



ABOVE: Maria Reyes, Childcare Leader turned Grill Masters! Members enjoyed an incredible spread of food.



ABOVE: The picnic was a family-fun event complete with a bouncy house.

Childcare Providers gathered on a sunny August day to celebrate each other and the new childcare contract. Their partners and kids joined in on the festivities. Providers look forward to more in person events this com in year. If you are a provider and do not receive e-vites to events make sure to update your email info at: CSEA-CT.com

Los proveedores de cuidado infantil se reunieron en un día soleado de agosto para celebrarse mutuamente y celebrar el nuevo contrato de cuidado infantil. Allí los socios y los niños se sumaron a las festividades. Los proveedores esperan más eventos en persona este año. Si es proveedor y no recibe invitaciones electrónicas a eventos, asegúrese de actualizar su información de correo electrónico en: CSEA-CT.com

Stay Vigilant Against Potential Scams

By: Kevin Sullivan, Retiree Organizer

We have received several reports from retirees who have been receiving mail - claiming to offer Medicare reimbursements into Social Security checks. This is a SCAM! Do not fill out the forms or send them back to the company (Direct Mail Network, LLC). Sending this form in the mail may cause you to forfeit your State of Connecticut Aetna Medicare Advantage plan!

Connecticut Retiree Health Insurance offers exceptional coverage and benefits. It is crucial for everyone to remain aware of the presence of scammers who prey on unsuspecting individuals, often employing seemingly innocent methods to exploit them. Never divulge personal information over the phone or by mail.

I have included a copy of the letter sent to retirees. Again, if you receive this or something similar, **DO NOT** fill out the form!

BELOW: Copy of scam letter sent to retirees.

T-2 | **MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM** | **2024**

Do you qualify to have your Medicare Part B premium paid for by the state? If you do qualify, you will receive \$164.90 back into your Social Security check. Do you qualify for the Extra Help Program with your prescription drugs from SS? Do you qualify for Medicaid or have you been receiving all the extra benefits such as Dental, Vision, Hearing, Transportation and FREE over the counter Health Products? Return this inquiry card today. This is a FREE service to you, PLEASE READ.

YES, I would like to find out if I qualify for any or all of the benefits listed above.

Please Respond By Sep. 22, 2023

012131*****A1E0**5-DIGIT 06051 T906 P1

Complete and return the information below:

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PHONE (with Area Code)	

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SECON NOTICE
TIME SENSITIVE

Important Document Enclosed



ABOVE: CSEA President Travis Woodward, Secretary/Treasurer Beverly Lee and Executive Director Dave Glidden joined Congressman John Larson tonight for his Celebration of Labor. Congressman Larson continues to be a powerful advocate for workers on Capitol Hill and has long been the champion for much-needed social security reform.

Staff the Frontlines

Video Keeps Pressure Up After a Successful Job Fair

Nearly 630 people attended a job fair held at the Hartford Yard Goats Dunkin' Stadium in early September. Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont and Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin joined union leaders and members for a press conference on the urgent need to fill open public service positions throughout the state.

UCONN Health and the Metropolitan District Commission of Connecticut (MDC).

From nurses to sanitation workers to corrections officers, chronic short staffing is undermining the effective delivery of public services that the people of Connecticut rely on. That's why events like this along with partnerships with elected officials on recruiting and retaining the essential workers who keep our communities running are so important.

The press conference coincided with a state-sponsored hiring event where job seekers met with representatives from city departments, state agencies and local employers. Employers included the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC),



00:10 / 20:01

ABOVE: CSEA President, Travis Woodward, was interviewed during the Staff the Frontlines Job Fair at the Yard Goats Stadium.

Go Green!

Opt-In to our Digital CSEA News

Did you know that the average person in the US uses more than 700 pounds of paper per year? Or that despite global digitalization, paper usage has actually grown 126% in the last 20 years in the US?

The CSEA News has been an integral part of our communications program for decades, but it is 2023 and we have a host of resources to reduce our carbon footprint and "Go Green." The most effective way for our members to "Go Green" is to request that the CSEA News be sent digitally rather than a hardcopy in the mail!

"Going Green" not only helps decrease the amount of paper waste in our landfills, but it also reduces ink waste and the carbon emissions from delivery. Many of our CSEA members have been interested in decreasing their carbon footprint and opting into the digital E-Newsletter is a great way to take a small step towards a greener future! Every

month you will receive this digital paper in your email inbox - all of the same information, just a lot less waste! To opt into the Go Green E-Newsletter, simply visit bit.ly/GoGreenCSEA and fill out the form.

To make your communications experience even easier, we've launched a NEW WEBSITE! Visit CSEA-CT.com or SEIU2001.org and let us know what you think - give us feedback on what you like, don't like and what you want improved by visiting bit.ly/CSEAWebSiteInput (case sensitive).

If CSEA has your email address, then you've already received this survey in your inbox, but if we don't then it is also a good opportunity for you to update your contact information by visiting bit.ly/UpdateCSEA (case sensitive).

