



Matt - here is your December, 2016 e-newsletter (with updates since early-November):

[Recognizing a Member's Community Contributions](#)

Connecticut People's World in late November bestowed one of their three annual Amistad Awards on a member of our affiliated Hartford teachers union. [Click here for a photo of school social worker, author and newspaper editor Juan Brito at the event.](#)

[Winning National Support for Her Civics Project](#)

A member of our affiliated Meriden teachers union was this fall selected among just 15 educators nationwide for a first-time \$500.00 grant from First Book. [Click here to meet Lynda Thornton and learn more about her winning Citizen Power Challenge proposal.](#)

[Responding to Acts of Harassment, Vandalism and Assault](#)

Our national union leaders in mid November joined civil rights, faith and social justice organizations to denounce a disturbing rise in hate-fueled incidents. [Click here to sign the petition urging the president-elect take clear, decisive action in this "matter of moral responsibility."](#)

[Union Members in the Spotlight](#)

In honor of national Education Support Professionals Day we highlighted the vital role of tutors and paraprofessionals in assuring positive learning outcomes for students. [Click here to meet two PSRP union members who are among "the engines keeping public schools running."](#)

[Professional Career Development for Paraeducators](#)

Members of affiliated PSRP unions in mid November joined their colleagues from across the state at the Capitol in Hartford for a first-of-its-kind leadership symposium. [Click here for a photo from the event, which also coincided with national Education Support Professionals Day.](#)

[Urging Balance in Supporting Struggling Schools](#)

Educators across the country are calling for better choices to achieve equity than "taking money away from schools that are meeting their students' needs." [Click here to support efforts to fix proposed federal "supplement, not supplant" rules under the Every Student Succeeds Act.](#)

[Reflections on an "Exemplary Educator"](#)

The pride, respect and appreciation for Connecticut's 2017 "Teacher of the Year" were on full display at the early November event announcing her selection. [Click here to watch students, colleagues, state and district officials share their thoughts on North Branford teachers union member Lauren Danner.](#)

[Demanding the Care their Community Deserves](#)

Nurses and healthcare workers at Windham Hospital are escalating efforts to alert area residents to attempts to limit their ability to speak out for their patients. [Click here to share their message and help block Hartford HealthCare's scheme to weaken their unions' historic advocacy role.](#)

Upcoming Activities & Events

- December 13: [Effective Communication for PSRPs Workshop](#)
- December 14: [Legal Issues Training for Educators](#)
- December 16: [United Labor Agency Holiday Drive Deadline](#)
- January 10: [Google Documents Training for Teachers](#)

Featured Benefit

- Union Plus: [The "American Dream Sweepstakes" for Union Members](#)

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