

SVFT General Membership Meeting

June 4th, 2025

Café Fiore

President Paul Angelucci called the meeting to order.

Motion to approve April's Executive Council meeting minutes. M/S/V

Motion to approve November's General Membership meeting minutes. M/S/V

Emily DelPiano Treasurer's Executive Council Report:

- Emily reviewed the Income & Expense Report from May 2025. Items discussed were as follows:

o Total Income for the month was \$181,641.04

- **Item 4000 Dues Income \$155,790.78**

3-pay period month

- **Item 4200 Rebate Income \$23,961.36**

March and April rebate from AFT-CT

- **Item 4355 Rental Income \$1,830**

April and May rent for both tenants

o Total Expenses for the month were \$168,896.62

Line items of note included

- **Item 6005-6020 Officers**

Quarterly stipends paid May 1

- **Item 6070 Mileage Reimbursement \$9,775.93**

Reps submitting for year

- **Item 6085 Meeting Expenses \$8,391.84**

School Allotments

- **Item 6095 Grievances -\$750**

Refund for over charges from the fall

- **Item 6155 Legal \$1,395.00**

DCF and member rep services

- **Item 6164 Miscellaneous General \$10,450.00**

Skills USA

- **Item 6170 Scholarship \$16,00.00**

Scholarship and mini grant awards

- **Item 6171 Teacher of the Year \$6,338.65**

Dinner, checks and awards for TOY winners

- **Item 6173 Service and Recognition \$10,175.01**

Gift Cards for Building Reps

o Net operating income for the year to date is \$140,348.43

Reminders:

Submit reimbursements and receipts for End of Year expenses ASAP

Mileage Sept – Dec \$0.625, Jan-present \$0.70

Questions for Treasurer: None

Treasurer's Report (pending audit) M/S/V

Bob Riccitelli's Executive Union Rep Report:

Administrative Leave (2)

- *2 Members are out on Administrative Leave*

Arbitrations (2)

- CTECS – Shop PAC & School Counseling night events – Hearing Completed
- CTECS – Night Event Comp Time

Board Charge (1)

- *Summer Pay – Removed from Arbitration – Working on the list*

Outstanding FOIA's (1)

- Total FOIAs 1 – 1 is past due

Stipulated Agreements (1)

- Reduction in Discipline

Grievances (6)

- Abbott – Team Mentor
- Windham Maintenance
- Administrative Transfers
- 3 Disciplinary

Complaints (5)

- *Kaynor Administration 3 for Unprofessional Behavior*
- *Vinal BMS for a Harassment and Unprofessional Behavior Complaint*
- *Windham Principal for a Retaliation Complaint*
- Goodwin Principal for Harassment

SVFT Investigations (0)

- o NA

Fact-Findings – HR/School Level (2)

- o ECE Compliance
- o Unprofessional Behavior

Fact-Findings – Affirmative Action (1)

- o Racial comments

Fact-Findings – DCF (0)

- o NA

Loudermills (7)

- o *4 Sexual Harassment – to be scheduled*
- o *Aggressive and Unprofessional Behavior – to be scheduled*
- o *Unprofessional behavior*
- o *Students wrote racial comments on small whiteboards and teacher handed them out to class*

Other (1)

- o Summer Recess

Questions for EUR:

Q - Is there an update on the teachers that were being transferred and the teachers that were non renewed?

A - The non renewals had a deadline of April 15th. Those have been dealt with. The transfers will be talked about in Paul's report

Q - If people get called in for summer work, they would have to be paid correct?

A - Yes.

Q - Is there any update on the give back day?

A - No we filed for arbitration

Makenzi Hurtado's Vice President Report:**Committee Reports**

- **Contract Negotiations Committee:**

Paul will share in his report.

I attended a SEBAC negotiations training and learned that almost all unions have been stalled at the table and have only met once and/or are not seeing any movement in the negotiating process. Also, our Republican state reps and senators did put forth an "alternative" budget plan that called for wage freezes and a suspension to our arbitration process. This is not passing, but it is important that our members in Republican towns know what they are advocating for.

- **Health & Safety Committee:**

Visited Emmett O'Brien in May and will be visiting Bristol on June 5.

Requested the Indoor Air Quality testing results be publicized, as required by law.

- **Scholarship Committee:**

We had 18 scholarship applicants and gave out 12 scholarships.

We had seven applicants for mini grants and gave out three mini grants. One of the grants does provide training for seven teachers in one school.

Letters went out earlier this week.

