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Teachers, Nurses and Public Employees Back Patrice Granatosky for Groton Town Council

Labor federation announces formal endorsement in town's November Municipal General Election for career/technical education teacher and affiliated local union member

Groton — Citing her record of service and commitment to working families' issues, members of the nearly 30,000-strong AFT Connecticut are supporting Patrice Granatosky to continue serving on Groton's town council. The labor federation's executive committee voted to add the educator to its slate of endorsed municipal candidates for the November 7 General Election. Members of affiliated unions last month participated in a local community canvass and are engaged in additional efforts to help "get out the vote" for Granatosky.

"Patrice has an impressive resume as an advocate both for her students and for her community," said AFT Connecticut President Jan Hochadel. "We are excited she is seeking to deepen her level of civic engagement and are proud to support someone so dedicated to demonstrating that 'labor is your neighbor'," added Hochadel, who previously taught physics and science in the Connecticut Technical High School System (CTHSS).

Candidates for municipal office completed questionnaires over the past three months on a series of policy issues important to the members of AFT's local unions and their communities. Members of the federation's legislative and political action committee reviewed the responses and made recommendations for endorsements in the 2017 General Election to its executive committee.

"As a town councilor, I will bring credibility with teachers and union members," said Granatosky. "My goal is to improve communication; to work cooperatively and respectfully. I am committed to protect our education system and work for all our kids in town," added Granatosky, a member of the AFT Connecticut-affiliated State Vocational Federation of Teachers (SVFT).

Granatosky currently teaches civics at Ella T. Grasso Technical High School in Groton where she spearheaded the Interact Club for students on campus, an effort recognized by the Groton Rotary. In addition to prior service on the town council, where she held her caucus' leadership post and chaired the

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Finance Committee, Granatosky served 10 terms on Groton's Regional Town Meeting (RTM). She was last year appointed to the Charter Revision Commission.

"A political endorsement is a decision we do not take lightly," added Hochadel. "Our members support candidates who have pledged to tackle the issues faced by working people. And we make sure any candidate we back understands that they will be held accountable once elected," Hochadel said.

AFT Connecticut represents approximately 30,000 hard-working women and men in PreK-12 education, healthcare, public service and higher education from more than 90 local unions throughout the state. For more information, visit www.aftct.org or follow the labor federation on Twitter at [@AFTCT](https://twitter.com/AFTCT) and on Facebook at [AFT Connecticut](https://www.facebook.com/AFTConnecticut).

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