



AFT Connecticut
A Union of Professionals

Membership Update

Public Employee Union Members,

Leaders of the unions in the State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC) today met with officials from the governor's administration as part of ongoing exploratory talks. We have **voted to move forward with formal negotiations**, based on an **agreed-upon framework for providing job security and protecting benefits for members**, while producing cost savings for taxpayers.

[Click here for the framework that will serve as a guideline for negotiations.](#)

This is but the **first step in what will be a weeks-long process** in which **you and all state employees will have the opportunity to make your voices heard**. The next step will be for members of local unions' negotiating committees to **finalize individual bargaining unit agreements covering wages and working conditions over the next five years**.

Then there would be a **two-part vote by all dues-paying members of SEBAC unions** in good standing. The **first would be on the framework's proposed changes to the coalition's health and pension benefits agreement**. The **second would be on individual contracts**, which would include the remaining provisions in the guideline, plus any unit-specific issues.

[Click here for a slideshow presentation on the framework.](#)

As union leaders, our collective decision to move forward with asking members to consider a cost-savings agreement is based on the **need to protect principles fundamental to our movement**. This is about **defending your rights to collective bargaining** and maintaining our historic role as advocates for the American middle class in these uncertain times.

[Click here to send me an email with your feedback, questions and concerns.](#)

More to come, and in solidarity,

Jan Hochadel

President, AFT Connecticut

P.S. Be sure to share this update with fellow union members to help educate, engage and organize for the challenges that we face.