



Matt - here is your January, 2017 e-newsletter (with updates since early-December):

#### **"State of the State" is a Call to Action**

The governor in his annual opening day address to the state legislature called for more union members' concessions to help close budget shortfalls. [Click here for our report-back on the speech and its implications for all Connecticut working and middle class families.](#)

#### **Responding with Resistance to Legislative Attacks**

The day before the 2017 session of the General Assembly convened our state federation president urged union members pledge to "get involved and get engaged." [Click here to watch her call to action in which she urged a response to "pre-filed" anti-union legislation.](#)

#### **Legal Professionals Take their Next Steps Together**

Members of our newest AFT Connecticut-affiliated union recently sat down to reflect on their successful efforts to secure a collective voice on the job. [Click here to watch assistant attorneys general share how, by working together, they'll win a strong first contract.](#)

#### **Advocacy in a Changing Higher Education Landscape**

Our national union in early December co-sponsored a conference focused on the increasingly challenging labor landscape facing adjunct faculty and graduate student employees. [Click here for more on the event and an upcoming "day of action" for public higher education here in Connecticut.](#)

## **Caregivers Demand Fairness and Respect**

Licensed providers, medical and dental assistants in mid December picketed outside Hartford's federally qualified health center to protest management's latest contract proposals. [Click here for a photo of the caregivers, along with labor and community allies, outside Community Health Services' main clinic.](#)

## **Flawed, Anti-Union Study Exposed**

A noted national economist in early December released her study comparing the pay and benefits of Connecticut's public and private sector workforces. [Click here for her analysis, which refutes false claims pushed by the anti-union and special interest-funded Yankee Institute.](#)

## **Union Members in the Spotlight**

During international Computer Science Education Week we highlighted union members who believe state and federal policymakers should invest more in expanding students' code learning opportunities. [Click here to meet Public Employee and Higher Education union members working to provide "Computer Science for All."](#)

## **Strengthening Members' Retirement Security**

Union leaders and the Malloy Administration in early December announced a plan to stabilize Public Employee members' pensions and smooth out unfunded liabilities. [Click here to learn more about their agreement, which "creates a clear path to paying off past obligations."](#)

## **Upcoming Activities & Events**

- January 10: [Google Documents Training for Teachers](#)
- January 18: ["Success with Difficult Students" Teachers & PSRPs' Workshop](#)
- January 19: [Day of Action to "Protect Students, Schools & Communities"](#)
- January 19: ["Legislative 101" Workshop](#)
- January 26: [Day of Action for Public Higher Education](#)
- January 31: [Financial Planning Workshop for All Members](#)
- February 2: [Steward Training Workshop](#)
- February 8: [Question Formulation Techniques Training for Teachers](#)
- February 25: [Legislative Issues Conference](#)

## **Featured Benefit**

- Union Plus: [Scholarship Program](#)