VOL. 80 ISSUE 3 NOVEMBER 2026

NBFT SPOTLIGHT

President Message

Dear colleagues,

I hope your school year is going well as we head into the chilly month of November. Whatever role you play in supporting our students, I want to start by saying thank you. Your dedication is the foundation of our Union and the basis of every child's educational journey.

I would like to take a moment to review some very important recommendations and suggestions to keep you safe. I have maintained since I was elected to this position that in matters of DCF, it is not **if**, it is **when**. Unfortunately, we live in an increasingly litigious society where the fear of parents is in overdrive, and the common sense reserves of some of our administrators are running on empty. Some administrators seldom think of the teacher in these situations, and it shows. Please always remember the following things:

- Do not put your hands on a student unless the student is in imminent harm. Avoid breaking up fights to separate students. Call security, the main office, etc. If you are called in by an administrator regarding these types of situations, make sure you have a Union rep with you.
- Do not allow students near or around your desk, in your personal belongings, etc. This is a recipe for disaster.
- Avoid "joking" with students when these jokes may be offensive to other students or those jokes can be perceived as inappropriate by anyone who overhears/sees.

AFT Connecticut
A Union of Professionals

Union Directory
Website: www.nbft.net

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Elementary Vice President
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PreK-12 Pupil Services/Special ED Vice President
Leah Clark
clarkl@csdnb.org

Treasurer
William Sanford
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Recording Secretary
Maciej Fornal
fornal**@csdnb.org**



President Message

- DO NOT USE STUDENT LAVATORIES. This seems like a no-brainer, but I have had to remind membership about this on several occasions.
- Keep your electronic devices (phones, iPads, laptops, etc.) PASSWORD PROTECTED so they are not accessible. Do NOT allow students to touch or use your personal devices for any reason. Please read that twice.
- If you are injured at work, make sure the administrator completes the injury form on the employee portal. You, as the injured person, **do not** complete this form.
- Make sure you go to Concentra even if the injury is something that you deem minor. It is always better to err on the side of caution.
- It is always good to take a few minutes to review the District's information regarding Workmen's Comp in the district staff portal.
- If you are put out on leave, immediately contact the Union rep in your building or your VP to review the details of the incident while they are fresh in your memory. I will be notified of the situation and will reach out to you as soon as you leave the building.
- Our Union attorney only handles the DCF side of things. If a situation rises to a criminal allegation, our legal team will recommend defense attorneys that the member can call.
- If the police reach out to you, please call me before you call back so I can give you some guidance.

Few things pain me more than having to write about these types of situations. The impetus for this list is to KEEP YOU SAFE. Sometimes, things happen that are unavoidable, but we can prevent some situations from happening. So please remember to be cautious and judicious with your interactions with students. If you ever find yourself on the other side of an investigation, I will be in communication with you at every step of the way, and you will speak to our attorney. **You will not be alone.**



President Message

We have already had resignations in designated shortage areas that put a strain on colleagues and students. The reason is clear: poor leadership. Please continue to document when your emails go unanswered, when your concerns are dismissed, when you are told to change information in 360 (which you should NOT do; you own your referrals).

Thank you for choosing to teach and work in New Britain. If you haven't already, please take a moment to save the Union cell numbers in your phone. We are here to help you. Check in with your colleagues, especially our new teachers. We are our biggest support network. As we enter the colder months, shorter days, and the holiday season, please keep in mind colleagues who may be experiencing hardship, health issues, or personal strife. Remember to look out for yourself and each other.

In solidarity,
Sue

Union Phone Numbers

President: Sue Saluru
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High School Vice President: Basia Maselek
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Middle School Vice President: Keith Turcios
Phone # 860-681-1904

Elementary Vice Presidents:Laura Skinner
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Stephen Gray
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PreK-12 Services/Special ED Vice President:Leah Clark
Phone # 959-282-3229



NBFT Welfare Report

BY ASHLEY LODOVICO

On behalf of the entire membership, the NBFT congratulates it's members on these happy occasions:

Alexys Tabakman (Lincoln) birth of son
David Conrad (DiLoreto) Wedding for his daughter
Nancy Olis (Northend) Wedding
Jessica Morneault (Holmes) Birth of daughter
Chris Morell (Gaffney) Wedding for her daughter

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of the following members for their recent losses:

Megan Howey (DiLoreto) Loss of brother-in-law
Laura Higgins (Holmes) Loss of mother

2026-2027 NBFT Membership Meetings

- December 8
- February 9
- March 9
- May 11

*All membership meetings are on zoom.

