



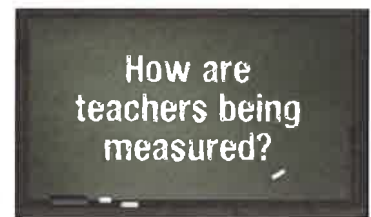
NEA Danbury News

Volume 4, Issue 3

December 2016

Teacher Evaluation

According to state statute, teacher's growth plans are to be mutually decided upon by the teacher and their evaluating administrator. NEA Danbury members should not feel pressured to make changes they don't feel they can successfully manage.



There are still growth plans in the district that have not been approved. If your growth plan still has **NOT** been approved then you should be collecting data according the growth plan the teacher submitted. This data should be shared with the administrator during their mid-year conference.

2016-2017 Insurance Information



NEA Danbury members should review the following insurance information for the 2016-2017 school year carefully.

In the December 7, 2016 pay period, the Board of Education deposited the second installment of their contribution to our HAS (Health Savings Account). They deposited \$562.25 into members with single person plan and \$1,125 into members who are on the family plan.

Full time employees of Danbury Board of Education can enroll in the district's insurance upon hiring. If the employee chooses not to enroll at that time, they will have the option to enroll in the plan during the IRS regulated open enrollment periods. Changes in enrollment status can also occur after a major life event such as: marriage, birth or adoption of a child, divorce or death. ***If a member changes the status of his or her enrollment they should check their pay stubs to make sure the insurance reflect these changes.***

News from the Political Action Committee

The Political Action Committee (PAC) has been working hard this election season. We have been having conversations with teachers and reaching out within our community in order to support pro-education candidates who have been endorsed by CEA.



Our work will continue into the 2017 CT Legislative Session when we will need to be ready to support positive legislation or stand opposed to laws limiting our professional expertise.

PAC welcomes new committee members as well as those willing be a teacher-to-teacher contact in their building to disperse information or mobilize teachers. The participation of teachers is critical in crafting sensible local and state decisions on education.

Our monthly meetings are held on Mondays at 4:00 p.m. at the NEA-Danbury Office, 87 Sandpit Rd. Meeting dates for the 2016-2017 school year are:

January 23rd February 13th
April 3rd May 8th and June 5th

Union Blues

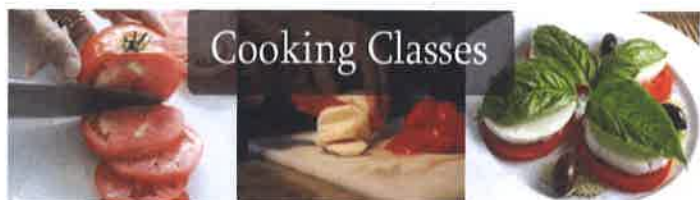
Reminder every Friday is Union Blue Friday! Wear your NEA Danbury t-shirt. New hires can see their Building Reps to get their shirt. Members who need a replacement shirt are asked to pay \$5 to get a new one. See your Building Reps to get your shirt replaced.

You can also check out the current promotions sponsored by NEA Danbury's Social Committee on our web page neadanbury.org. Check under the special promotions tab.

Negotiations

Negotiations have ended. The new contract cleared Danbury's Common Council on December 2, 2016.

However, we still need to be vigilant in collecting data on how new initiatives impact us. See your building rep or go to neadanbury.org to get an **impact form**. This information will be collected and compiled as aggregate data to keep administration informed of the affect these initiatives have on NEA Danbury members. Send all impact forms either via the courier or scan and email to Pamela O'Neill at Morris Street School.



Cooking Classes

Calling all Chefs!

Save the date! Another cooking class has been scheduled for Friday, February 10, 2017 at Two Steps Restaurant in Danbury. The menu will include: eggplant and white bean tapas, shrimp and scallop saute over lobster risotto, tournedos of beef with cognac sauce and casino potatoes and white chocolate cheesecake. The **cost is \$30** with your NEA Danbury ID. You can pay using your credit card the night of the event at Two Steps OR you can send a check/cash to Tom Young at Morris Street School. **Register by February 1, 2017.** Come join your colleagues for an evening of fun and food at Two Steps in Danbury.

2016 Holiday Bear

The 2016 holiday Bear was a huge success! Many Danbury children had presents of clothes and toys given to them. NEA Danbury sponsored 15 children. NEA Danbury would like to thank those who shopped and wrapped gifts. They would also like to give a special shout out to NEA Danbury members who helped load the U-haul and deliver presents to schools.



How to Find Your Union Officers and Committee Chairs



Executive Board Members		
President	Sam Buck	Danbury High School
Vice President	Erin Daly	Pembroke
Treasurer	Lillian Hope	Danbury High School
Secretary	Melinda Scott	Stadley Rough
Committee Chairs		
Advisory to Superintendent	Meg Smith	Hayestown
Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee	Luanelly Iglesias	Rogers Park
Insurance	Patty Widmayer	Great Plain
Legislative and Political Action	Anne Riddle	Park Avenue
Membership	Su Mion	Danbury High School
Negotiations	Pamela O'Neill	Morris Street
PR&R (Grievance)	Denise Wiedl	Danbury High School
Public Relations-External	Tom Ross	Danbury High School
Public Relations-Internal	Lorena Tesbir	KSP
Teacher Evaluation	Deb Casey & Devon Josh Richter	Danbury High School Pembroke