

# NEWSLETTER

Local 1075

October 2023

## 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

**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.

## Membership Meeting Dates:

November 9th  
January 11th  
March 14th  
May 9th



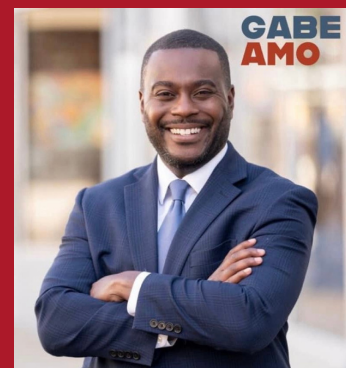
## AI: Fear or Embrace?

Artificial intelligence threatens many careers in our future. Should teachers worry about this? Not likely. Consider that “[i]t’s impossible to run a school without living, breathing adults in the classrooms.

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*(continued)* Another reason is historical: Children have been attending schools since ancient Egypt, and no technological advance has ever replaced teachers. Instead, teachers have adopted and adapted those technological advances into their practice, making themselves more effective in the process.” (Fordham Institute 2023)

On the other hand, we should embrace the technology and use it to make us more effective. There are many opportunities available. First, understand when your students are using AI by checking their work with the AI detector [GPTZero](#). The AFT has partnered with them.

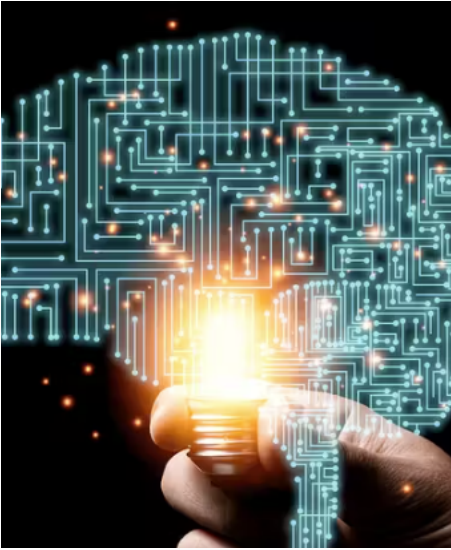


## RIFT Endorses Gabe Amo

The Executive Council of the Rhode Island Federation of Teachers and Health Professionals is proud to announce the endorsement of Gabe Amo for election to United States Congress from Rhode Island District One in the election on November 7, 2023.

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# CTA Newsletter



*(Continued AI article)*

Here are some great AI tools that can help you in the classroom:

**Slidesgo AI** - Simply type a topic you want to create a slide presentation on and let AI do the work for you.

**AudioPen** - Dictate into the microphone and AI will clean up your rambling and create a more concise text of what you want to say.

**Eduaide.AI** - Need help lesson planning? There are many options here, one of them being that it will write out an entire lesson or unit for a teacher!

**ChatGPT** (or others) - Copy and paste text then ask AI to rewrite it on whatever grade level you need for your students!

Make it work for you!

**AFL-CIO**  
AMERICA'S UNIONS

## Repeal WEP and GPO – Stop Penalizing Our Teachers and Public Employees

Everyone deserves a secure retirement, especially those who devoted their career to public service. The Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO) threatens that by substantially reducing or eliminating the EARNED social security benefits of the millions of retired teachers and public employees who contributed to Social Security through other employment. Thousands more are penalized every year as they retire from public service because their state, municipality, or school district does not participate in the Social Security system.

This unfair penalty also contributes to the current teacher and educator shortages, as it serves as a disincentive for those looking to join the ranks of teachers as a second career when they learn that the WEP-GPO penalty will jeopardize their earned Social Security benefits if they enter the classroom.

[Click here for the online form.](#)



*(Continued from previous)*

"Gabe's Experience working for government administrations at the municipal, state, and federal levels makes him uniquely qualified to represent the people in R. I. District One in Congress. Through his lived experiences, Gabe understands the challenges facing working families and will be a strong advocate in Washington" said Frank Flynn, RIFTHP President.

Gabe Amo will work with the other members of our congressional delegation to support public education, maintain fair labor standards, protect safe working conditions, and create good-paying union jobs.

On behalf of the 12,000 members of the Rhode Island Federation of Teachers and Health Professionals, representing educators, healthcare providers, state workers, and other public servants we wholeheartedly support Gabe Amo in his bid for Congress.



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

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