

SEA Speaks

Volume 1, Issue 2

March 1, 2011

[Stafford Education Association](#)



On the Hill...

Legislative Briefing

March 10, 2011

The Chowder Pot

165 Brainard Rd.

Hartford, CT.



*Preserve Education Funding & Jobs

*Promote Education Reform

*Protect Retiree Health Insurance

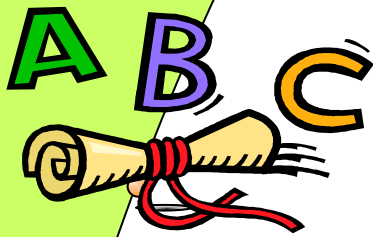
Attend the 2011 Legislative briefing to speak with your legislators and let them hear your opinion on the budget and upcoming legislative session. There is a quick turn around on registration, so hurry! Register @ cea.org. [Stafford Legislative Contacts:](#)

State Senator Tony Guglielmo-www.senatorepublicans.ct.gov
Representative Penny Bacchiochi-www.reppenny.com

"We Are All Wisconsin"...

The SEA favors collective bargaining. Our union supports the efforts of other local & state teacher unions in their fight to maintain the right to negotiate wages, working conditions, and benefits.

Many of our veteran members worked hard to earn the right to collectively bargain and it is our mission to preserve what they fought so hard to achieve.



Nominate
exemplary
colleagues
for Stafford's
2012

Teacher of the
Year award.

Nomination forms
will be
distributed
February 28th
and should be
submitted to
building
principals by
March 25th!

WEAR RED!

Until a
resolution is
reached,
teacher unions
across the
country will be
wearing red on
Tuesdays to
show support
for our
colleagues in
Wisconsin.



2011 New Teacher Conference...

Mohegan Sun

April 2, 2011

8:00 A.M.– 3:00 P.M.

Once again, the CEA will host its New Teacher Conference at Mohegan Sun. During this annual conference, CEA provides workshops on topics of interest for today's teachers. Phil Apruzzese, CEA President, is scheduled to give the welcoming address. The cost is \$20.00 and lunch will be provided. There are a few new workshops, as well as, some perennial favorites. Some of the titles include:

- *Knowledge is the Best Protection: Preventing & Responding to Assaults by Students
- *Linking Labor History to History You Know
- *Take Back Our Profession 2.0
- *Teachers & the Law
- *The Fear Free Classroom
- *The Smart Way to Learn: Integrating Smart Boards into Daily Instruction
- *Using Your Interest to Get Involved in Your Local Association
- *You've Landed Your First Teaching Job; Now Learn How to Stay Employed



Go to cea.org to register!

Member Milestones...



Congratulations to members Nic & Laura Morse (SMS) on the birth of their baby girl, Sarah Johanna Morse, on February 7, 2011... *Please email Holly (SVS) or Shelley (SMS) with your "member milestones".

Words of Wisdom...

"Teaching is the profession that teaches all other professions."

-Author unknown

Question Corner...



Members were asked to submit suggestions for newsletter topics. One member asked us to clarify grievances & the grievance procedure. To address this issue, we incorporated information from our contract and from our CEA UniServ representative Joe Z.

Article 2 of our contract outlines two types of grievances, as well as, the procedure for filing a grievance. The first type of grievance is a “general grievance.” This is “a claim based upon an event or condition which affects the conditions of employment of a teacher or group of teachers.” In other words, something has happened that is changing your working conditions.

The second type of grievance is a “specific grievance.” This grievance is “a claim that there has been a misapplication or misinterpretation of a specific provision” of our contract. This can include precise contract language or past practice. A past practice is a clear, long-standing, consistently applied practice, which is either not addressed by the contract at all, or is based on vague contract language.

If a teacher (or group of teachers) feels that they have either a general or specific grievance, it is important to discuss this with their building rep as soon as possible, since there are stipulated time limits for filing a grievance. The first time limit is “twenty (20) days after he/she knew, or should have know, of the act or conditions on which the grievance is based.”

If you feel that you have a grievance, talk to your building rep. They can help you figure out your next step, or get advice from your union leadership and UniServ representative.

Who's Who...

JoAnn Losee, President	SES
Nicolas Morse, Vice-President	SMS
Caren Falzarano, Secretary	SHS
Todd Kelliher, Treasurer	SES
Sharon Mlyniec, Membership	SES
Linda Callahan, Web Designer	SMS/SES
Holly Sullivan, Newsletter	SVS
Shelley Michaud, Newsletter	SMS
Joe Zawawi	CEA UniServ Rep.



Next Meeting:

March 24, 2011

All Members Welcome!



Building Reps.

Colleen Martin	SHS
Jill Szenda	SMS
Janice Gowdy	WSS
Holly Sullivan	SVS
Sharon Mlyniec	SES



Please email Holly (K-5) or Shelley (6-12) with ideas, questions, or suggestions for future newsletters.