

West Suburban Teachers Union, Local 571, IFT, AFT, AFL-CIO

# Union Messenger

## "A Union of Professionals"

### September Calendar

9/12—Ex.Bd Mtg. (5:30 p.m.—Westmont)  
 9/12—Registration deadline for Legislative Breakfast  
 9/20—Retirees Council New Retirees Lunch/Meeting (10:30 a.m.—Westmont)

### Union Messenger

Kyle Stern, President  
 Dr. Jaqueline Payne, Vice-President  
 Sandra Erickson, Treasurer  
 Cathleen Pope, Secretary  
 Eugene Poull, Financial Secretary  
 Brett Blair, Legal Defense Secretary  
 Shavonne Henry, COPE/PAC Chairperson  
 Tom Smith, IFT Field Service Director  
 Rachel Esposito, IFT Field Service Director  
 Renee Wagner, IFT Field Service Director  
 Carolyn Wilson, Membership Support Staff  
 Patty Clancy, Office Support Staff  
 Andrew Bendelow,  
 571 Web Administrator  
 Robin Hancock,  
 571 Union Messenger Editor



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### Who Am I?

Dear Union Siblings,

In the 1992 Vice Presidential debate, Admiral Stockdale famously opened with the question, "Who am I? Why am I here?" I feel like those are good questions to answer in my first Union Messenger article as President of Local 571. My name is Kyle Stern (he/his) and I have been a math teacher for 21 years at Argo Community High School in Summit, IL. I have taught Geometry for my entire tenure at Argo and am about to start my 11th year teaching AP Statistics. I also have a new prep this year called Smart Money, where I will be teaching students about Financial Literacy also known as real life examples of math. As I have never taught the class before I am nervous but luckily, I have two veteran teachers of this course (shout out to Jackie Finley and House of Reps Member Melissa McCormack) to help me through.



I started my Union work as a Council Department Representative back in 2005 and joined the Argo Teachers Council Executive Board in 2006 as Secretary. I eventually moved up to Vice President and in 2015 became Council President until I resigned in 2021 to focus more on my work at the Local. At Local 571, I became an Area Trustee in 2018 and was elected your Vice President in 2021. I have been active in AFT and IFT conventions, phone banking, canvassing and other Union Activities. When Rachel Esposito resigned as Local 571 President at the end of May to replace Arnavaz Mistry-Mujthaba, I stepped up to become President.

Personally, I have been married for 17 years and have two daughters ages 11 and 9. I am an avid reader, typically reading around one hundred books a year. I also am a huge baseball fan, having visited 122 ballparks across the U.S. and Canada.

I look forward to leading our Local. I look forward to learning your faces and names. I look forward to continuing to fight for a better future for all of us. I hope all of you have had a great summer and that this fall and election season we come together to bring great wins for us, Illinois, and the United States.

In Unity,  
 Kyle Stern

# You are invited to attend the West Suburban Teachers Union Local 571 Seventeenth Annual Legislative Breakfast



**DATE:** Saturday, October 1, 2022

**TIME:** 8:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m.—registration  
9:00 a.m.—Noon—program

**PLACE:** Hilton Chicago/Oak Brook Hills Resort & Conference  
Center in the Marquis Banquet Facility  
(3500 Midwest Road, Oak Brook, Illinois)

**PROGRAM:**

- A plated breakfast will be served.
- Illinois State and Federal legislators have been invited to attend.
- We will conduct our annual gift card raffle (proceeds go to WSTU scholarships and COPE).

**COST:** Free for members of Local 571; **however**, \$50 will be charged for every member that signs up and does not attend. The cost for guests of Local 571 members is \$50.

**If you wish to attend, please contact your  
Council President by September 12, 2022.**

\*NOTE: All local and state guidelines will be followed. Masks will be recommended. The event is currently onsite but subject to change to virtual as guidelines are updated.

# Members Engaged

**Argo-Summit Council of Teachers just elected their first ever Latina president, Luz Raymond Rangel.** Since 2011, Luz has been a teacher in Summit School District 104. For the past three years, she has been teaching in the district's dual language school Otis P. Graves Elementary School. In 2013, She had the honor to be a recipient of the district's Outstanding Teacher Award. Luz was raised in Mexico until the age of twelve. She came to the United States not speaking English or knowing American culture. Nevertheless, having a strong public education enabled me to attend Loyola University Chicago where she received a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in Spanish Literature. Luz also received a master's degree in Elementary Education from Northern Illinois University.



