

Local 1075

February 2024

## Meet Our Executive Board:

**Kelly Erinakes** – President  
**Debra Lathrop** – VP  
Elementary  
**Joe Farnoli** – VP Secondary  
**Michaela Keenan** – Secretary  
**Greg Wightman** – Treasurer  
**Sue Toohey-Kaye** –  
Professional Development  
**Ted Mitchell** – Public Relations



### A Vote for Earl Read is a Vote for Teachers

Our very own high school criminal justice teacher, Earl Read is running for a State House of Representative seat in district 26 (Coventry, W. Warwick, Warwick). Earl is running as a Democrat for the seat that will be vacated by Republican Patricia Morgan. Although Earl has been a teacher in Coventry since 2017, he is also a proud, retired Lieutenant from the Warwick Police Department.

Earl and his wife Amy have called Coventry home for 25 years and all three of their children are products of our schools. Earl has taken an active role in the community; announcing many of the sporting events at the high school for numerous athletic teams, being the SkillsUSA advisor for the Career Center and serving the Town of Coventry as a member of the Juvenile Hearing Board since 2017.

Earl has a MS in Justice Studies from Roger Williams University and a BA in Psychology from the University of Rhode Island. (Cont'd)

**Donna Beaudoin** – CHS Rep.  
**John Kelly** – CHS Rep.  
**Matt Paiva** – CHS Rep.  
**Christine Conklin** – ASFMS Rep.  
**Derek Larginho** – ASFMS Rep.  
**Jennifer Limoges** – Western Rep.  
**Kyla Tibets** – Western Rep.  
**Tara D'Aleno** – Tiogue Rep.  
**Julie Marran** – Hopkins Hill Rep.  
**Kristin Hill** – Washington Oak Rep.  
**Michelle Gallagher** – Washington Oak Rep.  
**Helen Tiernan** – Blackrock Rep.

### Remember READ4REP

His campaign revolves around 3 basic components, public safety, education, and protecting our senior citizens. Earl looks forward to the opportunity to hear from his constituents and will attentively listen to their concerns. He can be reached on Facebook on "[Earl Read for State Representative](#)", emailed at [Read4Rep26@gmail.com](mailto:Read4Rep26@gmail.com), or called at 401-255-8504. Earl is asking for our support in becoming an active State Representative for District 26. Please consider volunteering for or donating to his campaign.



## Membership Meeting Dates:

March 14th  
May 9th

## Tell Congress to pass the Paraprofessional and Education Support Staff Bill of Rights

Paraprofessionals and School-Related Personnel (PSRPs) are essential to Head Start, our preK-12 public schools and our colleges. Their impact on students' lives is long-lasting. We need to do everything in our power to ensure dignity and respect for these hardworking individuals. If passed, the **Paraprofessionals and Education Support Staff Bill of Rights (H. Res. 990 and S. Res. 450)** would lift up the need for living wages, safe working conditions, respect and dignity. Our schools would not function without the work of school support professionals. It's time to protect these workers, pay them a living wage, press for real solutions for staffing shortages, and provide our public institutions with a workforce our kids and communities need.

Please fill out this [FORM](#) to write your representative.



# CTA Newsletter



**sharemy  
lesson**

## **AFT 2024 Share My Lesson Virtual Conference:**

AFT has announced **2024 Share My Lesson Virtual Conference**, a three day virtual conference of 35+ virtual sessions for AFT members (teachers, paraprofessionals and school-related personnel). Whether you're interested in learning more about current trends in a content area such as writing, vocabulary, civic education or STEM-based learning or want an update on the 'state of public education' from AFT President Randi Weingarten, this PD has it all.

Register for one or more FREE sessions that you can access live or later on demand. Be sure to receive your certificate of completion for each session to be used for PLUs. For more conference and session information, go to the 2024 AFT Share My Lesson Virtual Conference website: 2024 AFT Share My Lesson Virtual Conference.

**AFL-CIO**  
AMERICA'S UNIONS

(Continued)

For more information about the CTA AFT PD, please contact Sue Toohey Kaye at [tooheykayesusan@coventryschools.net](mailto:tooheykayesusan@coventryschools.net).



## **Subscribe to the Smith Hill Report Online**

The RIFTHP produces regular legislative summaries regarding the laws being proposed in our state. The most current report focuses on the Final Pension Advisory Working Group. If you plan on retiring at some point in your life and want to afford it, this should interest you. You can read their entire report [\*\*HERE\*\*](#).

The latest Smith Hill Report also covers bills on a millionaires' tax (think funding of your pension), providing some financial assistance to retired teachers and state employees affected by the frozen COLA system, a proposed Rule of 90 that would help prevent teachers from dying at their desks from old age, and a universal school breakfast and lunch program.

Politicians who have never taught a day in their life can propose laws that drastically affect what you teach, how you teach, when you can retire, etc. Stay informed and sign up for RIFTHP Smith Hill Report

**(Click here to subscribe)**

*The*  
**SMITH HILL REPORT**

PUBLISHED BY THE RHODE ISLAND FEDERATION OF TEACHERS & HEALTH PROFESSIONALS/AFT, AFL-CIO



## **RIFT 2024 | 10 Trauma Informed Strategies to Help Students Heal**

**Rhode Island Federation of Teachers and Health Professionals 2024 Virtual PD Series**

**10 Trauma Informed Instruction Strategies to Help Students Heal February 6th - March 7th, 2024**

Participants will gain a deeper understanding of how adversity can impact children's developing brains, bodies and behaviors, and explore strategies that promote healing from various traumatic events and circumstances.

This course can be taken as separate modules or as an entire course. It is highly recommended that if you do not intend to take the entire course, you should, at a minimum, complete both sessions of the module/s that you choose.

The February - March offering of the Trauma Informed Instruction course is being offered free of charge as we continue to pilot the most effective method for delivering it. To take advantage of this opportunity, please register no later than January 30th .

[Register Here](#)



**CTA Coventry RI**  
**@CTA\_CoventryRI**

**Join our Twitter (X)**