Candidate Name	Office	Municipality	Are They a Union Member?
Daniel B Stahl	Board of Aldermen, Ward 6	Ansonia	
Rohan Brown	Board of Aldermen, Ward 4	Ansonia	AFSCME
Rosemarie Huggins	Board of Aldermen, Ward 5	Ansonia	
Stevie Bobbitt	Board of Aldermen, Ward 5	Ansonia	Former NYC Teachers Union member
Thomas Finnucan	Board of Aldermen, Ward 3	Ansonia	CSEA
Mary Terhune	Board of Assessment Appeals and Zoning Board of Appeals	Bolton	CSEA
A. Fiona Pearson	Town Council, At-Large	Cheshire	CSU-AAUP
Patricia Cramer	Town Council, District 4	Cheshire	Former NYC teacher and social worker unions member
Christopher Rivers	Board of Education	Colchester	
Karen Belding	Board of Finance	Colchester	
Rosemary Coyle	Board of Selectmen	Colchester	Retired CEA member and past president
Dave Koji	Board of Selectmen	Colchester	
Michele Wyatt	Tax Collector	Colchester	
Sean Gillespie	Treasurer	Colchester	
Stefanie Tracey-Calash	Board of Education	Colchester	
Gayle Furman	Town Clerk	Colchester	Former AFT member
Denise Turner	Board of Selectmen	Colchester	Former 1199 member
Scott Chapman	Board of Finance	Colchester	
Krista Kardys	Board of Assessment Appeals	Colchester	Former nursing union member
Michelle Millington	Board of Education	Colchester	AFSCME
James Demetriades	Mayor	Cromwell	1199
Jason Bowsza	First Selectman	East Windsor	
Swapna Das	Constable	Farmington	Former UHP member
Dan Gaiewski	Town Council	Groton	
Ian Thomas	Board of Education	Groton	CSEA
Laurie Sweet	Legislative Council, Representative At-Large	Hamden	
Abdul Osmanu	Legislative Council, District 3	Hamden	
Jay Moran	Mayor	Manchester	Former AFSCME member
Pamela Floyd Cranford	Board of Directors	Manchester	CSEA and AFSCME member (retiree)
Sarah Jones	Board of Directors	Manchester	AFSCME member
Jerald Lentini	Board of Directors	Manchester	Former Newspaper Writers Guild member
Jessee Muniz Poland	Board of Directors	Manchester	
Dennis Schain	Board of Directors	Manchester	CSEA member
Heather Doucette	Board of Education	Manchester	Former CSEA member
David Eisenthal	Board of Education	Manchester	
Beth Mix	Board of Education	Manchester	Former CSEA member
Kwasi Ntem-Mensah	Board of Education	Manchester	
Warren Packer	Constable	Manchester	CSEA member
Chad Cardillo	City Council, At-Large	Meriden	AFT
Nickimmy Hayes	Board of Education	Meriden	AFT
Richard Lacourciere	City Council, At-Large	New Britain	Former AFT member
John McNamara	Common Council, Ward 4	New Britain	Former 4Cs and current CSEA member
Chris Anderson	Mayor	New Britain	
Nathan "Nate" Simpson	Common Council, Ward 1	New Britain	
Alisha Blake	Board of Education	New London	CEUI/MEUI
Amy DeVoe Perrotti	Board of Education	Newington	
Avgoustis "AJ" Tiniakos	Town Council	Newington	
Jessica Weaver	Board of Education	Newington	
Jon Trister	Mayor	Newington	
Kathy Gonzalez	Town Council	Newington	1199
Meri Beatrice	Board of Education	Newington	Former UFCW member
Mitch Page	Town Council	Newington	Former AFT and current AAUP member
David Derynoski	Board of Education	Southington	
William Knoegel	Planning & Zoning Commission	Southington	CSEA member
Dave Zoni	Town Council	Southington	
Chris Palmieri	Town Council	Southington	
Kaitlin Shake	Town Council, District 7	Stratford	AFSCME member

VOTE
VOTE
VOTE
VOTE

**Tuesday,
November 7th**

2023

**Municipal
Elections**

**Your Vote
Your Voice**

VOTE
VOTE
VOTE
VOTE
VOTE
VOTE
VOTE
VOTE

Candidate Name	Office	Municipality	Are They a Union Member?
Ole Kushner Hermanson	Town Council	Vernon	Staff at MNA
Maryann Levesque	Town Council	Vernon	
Laurie Bajorek	Mayor	Vernon	
Simone Sewell	Board of Education	Vernon	
Riley O'Connell	Mayor	Wallingford	
Nick Gauthier	Representative Town Meeting, District 1	Waterford	
Ursula Moreshead	Representative Town Meeting, District 1	Waterford	1199
Mary Childs	Representative Town Meeting, District 2	Waterford	CEA and AFT
Kathy Mullen-Kohl	Representative Town Meeting, District 3	Waterford	
Ronald H. Elkin	Representative Town Meeting, District 3	Waterford	
Laurie Wolfley	Board of Education	Waterford	
Dawn Niles	Town Council, At-Large	Windham	
Lawrence Bocchiere III	Board of Assessment Appeals	Wolcott	Former Teamster and APWU member