Kyle Stern attended an event for Attorney General Kwame Raoul where he met the Attorney General and Governor Pritzker.



At a June 7th event, Mark Stoch and Kyle Stern met and spoke with Senator Laura Ellman.



Kyle Stern with State Treasurer Mike Frerich.



Grace Drobny and Jane Russell attended the June 14 Chicago event for four suburban women Illinois senators. Governor Pritzker praised their work in the Illinois General



Shown are Senators, Laura Murphy, Laura Fine and Ann Gillespie. Senator Julie Morrison was also honored, but had to miss the event.



Kathy Fierke in the midst of presenting their contract proposal. The tentative agreement has been ratified. YAHOO!

## Summit School District 104 Celebrates Juneteenth

Summit School District 104 held their Inaugural Juneteenth celebration! Spearheaded by 571 members and LEAD team members, the community, students, and families got to experience various activities such as, music, hair braiding, flag making, double Dutch and much more!





# Members Engaged

Jon Monique Manuel, Elmhurst PSRP Council President was busy this summer attending several events on behalf of Local 571.

## Senator Cristina Castro and Senator Linda Holmes event on July 28th Kane County Cougars

Let's play ball! - What a great day to enjoy a fun baseball game and great conversation with Senators Castro and Holmes. Senator Holmes represents the 42nd District and is also the Assistant Majority Leader. Senator Castro represents the 22nd District and is also chair of the Judicial and Public Safety Committee for the Kane County board. Both Senators are running for reelection in November.



Senator Cristina Castro and Jon Monique Manuel



Senator Linda Holmes and Jon Monique Manuel.



Kane County Cougar's Outfield

## Speaker Welch Hosts 10th Annual Back to School Health Fair on Saturday, July 30

It was a great time. Many families were able to receive back-to-school physicals, haircuts, Covid shots, and well-child screenings. A number of food pantries passed out food baskets and a host of other vendors were on hand passing out information on health care, insurance, legal services, etc., along with plenty of food and entertainment.



Jon Monique Manuel



Welch event volunteers including Jon Monique Manuel

## Latina Women Rooftop Reception

A rooftop reception was held July 12 in support of Senator Karina Villa, Assistant Majority Leader Lisa Hernandez, and Representative Dagmara Avelar. They are all running for reelection in November.

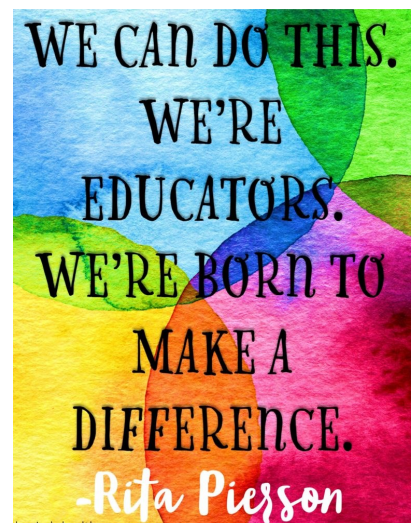
PLEASE JOIN  
LINDSAY ANDERSON, JESSICA FUENTES,  
NORMA FUENTES, SYDNEY HOLMAN, & SARAH LACKORE  
FOR A ROOFTOP RECEPTION IN SUPPORT OF  
SENATOR KARINA VILLA  
LEADER LISA HERNANDEZ  
REPRESENTATIVE DAGMARA AVELAR  
REPRESENTATIVE BARBARA HERNANDEZ  
TUESDAY, JULY 12  
5:00-7:00 PM  
JOY DISTRICT ROOFTOP  
112 WEST HUBBARD STREET  
CHICAGO, IL  
TICKETS: \$150  
SPONSORSHIPS: \$500 | \$1,000 | \$2,500 | \$5,000  
Please make checks payable to representative(s) of your choice.  
Citizens for Karina Villa, P.O. Box 457, West Chicago, IL 60591 | Citizens for Elizabeth Hernandez, P.O. Box 50777, Chicago, IL 60684  
Community for Day, P.O. Box 1071, Ridgeland, IL 60440 | Friends of Barbara Hernandez, P.O. Box 7363, Aurora, IL 60007  
RSVP: KELLY@ILSENATEDEMS.ORG  
Post by Citizens for Elizabeth Hernandez, Citizens for Karina Villa, Community for Day, and Friends of Barbara Hernandez. A copy of our report(s) filed with the State Board of Elections is in writing available on the Board's official website, www.sbe.state.il.us or by purchase from the State Board of Elections, Springfield, IL.