AFT Connecticut
Education | Healthcare | Public Services

presents a 5-Part Virtual Learning Series for our Teachers and PSRP members:

CARE-FULL: SKILLS FOR SCHOOL STAFF TO PROMOTE STUDENT RESILIENCE AND PREVENTTRAUMA

Professional learning content presented in virtual 90-minute sessions. Participants will strengthen five skills for restorative justice in schools.

Registered participants can choose to attend any part of the series.

#2 DISCIPLINE WITH DIGNITY

Examineandcritique howprison logicappears inschools;identify practicalopportunities

todisciplinewith dignityand logicalor natural consequences

NOVEMBER 12TH

THURSDAY
5:00PM - 6:30PM
ZOOM WEBINAR

REGISTER HERE:

(860) 257-9782 www.aftct.org 35 Marshall Rd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

AFT Connecticut
Education | Healthcare | Public Services

PRESENTS TO OUR **MEMBERS**...

hsi | AMERICAN SAFETY & HEALTH INSTITUTE | MEDIC First Aid | EMS SAFETY

ADULT FIRST AID | CPR AED TRAINING

- HSI First Aid | CPR AED has been approved by the HSI Medical Advisory Board and reviewed by the HSI Advisory Council.
- Reflects the latest resuscitation science and treatment recommendations published by the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR).
- Conforms with the 2020 American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines Update for CPR and ECC and the annual Guidelines Update.

Course highlights

- Designed for individuals who are not healthcare providers or professional rescuers who desire, or are occupationally required, to be trained and certified in adult first aid and/or CPR AED for the adult, child, or infant.
- Scenario videos, full-color digital and printed materials, and clear, concise course content
- 2-year certification
- 4 - 6 hour class

Course topics include:

- CPR and Defibrillation
- Assessment & Chest Compressions
- Rescue Breathing & Using a CPR Mask
- Opioid-Associated Emergency
- Relief of Choking
- Responding to External and Internal Bleeding
- Direct Manual Pressure & Bandaging
- Using a Tourniquet (Improvised and Commercial)
- Shock
- Common Injuries
- Concussion
- Burns
- Poisoning
- Difficulty Breathing and Asthma
- Severe Allergic Reaction (Anaphylaxis)
- Heart Attack, Stroke and Seizure
- Diabetes and Hypoglycemia
- Heat and Cold Emergencies
- Bites and Stings



NO FEE FORMEMBERS

24 seat max!

JOINT IN-PERSON CLASS:

FULL* & REFRESHER COURSE

APR21,2026

TUESDAY

4:30PM-7:30PM

SNACKS PROVIDED,
DRESS COMFORTABLY!

SOIFER Room @ AFT CT in Rocky Hill

*Must complete both **online & in-person** training for certification.

*__**FULL Course**__: Includes self-directed online lessons followed by an in-person, instructor-led session at AFT Connecticut.
Participants will be contacted after registration with the information on how to complete the online portion of training.
REFRESHER Course: Participants are only required to do the in-person, instructor-led session at AFT Connecticut. Copy of current certification will need to be sent in and can be no more than 30 days expired (3/22/26) prior to class (usually

current card will befrom theAmerican Red Cross or the American Heart Association).

Due to the popularity of this course, and the limited spaces available, we ask that you scan here to be placed on a waitlist. The first 24 registrants will be contacted shortly via email from Anna Mowrey (amowrey@aftct.org) to confirm their spot. If we have any cancellations between now and the course date, we will contact the next person on the waitlist.

