



Affiliated Union Member - here is your October, 2017 e-newsletter (with updates since early September):

[Blocking a Toxic State Budget from Becoming Law](#)

Union members during the second half of September worked overtime to overturn a fiscal package based on "failed and painful austerity policies" passed by lawmakers. [Click here for a report-back on successful efforts to move the governor to veto the cruel state budget.](#)

[Empowering Vital Education Personnel with a Voice](#)

Staff who feed New London Public Schools' students in late September moved district officials to voluntarily recognize their free choice to join a union. [Click here for photos from the Board of Education meeting where food service workers presented their petition.](#)

[Calling Out a Secret, Targeted "Teacher Tax"](#)

Before lawmakers' toxic state budget was vetoed in late September, union members in Norwalk organized a rally exposing an unfair provision buried in the details. [Click here for photos of the event where educators denounced a "teacher tax" threatening their students' learning opportunities.](#)

[Union Members in the Spotlight](#)

During national Forensic Science Week we highlighted an autopsy/pathology technologist whose lab services help "make a proper detection or diagnosis possible." [Click here to meet a public employee union member who helps ensure families facing loss "have some closure."](#)

[Rallying to Save Access to Higher Education and Quality Care](#)

Union members in late September mobilized outside the State Capitol to block toxic budget cuts targeting the University of Connecticut (UConn) and UConn Health. [Click here for photos of faculty, support staff, graduate employees and caregivers demonstrating alongside their students, patients and advocates.](#)

[Defending "Dreamers" at Risk of Deportation](#)

Our national union has teamed up with advocates to support educators, support staff and their students who are immigrants and face an uncertain future. [Click here for resources and information on how to help protect Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals \(DACA\) program participants.](#)

[Developing Our Strategic Plan for 2018](#)

State federation executive committee and delegate assembly members in early September gathered to prepare for a year of anticipated challenges facing the labor movement. [Click here for photos from the event where union leaders met, deliberated and mapped out our future together.](#)

[Helping Elect Working People to Represent Us](#)

An unprecedented number of affiliated local union members have taken political engagement to the next level and are this year candidates for local office. [Click here to meet several on the November 7th ballot who are demonstrating that "labor is your neighbor."](#)

Upcoming Activities & Events

- October 12: [Student Debt Clinic](#)
- October 14: [Connecticut Teachers Graduate School Fair](#)
- October 21: [Mystic Seaport's Educators Appreciation Day](#)
- October 25: [AFT Connecticut Retirees Conference](#)
- October 27: [ConnectiCOSH 2017 Health & Safety Convention](#)
- November 1: [#UnionProud Campaign Social Media Share](#)
- November 7: [Municipal General Election Day](#)

Featured Benefit

- Union Plus: [Homeowners Insurance Benefit](#)

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