## Official Elections Notice—2022 Nominations are open to all Local 571 Union members.

### Local 571 Officers' Election

Nominations are now being accepted for the following Local 571 Officers: a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Legal Defense Secretary, and a Financial Secretary. The term of office is two (2) years beginning July 1, 2023, and by virtue of their election, they shall be elected also as delegates to the AFT and IFT Conventions. Nominations (name and council) must be printed or typed and can be emailed to Patty Clancy @ [pclancy@ift-aft.org](mailto:pclancy@ift-aft.org). They must be received in the Local 571 office on or before March 13, 2023 by 5:00 p.m.

Nominees will receive a written or electronic acknowledgement of receipt. Voting will take place via secret ballot. Council leaders will notify members of the date that voting will take place. If an electronic secret ballot is used, members without an email on file with the Union will receive a ballot via U.S. Postal Service. Interested individuals may request further information about the duties of the office by contacting Local 571.



## AFT Members Teach Ukrainian Students in Poland

Earlier this year, AFT President Randi Weingarten visited the Polish-Ukrainian border. After witnessing the turmoil in the region, she felt obligated to take action and help. Soon after, the AFT together with NATAN Worldwide Disaster Relief and the Kosciuszko and Folkowisko Foundations started organizing a summer camp aimed at providing educational support to 10 to 15-year-olds affected by the disruptions of war.

On July 15th I found myself in Cieszanow, Poland (about fourteen miles from the Ukrainian border) with 14 AFT brothers and sisters from across the United States. We were on a humanitarian mission to teach English and help bridge the cultural gap between Polish and Ukrainian children.

The group of children I worked with were between 13 to 15-years-old. A number of them have been learning English since age six, but this was their first time actually communicating with native English speakers.

Every day for two weeks we immersed ourselves in engaging lessons to build listening, speaking, and writing skills. We journaled. We explored. We laughed. We cried. And, of course, we ate potatoes.

The level of respect these children had for themselves and for us as strangers was outstanding. They have large dreams of successful and fulfilling futures regardless of the

air raid sirens and shattered buildings and lives that are etched into their minds.

The smiles on their faces and the warmth they shared will always have a special place in my heart. In those two short weeks, we created many memories together. In those two short weeks, 60 Polish and Ukrainian children affected by the traumas of war had a chance to breathe, laugh, and feel safe.

~April Giannosa



### Legislative Report

Jon Monique Manuel  
571 Legislative Director

### **VOTE...VOTE...VOTE!**

The November state elections are right around the corner and your vote MATTERS!

With the recent overturning of Roe vs. Wade, our voices need to be heard more now than ever. Our IFT President Dan Montgomery strongly condemned the decision by saying "As a union composed of more than 70 percent female members, we strongly condemn this radical decision and are deeply concerned about its implications for women and pregnant people."

He also stated that; "In this country, all women and pregnant people must be free to make their own decisions about their bodies. It is a

fundamental right. Today's decision will harm all, but there is no doubt that Black, Indigenous, People of Color and Latinx (women) and the economically disadvantaged – already marginalized groups – will suffer most."

Voting is a fundamental right that we all must take seriously. Our education system, civil rights, and even our voting rights are ours to protect! In recent PAC meetings held throughout the state, many candidates and IFT has put together a list of candidates that we support. The IFT-endorsed candidate list [here](#).

If you choose to vote by mail, please remember that your ballot must be postmarked by Election Day and received within 14 days after the election. If you deliver it in-person, it must be dropped off no later than Election Day



### **Important Notice Local 571 Open Position Available**

WSTU Local 571 is hiring a Legislative Director for the 2022-23 school year. The position is open to WSTU Local 571 members.

If you are interested in reviewing the job description, qualifications, duties and responsibilities as well as stipend and reimbursement, go to the website [www.wstu571.org](http://www.wstu571.org) or contact Local 571 President Kyle Stern, [ksfern571@ift-aft.org](mailto:ksfern571@ift-aft.org) or call and leave a message at (630) 468-4098.

Application/resume is due no later than September 2, 2022, and should be requested from President Kyle Stern by either e-mail or phone.