35 Marshall Road | Rocky Hill, CT 06067 | www.aftct.org | (P) 860.257.9782 | (F) 860.257.8214



aft Professional Learning

Help Students Make a Difference, and You Could Attend AFT TEACH!

If your students had $100, what would they do to improve their school or community?

The AFT and Share My Lesson are supporting Ashoka's Carnegie Challenge for Civic Leadership, which helps students turn their ideas into action. Plus, three participating AFT members will receive scholarships to attend the TEACH conference in Washington, D.C., July 16-18, 2027, courtesy of Ashoka.



A Challenge for Every Subject: The challenge invites K-12 students to submit new ideas or existing youth-led projects that address issues they care about. Teachers of any subject can help students connect classroom learning with community action.

Funding for Student Projects:

- **Apply early for $100:** The first 600 eligible U.S. applicants who submit a new project idea **by Nov. 17** at 11:59 p.m. EST will receive a $100 Civic Seed Grant if they meet all eligibility requirements.
- **Additional funding opportunities:** The final entry deadline is Jan. 31, with awards of $500, $1,000 and $10,000 for selected U.S. entries.

Help Your Students Get Started: Ready-to-use resources make it easier to guide students through the process:

Click here to learn more

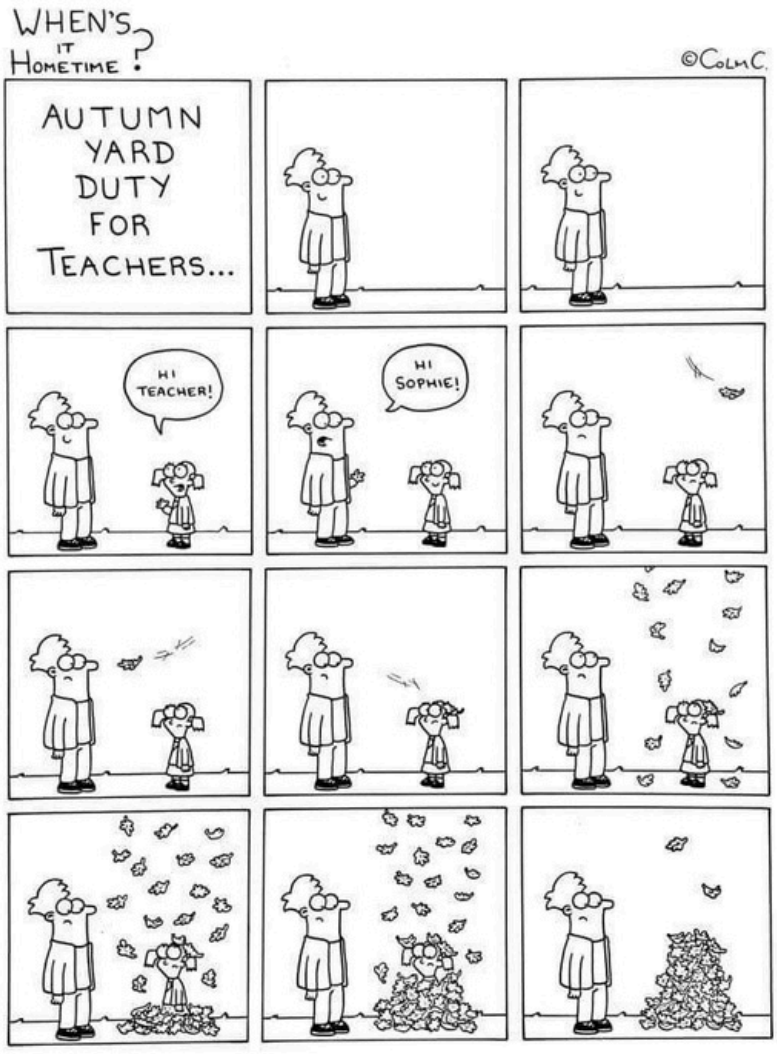


AFT Plus Benefit Corner

Want to save money on your car insurance?

Union Plus allows union members to access discounted auto insurance from Farmers Insurance Choice

[Click here to learn more]



If you would like to have something added to the spotlight for your union brothers and sisters please email local871president@gmail.com