Miscellaneous

- Please let retirees in your building know that they can stay in touch and stay active by joining SVFT-R.
- Mediation: I have now done three mediations in buildings. They are a good first step for members that are having issues with each other. If it is a more serious issue, we will recommend members reach out to Labor Relations.
- Special Education Roundtable: I was invited to observe the district's roundtable. This was a great opportunity for teachers to share what they are working on in their buildings in terms of modifications for students. They did an amazing job sharing and advocating for changes. It was also supposed to be a time for CO staff to learn about what was happening throughout the district, but the CO staff were in and out of the meeting and not completely engaged.
- Special Education: We know that are going to be getting more special education students and students with higher needs. Once those students are in our building, they are our students. It is important to remember that all support service teachers are our union brothers, sisters, siblings. They will be following directives and legal obligations. If there are issues or concerns we need to address them with administration and Central Office because they are the decision makers.
- May 21st Rally at Capital. I was also able to be one of the 25 people who met with the governor.
- Our final newsletter for the year will go out on Friday via email and will be on our website.
- Just a reminder that officers work on the same calendar as teachers and we will have away messages up and won't be responding to emails. If there is a time sensitive issue, please contact us by phone. With negotiations finally starting, we are anticipating a very busy fall, so we are going to try to take the time to rest this summer.

Questions for Vice President:

Q - With more special education students coming into our schools are they going to increase the number of special education teachers?

A - They have to wait until the budget comes out. Once the budget is out they can make a decision on how to proceed.

Q - How is the State making a good faith effort to negotiate with us? I feel like we are letting them get away with it. Can you give me some insight on that?

A - That came up at SEBAC. I will talk about it in my report.

Q - How did Central Office make decisions about these administrative transfers if they never discussed anything with the consultants? My consultant was just as surprised as everyone else when they happened.

A - We have several contract proposals when it comes to administrative transfers. Right now they were within their rights to do them. This is something we will be working on in the next contract.

Paul Angelucci's President's Report:

- Negotiation update - We will start at the beginning of the new school year, Dr. Pritchard assured me that we'll get it done in a timely manner. The other 37 unions are moving slowly as well. As I said in the past we believe the SEBAC offer for the 27' Deal will be negotiated early in the 26' calendar year.
- Superintendent Meeting - Makenzi and I met with both Mr. Burr and Mr. Crocco yesterday to discuss the path forward and ongoing issues. Mr. Crocco assured us that processes and timelines need to be put in place and followed; they will be working on our existing issues over the summer. The selection process is moving along for the principal positions at three of our schools, and summer school in our title one schools will take place this summer.
- Board Meeting - CTECS recognized our teacher of the year winners at Norwich Tech with a breakfast and introduction to board members. Fifteen out of the eighteen winners attended the meeting; the board had a presentation from Robotics' pet dog and toured a number of shops as well. Dr. Pritchard runs a productive and informative board meeting, and I look forward to the changes she is making once all things are in place.
- Legislative Session Update - The Session ends midnight tonight, it was said that the cuts to our district, 5 million in operating and 1.5 million in services would be restored before the closing bell.

Prior to that cut we said the district was being underfunded and not flat funded due to mismanagement of the prior leadership.

- SEBAC Update - SEBAC met yesterday, my last meeting, Kenz will attend from now on. It was discussed there will most likely be a special session this Fall to deal with the Federal Funds that could be cut this summer.
- Committee Wrap-ups - I want to thank everyone who has served in a committee for the past two years, it was incredibly helpful and informative. This upcoming two-year term will see 80 members serve and 33 of them being new to volunteering which is how we strengthen our union and hear new perspectives of the challenges we meet.
- It's been my pleasure to serve as your President, and I know your good/better hands with Makenzi as your new leader, thank you all

Questions for President:

Q - This is the third contract in a row where we are going into the first year of what should be our next contract, without a contract. What can we or SEBAC do to stop this from happening? Can we start negotiations earlier to prevent this from happening?

A - It's common, unfortunately. No we can't. The main difference this time is the State of CT gets the money from the Federal Government in the summer. The Federal Government covers 23% of our budget. If that changes, all of the budgets will have to change.

Q - Are we going to be seeing some AP's being shifted around?

A - In their contract they only need 30 days notice. So we won't know about them until July 1st. We heard there will be a lot of movement.

Q - What happened where we have this commissioner's network

A - When a school is in the bottom percentage of the accountability index they get placed on a list of schools that need intervention and you have a certain amount of time to show those interventions and growth. The interventions put in place by CO have shown no improvement. Prince has applied for the commissioner's network, but as of right now they are not in it. Most of the time an entire district gets accepted. This is the first time 1 school from a district is trying to get in.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Awards
- Executive Council Dates
- Committee Members
- Delegates

Good and Welfare:

- Norwich Tech are the golf champions this year.
- Taylor is expecting her first child.
- Three teachers at one school are expecting children.

Motion to adjourn M/S/V