## PSRP Conference—St. Louis

As delegates chosen to attend the 2022 PSRP Conference in St. Louis, both Michelle Guerino and I hit the ground running! The conference started on Friday April 22nd and ended Sunday April 24th. It was three full days of information, information, and more information.

Our first session was for first time conference attendees! We loved it! It was nice to see so many PRSP from all over the country from Maine to San Diego and Alaska, to the US Virgin Islands! The session set the tone for what we would expect throughout the next couple of days. The presenters challenged us to look within ourselves for the answers and encouraged us to be a part of the process.

We attended sessions such as Community Engagement, How to Organize in your Area, Understanding and Supporting Students Social-Emotional Needs, How the Pandemic Had Highlighted the Importance of PSRP, Powerful Partnerships (Building or Organizing Strength through Member and Family Engagement), and Effective Communication. The session I found informative was on Powerful Partnerships. The presenter explained how PRSP, and families can work together every day for the academic and social-emotional growth of students and the success of the school community. They also explained how necessary it is for PSRP to be involved in the community. This session struck a chord within me. I realized this is the area that our council was most lacking. I came away for the session inspired! Realizing that it was ok for PSRP to be seen and heard by not only administration but also the community. I left challenging myself to come up with ideas to get involved and find activities that would positively affect the community. As a result, when I returned, I met our Superintendent.



Michelle Guerino, Randi Weingarten and Jon Monique Manuel

We talked about the importance of our PRSP unit becoming more involved in community activities. We talked about our unit participating as volunteers in the community blood drive, sponsoring a family for Christmas, partnering with SCHOLASTIC to give every elementary child a book for Christmas. Ideas that would align with the districts mission of “Moving Forward Together.”

We ended the weekend on a Solidarity High! We attend the Solidarity Night Talent showcase. So many PRSP hidden talents! Oh, did I mention that Michelle and I got to meet Randi Weingarten!

~Jon Monique Manuel

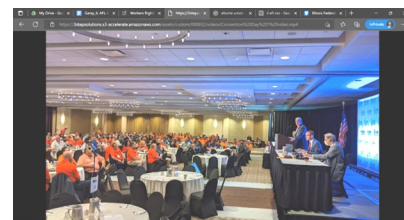
*Elmhurst PSRP Council President*

## Illinois AFL-CIO 45th Biennial Constitutional Convention

This summer a diverse group of workers came together: bricklayers, firefighters, teachers, musicians, letter carriers...and the list goes on. I had the chance to get to know some of these people as one of your AFT Local 571 Delegates to the Illinois AFL-CIO 2022 Convention. I was asked to share some of my takeaways from the two July days I spent there.

The first is the extensive size, yet cohesive nature of the Illinois AFL-CIO. It is comprised of over one thousand union affiliates that represent nearly 1 million workers in Illinois. While the jobs we perform day-to-day can differ dramatically, when a story of success or struggle was shared, it resonated with everyone in the room - you saw nodding, ovations, and united booing. And it was this cohesion that they claimed would help bring passage of Illinois Amendment 1 (aka the “Workers’ Rights Amendment”) ...my second big takeaway. If there was a single theme woven throughout this year's convention it would be the importance of passing this proposed state constitutional amendment, which will be on the ballot for Illinois voters to consider this November. It felt as if every speech touched on it. “Me plus three” was a phrase shared to encourage us to spread the word. I think writing this covers me, right? :) A one-million-dollar check to support the effort even made its way across the stage! You can check out

[www.workersrights.com](http://www.workersrights.com) for more information on Illinois Amendment 1. And please consider sharing some info about it with your membership.



AFL-CIO Attendees

On a closer-to-home note, I had the chance to serve on the Convention’s Education Committee led by IFT President, Dan Montgomery. We advanced three resolutions for consideration by the larger body (Carbon Free Schools, Schools and Gun Safety, and Supporting Community Schools) and all three passed without objection. These resolutions will help guide the Illinois AFL-CIO on shaping its education priorities for the next two years. In addition, a resolution advocating for improved Tier 2 benefits was passed. It is an issue that was great to see discussed on such a large stage. And finally, on a personal note, I would like to thank Local 571 for allowing me to represent them (and you all) and for supporting my attendance at this convention. It was a privilege.