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#SolidaritySeason

Union members across the country are demanding more

This summer hundreds of thousands of workers went on strike or prepared to go on strike. 350,000 UPS drivers won big gains just days before their authorized strike was to begin. 15,000 WGA writers just reached a tentative agreement after a multi-month strike and 160,000 actors are still out on strike, marking the first time they strike together in six decades. 150,000 auto workers and 85,000 Kaiser workers also just announced strikes. And workers have been showing unprecedented solidarity, walking each other's picket lines. More than two-thirds of Americans and 88% of young Americans now support unions. This solidarity doesn't end

with summer. Workers are declaring that Fall will bring even more strikes and worker unrest as they demand to be respected, protected, and paid. This Fall, dubbed #SolidaritySeason, 26,000 American Airlines flight attendants, and Southwest pilots are also on the brink of striking and Starbucks workers are demanding their union despite attacks on workers' rights, airport workers are demanding action from Congress, and fast food workers are on the cusp of a major victory, raising industry standards in California.

CSEA is joining the fight to: Respect Us, Protect Us, Pay Us this #SolidaritySeason! Stay tuned for more.

CT's First Tenants Union Partners with SEIU

Big Win in New Haven for Tenants After Unionization

SEIU State Council has partnered with the Connecticut Tenants Union (CTTU) which brings together tenants, tenant unions, and tenant associations from across the state who are organizing collectively to demand stronger rights for tenants; an end to displacement, landlord harassment, and eviction; and democratic control of our housing.

Most recently the group found success against an attempt at mass evictions by Ocean Management who owns Elizabeth Apartments in New Haven. Fifteen renters and families were notified in late August that they would need to leave by the first of September. Ocean Management, essentially met all the demands of the union, according to the CTTU which in November 2022 became the first officially registered

tenants union in New Haven and its second tenants union overall.

The threatened evictions came after complaints against Ocean Management and Shmuel Aizenberg, who has at least 60 housing violations in six criminal court cases. Union members say they've been trying to work with Ocean Management and Aizenberg, but even conversations are a challenge.

New Haven's tenant's union laws were signed by New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker last year. Now, the state's first city-recognized tenants' union is fighting back against the situation they were formed to protect against, saying they're prepared to go to court.

Good Works Committee Update

Good Works Fund for Members in Need

Through CSEA's Good Works Committee, our union provides gift certificates to members in need at Thanksgiving time. Over the years, this support has been a life saver for many CSEA families in need. The recipients have often communicated their deep gratitude and have expressed that the support has allowed them to truly celebrate their Thanksgiving holiday.

The Good Works Committee has also participated in events such as Backpack Drives, Lunches Throughout the Summer Program for school age children who receive lunch during the school year but go without during the summer months, as well as participating in community activities as members of their communities.

The Good Works Committee has begun meeting to decide on the events to participate in.

Part of providing these very important services through the committee is replenishing the Good Works Fund, so we can continue to do this important work.

Although it is not Thanksgiving time yet, we are asking for a donation from all chapters and councils so we can continue to provide this important service, and others, to our members.

We hope you consider making a donation!

CSEA Good Works Committee

Co-Chairs Dawn McKay and Janet Brutcher

Anne Marie Granata, Enaida Mendoza and Stephanie O'Day

Checks can be made out to CSEA Good Works Committee, and sent to:

CSEA - Good Works Committee

760 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106

\$10 ___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ Other Amount \$ _____

From: _____

Chapter or Council: _____



\$100M Deficit for Public Higher Ed


Layoffs, Program Closures & More - Get Involved

Connecticut State Colleges and Universities' (CSCU's) deficit next year will be over \$100 million, including a \$91.3 million deficit for community colleges. The \$33.6 million deficit CT State Community College has this year – only a third of what it will experience next year – has already resulted in significant service cuts. All while our state's budget surplus sits above \$3 billion. Cuts we have already seen include:

- Closed cafeterias and reduced library hours and services such as job placement, disability, tutoring, veterans and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL);
- Elimination of Clinical Faculty for the Paramedic Studies program at Capital;
- Leaving full-time faculty and staff positions vacant;
- Reduced student activities, food pantry availability, and more.

If lawmakers fail to act next year, there will be layoffs of faculty and staff as well as further service cuts. Students will have fewer instructors, courses, and services that they need to succeed. The impact will be devastating for public higher education in Connecticut, and it will be students (particularly low-income students and students of color), workers, communities, and our economy that will pay the price.

On Thursday, October 12th at 5:00PM at the State Capitol, we will be standing together with higher ed faculty, staff and students to demand the critical investment public higher education needs. Let us know you are coming by scanning the QR code.

Connecticut's 'Skeletal' Public Higher Ed Funding

Our public higher education is at a critical juncture due to **severe underfunding and understaffing**. Join us as we unveil the 'bare bone' programs fighting to support students throughout our public higher education institutions. Let's unite for education, amplify our voices, and demand a brighter path forward. Stand with us and **make a difference!**

Thursday, October 12th | 5:00PM
State Capitol

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