



Friedrichs Decision

On Tuesday, March 29, 2016 the United States Supreme Court delivered a decision in *Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association*. The court split 4 to 4 so that affirms the lower court ruling of *Aboud v. the Detroit Board of Education* with no Supreme Court precedence. That means that public workers have a continued strong and effective collective bargaining unit, and the status quo remains. Unions are still able to collect agency fees from non-union workers.

We still need to keep a watchful eye as there are other cases from groups who are anti-union that are on the horizon.

For more information go to

<http://www.cea.org/issues/news/2016/mar/29/supreme-court-reaffirms-collective-bargaining-in-landmark-case.cfm>

<http://www.nea.org/home/66298.htm>

http://www.cnbc.com/2016/03/29/divided-supreme-court-keeps-laws-allowing-mandatory-public-union-dues-in-some-states.html?_source=



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

YOUR 2015-2016 OFFICERS:

President

Ted Goerner

Executive V.P.

Thomas Devine

Administrative V.P.

David Simon

Treasurer

Michelle Lacroix

Editor

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WHEA, CEA & NEA News

WHEA

The WHEA Ethnic Affairs Committee meeting was held on Thursday, March 17, 2016. Their focus was to discuss, determine, and organize short-term and long-term targets.

WHEA hosted an informational meeting about *Understanding and Planning Your Retirement* featuring CEA Robyn Kaplan-Cho, Program Development Specialist. The meeting was held on Thursday, March 31, 2016.

The Elementary Workload Committee will hold its meeting on Thursday, April 7, 2016. The members are teachers Christine Newman, Duffy kindergarten; Jessica Dunn, Charter Oak second grade; June Mann, Braeburn second grade; and Lisa Garand, Duffy special education.

The Start of the Year Committee has been formed. The members are teachers Chair David Simon, Hall world language; Becky Pauluk, Duffy fourth grade; Theresa McKeown, Aiken, Braeburn Quest; Maureen Curran, Duffy first grade; and Holly D'Addario, Conard math. The committee is looking for a representative at the middle school to join the group.

The Stipend Committee held its first meeting on Tuesday, April 5, 2016. The remaining meetings are April 19, May 3, May 17, and May 31.

On Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 4 PM, WHEA will host *Teachers and the Law* featuring Melanie Haslam Kolek, CEA Legal Counsel. The meeting will be held at Sedgwick in the MPR.





WHEA, CEA & NEA News cont.

CEA

The New Teacher Conference presented by CEA took place on Friday, March 19, 2016 at Mohegan Sun Convention Center, Uncasville, CT. New teachers with 1 to 6 years in the classroom attended. They attended several sessions to help to improve their skills as a new educator. The topics that were presented included Classroom Management, Teachers and the Law, Parent/Teacher Relations, and TEVAL.

CEA Summer Leadership will be held on Monday through Wednesday, August 1-3, 2016 at Mohegan Sun Convention Center, Uncasville, CT. Sessions include Negotiators, Grievance Processing, Teacher and the Law, and New Presidents.

The CEA R/A will take place on Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7 at the Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, CT. This is the main business meeting for CEA for this year. For more information about the CEA R/A go to <http://www.cea.org/about/ra/>. Several WHEA members will represent you at the CEA R/A.



NEA R/A

The NEA R/A will take place on Saturday, July 2 through Thursday, July 7 in Washington D.C. This is the main body of NEA that conducts the business for the year. For more information about the NEA R/A go to <http://www.cea.org/about/ra/>. Members from WHEA and CEA will be attending to represent you.



Your Credit Union



Franklin Trust Federal Credit Union

All West Hartford Public Schools staff, employees, volunteers, and students are eligible for membership in Franklin Trust Federal Credit Union. The credit union offers a wide variety of products and services, including savings accounts, checking accounts, loans, mortgages, credit cards, debit cards, direct deposit, and on-line banking. In addition, they are part of a network of over 30,000 surcharge-free ATMs nationwide.

Franklin Trust was founded as a teachers' credit union in 1934. Now the fourth oldest federal credit union in the country, they are celebrating their 77th anniversary this year.

The credit union's main office is at 632 Franklin Avenue in Hartford. For more information, including a form that allows you to sign up through the mail, call Franklin Trust at (860) 296-4379, ext. 203. They can be found on the web at www.franklintrust.org, as well as on Facebook and MySpace.

advertisement

Quick Tips

Quote:

"In order to make a difference, all you need to do is start."

Author unknown

- Check out upcoming events, e-mail addresses for officers at www.whea.org.
- Attend your building rep's monthly 10-minute meetings. Stay informed!
- Check out the home mailings from NEA and CEA. If you are not receiving them contact your building rep.
- Check out the Member Benefits pages at www.nea.org and www.cea.org.
- Stay informed with school policies and information by visiting www.whps.org.
- Read "WHEA World" at www.whea.org. To add your news, please email the PR Chair.
- Watch for your news in upcoming editions.
- Questions, concerns? Talk to your building rep.
- Check the website for the Foundation for West Hartford Public Schools Grants at www.fwhps.org.

Current Issues



National, State News

In Connecticut news State Bill 380, *An Act Concerning the Exclusion of Student Performance Results on the Mastery Examination from Teacher Evaluations*, is out of committee and was referred to the Office of Legislative Research and Office of Fiscal Analysis. The purpose of SB 380 is to exclude student performance data on the Smarter Balanced Assessment from teacher performance evaluations. **Be sure to contact your legislators to vote for SB 380.** For more information see

<http://whea.org/2016/03/04/teacher-evaluation-bill/>

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2016/TOB/s/2016SB-00380-R00-SB.htm>

https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=SB00380&which_year=2016

Local News



State Senator Beth Bye submitted legislative language to the Planning and Development Committee and they released Substitute State Bill 422, *An Act Concerning Residential Water Rates, Public Drinking Water Supply Emergencies and Sellers of Bottled Water*. This is in response to the deal between the Niagara Water Bottling Co. and the town of Bloomfield and the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC). **Be sure to contact your legislators to vote for SB 422.** For more information see

<http://www.ctlc.org/new-action-alert-33116.html>

https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=SB00422&which_year=2016

<https://www.facebook.com/connfact/photos/a.1468800640001443.1073741830.1436001076614733/172881255400>