~Eric Garay  
*Leyden Council, Local 571*

# AFT 2022 Convention - Boston

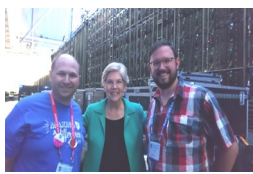
**Thirty-nine Local 571 delegates traveled to Boston, Massachusetts for the 2022 AFT Convention.** There were plenty of speakers including US Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey, US Representatives Val Demings and Ayanna Pressley and First Lady, Dr. Jill Biden. Presidents from AFT, AFL-CIO, and PTA also spoke. Union organizers from Amazon and Starbucks took the stage as well. Pastor Otis Moss III brought down the house with a rousing and inspiring speech and video. Business was conducted, resolutions debated and passed, committee meetings and community events attended, and even some fun. Delegates could participate in an AFT delegate reception, award receptions, and some sightseeing. Delegates came away inspired and with a renewed sense of Union.



Local 571 Delegates

On the second day of the convention during the IFT breakfast where we were joined by AFT convention International Guests including a teacher from Ukraine. At the breakfast, Local 571 delegates donned their royal blue t-shirts to show Local 571 is #IFTStrong. One Local 571 delegate, **Esmeralda Bonk, acted as AFT Sergeant-at-arms for the convention.** The AFT Women's Rights Committee breakfast was held on the last morning of the convention where the Living the Legacy Awards were presented. The award serves as an ongoing recognition of the accomplishments and contributions of female members who serve as role models in the AFT. **Former 571 President Jane Russell received a plaque for her 50 years of Union service.** The following thirty-nine West Suburban Teachers Union members represented Local 571 as delegates:

Leticia Ayala, Esmeralda Bonk, Sarah Boyle, Cheryl Brown, Rachel Esposito, Lola Estrada, Nicole Gamez, Angela Higgins, Markeshia Jones, Alice Kautsky, Ann Marie Koss, Jon Monique Manuel, Marisa Mills, Summer Neal, Jonathan Pazol, Rita Perri, Kimberly Poleski, Michael Poleski, Eugene Poull, Mary Ann Putyra, Edward Raddatz, Luz Rangel Raymond, Valerie Rathbun, Maria Rivera, Christina Rodriguez, Jane Russell, Alexandra Schramm, Andrea Schramm, Christine Schulz, Julie Stanley, Lee Stephens, Kyle Stern, Debra Straus, Latoya Thomas, Marie Tristan, Dianna Ulmer, Olga Vazquez, Talina Vazquez, Margaret Wunschel



Kyle Stern, Senator Elizabeth Warner and Eugene Poull



Christina Rodriguez engages in deep conversation with a Local 571 Retiree Lee Stephens at our Local 571 Pizza Social on Saturday July 16th



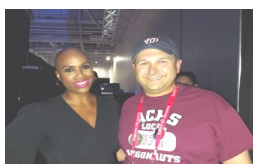
Three generations of REMARKABLE Cicero Council Presidents... Rachel Esposito, Alice Kautsky, and Marisa Mills



Marie Tristan (Unity Jr. H.S. teacher of Cicero Council) & Mary Ann Putyra (Cicero Council Retiree) pictured pool side for a wind down after our busy day of business



Nicole Gamez & Sarah Boyle, both Cicero Council Members, made new friends all because of the activities of the AFT Boston Conference 2022



Kyle Stern with Massachusetts Rep. Ayanna Pressley



Christina Rodriguez (Cicero Council VP), Rita Perri (Cicero Council Retiree), Mary Ann Putyra (Cicero Council Retiree), Ann Marie Koss (Cicero Council Teacher) all enjoy the gathering at our Local 571 Pizza Social on Saturday July 16th



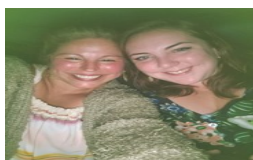
Mary Ann Putyra (Cicero Council Retiree) & Nicole Gamez (Cicero Council Teacher) enjoy the one of the many meetings of the minds at the Boston AFT Convention 2022



Julie Stanley (Secretary) & Marisa Mills (President), two Cicero Council officers, enjoy some camaraderie at the Local 571 Pizza Social on Friday, July 15th



A moment of serenity on the sunset cruise Friday July 15th with Nicole Gamez, Marie Tristan, and Christina Rodriguez - all Cicero Council Members



Nicole Gamez & Esmeralda Bonk all smiles at our Local 571 Reception on Saturday July 16th, both Cicero Council Teachers



A fun Local 571 selfie at the AFT DELEGATE SOCIAL at Boston Harbor on Friday July 15th

A Cicero Council Sunset Cruise - All Aboard Activists, Never Stop Cruising!





