

NEWSLETTER

Local 1075

December 2023

Meet Our Executive Board:

Kelly Erinakes – President
Debra Lathrop – VP
 Elementary
Joe Fargnoli – 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.



President Kelly Erinakes at the RI Pension Advisory Panel – Let’s fix Governor Raimondo’s 2011 mistake!

A pension advisory panel assembled by the current Treasurer, James Diossa, has been assembled to relook at Governor Raimondo’s 2011 so called “pension reform.” The group has met three times and at its November meeting President of the RIFTHP, Frank Flynn, and CTA President, Kelly Erinakes testified about the dire consequences to employees and asked that the reforms be rolled back. Suggestions included increasing the annual accrual that is currently 1% or 2%, changing the rule of 95 to 90, and reinstating a COLA. The advisory meets at 4:00 at the State House and all meetings are open to the public.

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There are 3 meetings remaining January 17, 2024, January 31, 2024, and February 21, 2024. We will keep you posted on the progress of any bills that arise from the recommendations of this group!

“Under the current formula, COLA benefits have increased less than five percent over the past twelve years while the actual cost of living has increased over thirty-five percent. This is unconscionable. An annual, predictable, cost of living increase formula will benefit both current retirees and actives upon retirement.” – Frank Flynn



Membership Meeting Dates:

January 11th
 March 14th
 May 9th



Nearly 95% of union members belong to a union that supports the Equality Act



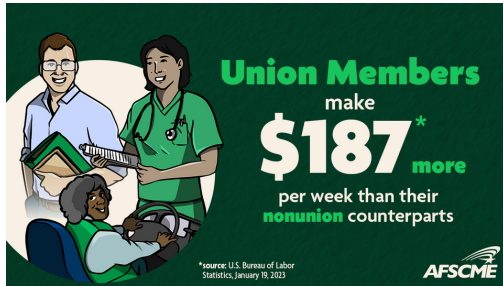
Support the Equality Act

The Equality Act would provide explicit protection for LGBTQIA+ people against discrimination in all areas of life, including housing, education and employment. And it would expand existing anti-discrimination legislation to include discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. This would be a crucial step forward for all Americans, but especially American workers. The Equality Act would ensure that LGBTQIA+ people can work and live without fear or threat of discrimination.

Please fill out this **FORM** to write your representative.



CTA Newsletter



Unions Help Their Workers and Our Economy

The U.S. Treasury issued a report this year demonstrating how unions play an important role in helping our middle class. Some of the reports key findings:

- Unions raise the wages of their members by 10 to 15 percent. Unions also improve fringe benefits and workplace procedures such as retirement plans, workplace grievance policies, and predictable scheduling.
- Competition means workers at nonunionized firms see increased wages too. Heightened workplace safety norms can pull up whole industries. Union members improve their communities through heightened civic engagement; they are more likely to vote, donate to charity, and participate in a neighborhood project.

AFL-CIO
AMERICA'S UNIONS

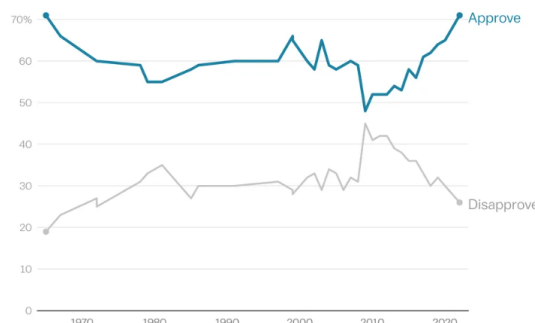
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- Unions help create a fairer economy by benefiting all demographic groups. By encouraging egalitarian wage practices, unions serve to reduce race and gender wage gaps. And modern unions have broad representation across race and gender.
- In addition to supporting the middle class, unions contribute to economic growth and resilience. They do so in part simply by reducing overall inequality.
- Unions can boost businesses' productivity by improving working environments and by giving experienced workers more of an input into decisions that design better and more cost-effective workplace procedures.

(US Department of the Treasury report by the Department's Office of Economic Policy).

It is no wonder that public approval for unions is at its highest point since 1965, according to a Gallup Poll conducted this year.

The share of Americans who approve of unions is at its highest level since 1965



Doesn't include data for those with no opinion.

Source: Gallup

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RIFTHP Professional Issues

RIFTHP advocates both for learners and instructors while leveraging and using the latest tools and techniques. Please click the links below to review courses and latest developments.

[Beginning Reading Instruction \(BRI\)](#)
[Delivering Effective Professional Development \(DEPD\)](#)
[Foundations](#)
[Instructional Strategies That Work](#)
[Managing Antisocial Behavior](#)
[Professional Services](#)
[Reading Comprehension Instruction \(RCI\)](#)
[The School-Home Connection - Partnership Supporting Student Learning](#)
[Thinking Math Volume III - Extensions to Rational Numbers](#)



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