## Boston AFT Convention—Reflections

This was my first year as a delegate at an in-person convention. I attended the virtual one for Texas two years ago, but this one was more insightful for me.

They had a lot of good speakers, and I even got the chance to hear Dr. Jill Biden speak. Most of all I enjoyed Rev. Dr. Moss III speech and the video they prepared. It was very inspirational and moving you can tell he had so much passion behind it. I love the fact that it was so much inclusion for everyone and that I was able to be a part of this unity. It felt so good being able to be around so many people who were passionate about unions and peoples' rights. Randi is so fervent about what she does, and it makes it worth being able to be a part of something that you know people have your back in. I will definitely be signing up for the next one.

~ **Markeshia Jones**

As a delegate attending the AFT Convention for the first time, I felt empowered, supported and appreciated. Every speaker understood the struggle and reminded me of my purpose when seeking leadership positions. I was born to serve. They reminded us of the importance of unity, collaboration and that anything worth having is worth fighting for.



Evelyn DeJesus and  
Luz Rangel Raymond

~ **Luz Rangel Raymond**

Boston Convention 2022 Update: My deep thoughts, and reflections of the convention below from ~ Nicole Gamez.



- ☀ Lift up your colleagues!
- ☀ Surround yourself with a positive team of empowered leaders!
- ☀ There is such a thing as GOOD trouble!
- ☀ Reflect on the quotes below from Nathan R. Monell, CAE National PTA Executive Director & apply them to your life or career.



My favorite quote of his is: "Engage everyone, not just who you agree with." This thought has me thinking about how much we are drawn to like-minded people. It is okay to disagree with others, have conversations about topics & disagreements, even when you may not see eye-to-eye. These discussions will expand our minds to see different perspectives and make us stronger and more insightful to those that may not necessarily think like us. And that is encouraged: healthy, respectful debates allow us to keep growing professionally and personally.

How to Be Reasonable,  
Unbending Advocates in a  
Divided World?

Engage everyone, not just  
who you agree with.

☀ **When they're coming for public education? What do we do? Stand up & fight back!**



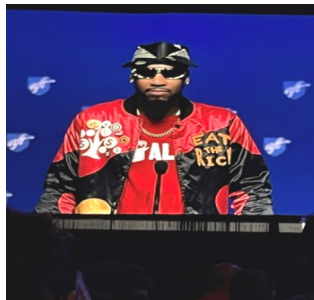
~ **We are the people who uphold moral imagination for this democracy.**

Quote from Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III at  
AFT Boston 2022

**ATTENTION!** A Must Watch: **FREE** movie online about a man and his story to vote. We can **NEVER** take our rights for granted!

#NeverStopDreaming #WeAreAFT #IAmAFT

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CyctjUB2z8g>



Chris Smalls

**Chris Smalls**, President of the Amazon Labor Union in Staten Island New York continues to organize Amazon workers throughout the U.S.

He shared his struggles with the 2500 AFT members attending the Boston Convention. Smalls testified before a Congressional Committee, that "workers rights are not a Democrat or Republican thing, they are a workers thing."

In introducing **Dr. Biden** to the delegates on July 15, the AFT president noted that the first lady, a community college educator, has attended our conventions before, including one held in Detroit in 2012 when Joe Biden was vice president.

With regard to public education, there is no more crucial person in this administration than the first lady, Weingarten said, because she sees and cares about the work lives of educators and healthcare workers.



Randi Weingarten and  
Dr. Jill Biden





At our May House of Reps meeting we honored our wonderful retirees: Julie Masterton, Jon Pazol, Diane Vegter, and Arnavez Mistry-Mujthaba. We wish them all the best and a wonderful retirement.



Rachel Esposito and  
Julie Masterton



Rachel Esposito and  
Jon Pazol



Rachel Esposito and  
Diane Vegter



Rachel Esposito and  
Arnavez Mistry-Mujthaba



Congratulations to **Kylee Murray** of Argo High School who has been awarded a Union Plus Scholarship.

If you are interested in applying for a 2023 scholarship visit: <https://www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/>

Congratulations to **Estelle Brobson**, who won a 2022 William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship from the Chicago Federation of Labor.

Estelle is the daughter of Jill Brobson, a speech language pathologist at East Leyden.

### Help Wanted/Needed....#571 Retiree

Council is looking for someone willing to share their "Smart Phone...Android" knowledge at a workshop we are planning. We have already a retiree that will share their knowledge of the "iPhone".



We are looking for that person who is patient and understanding, to help those of us who have basic knowledge, those who are comfortable with what they know...needs help with what they don't know and doesn't want to admit it, needs explanation of all those acronyms, wants to create folders and deal with all those pictures, etc.

Please send your name/email/phone number to Alice Kautsky, [akautsky@comcast.net](mailto:akautsky@comcast.net)

## REMINDER

**Retirees Council New Member Luncheon**  
**Tuesday 9/20/2022**  
**11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

*To be held at:*  
*Robert M. Healey Conference Center*  
*500 Oakmont Lane*  
*Westmont, IL 60559*  
*Entrance D or E*

Reservation forms were sent out to current members and need to be returned by 9/13/2022. New members, please contact Patty Clancy to RSVP by phone at 630-468-4083 or by email at [pclancy@ift-aft.org](mailto:pclancy@ift-aft.org)

**The Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is live!**

**9-8-8**

is the new calling code for suicide, mental health and substance use crises.

# YOUR VOTE COUNTS!



<b>Aug</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>VOTE BY MAIL – First day a registered voter can apply to vote by mail</b>
<b>Sept</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>VOTE BY MAIL - First day an election authority can mail or deliver a ballot</b> <b>EARLY VOTING – OFFICE OF ELECTION AUTHORITY</b> First day for early voting at election authority and temporary locations
<b>Oct</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>CLOSE OF REGISTRATION – Last day for traditional</b>
	<b>12</b>	<b>GRACE PERIOD REGISTRATION AND VOTING</b>
	<b>23</b>	<b>Deadline - ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION</b>
	<b>24</b>	<b>EARLY VOTING – PERMANENT POLLING PLACES</b> First day of early voting for counties with permanent EV polling places
<b>Nov</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>VOTE BY MAIL - Last day for election authority to receive application by mail</b>
	<b>7</b>	<b>LAST DAY - EARLY VOTING</b> <b>VOTE BY MAIL - Last day to apply in person for a vote by mail ballot.</b>
	<b>8</b>	<b>GENERAL ELECTION DAY</b> <b>LAST DAY - GRACE PERIOD REGISTRATION AND VOTING</b> <b>VOTE BY MAIL - Last day to return a completed vote by mail</b>
	<b>22</b>	<b>VOTE BY MAIL - Last day for the election authority to receive a ballot</b>



At our July Executive Board Meeting we discussed School Board Elections. Council Presidents received a list of our members that live in their District. I know not everyone loves politics, but public education is under attack. We need to stop these attacks and elect School Boards we can work with. Please work with your Council to endorse and support candidates or current school board members that you can work with. Local 571 and the IFT can help.

~ Kyle Stern

## SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION TIMELINE

- 2022
  - September 22 Candidates start circulating petitions
  - December 14-21 Candidate filing period
  - December 29 Deadline to object to a candidate's petitions
- 2023
  - January 28 Deadline for a candidate to withdraw
  - February 4 Last day to file as a write-in candidate

**April 4, 2023 ELECTION DAY**



### What is the Workers' Rights Amendment?

#### How will the Workers' Rights Amendment protect my rights?

If passed by Illinois voters on November 8, the Workers' Rights Amendment (WRA) - formally known as Senate Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment 11 - would amend the Illinois Constitution to guarantee the fundamental rights of workers to unionize and collectively bargain.

Put simply, the Workers' Rights Amendment would guarantee the right of workers to bargain for safe working conditions, fair pay, and benefits.

<https://www.ift-aft.org/wra>

## Labor Day—Monday-September 5

### What is the true meaning of Labor?

Labor Day is a day to celebrate the achievements of workers. It originated at a time when working conditions in the U.S. were often poor and unsafe.



For a list of union-made products, visit: [Union-Made BBQ - Chicago Federation of Labor](#)

### What's Missing from the Messenger?

Is there something innovative or exciting happening at your school? If so, we want to hear from you!

Email your news to Robin Hancock at: [571editor@gmail.com](mailto:571editor@gmail.com)



We're on the Web!!!  
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