

# New Haven Federation of Teachers

*An Affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers*

Local 933



AFL-CIO

*David Cicarella*  
*President*

*Pat DeLucia*  
*Executive Vice President*

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*Executive Secretary*

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*Treasurer*

To: All New Haven Teachers

February 6, 2020

## **NHFT Election Re-run**

### I. Ballots

Teachers are receiving ballots this week, some as early as Monday or Tuesday, and others not as yet. All were US mailed on Jan 31. If you do not receive a ballot in the next day or so, call 209-259-6740. This is a dedicated message line for MK Elections. Leave your name and address and a replacement will be mailed out. The NHFT office cannot handle ballot distribution or collection.

### II. 250-word bios and photos

Part of the re-run order from AFT included allowing candidates an opportunity to voluntarily submit a 250-word bio and a photo. AFT agreed that in an effort to be cost-conscious and environmentally sensitive, these bios would be posted on this 933 website as opposed to printing hard copies and US mailing.

Candidates were given clear directions as to the content of the bios: No campaigning or narratives so as to prevent complaints of negative commentary. Instead candidates were asked to make teachers aware of their teaching assignments such as grade level subject area, years of service on committees for the NHFT or NHPS, etc. Our Executive Board did not want our Elections Committee to be in a position whereby they would have to make subjective determinations as to what one candidate found offensive as opposed to what another did not.

Despite these clear directions to candidates, many of the bios received were not in compliance even after two (2) extensions had been afforded to candidates.

Therefore, because the bios are due to be posted this week, the Executive Board was compelled to impose a hard deadline of 6pm today on all candidates by which time they must submit bios complying with the guidelines. Per a unanimous vote, the Executive Board has instructed the website administrator to edit any bio not adhering to the guidelines.

The voting window has just opened and the bios will be posted tomorrow as indicated in the January 31<sup>st</sup> update.

### **HSA Informational Session**

There remains a great deal of misinformation regarding the new Health Savings Account(HSA). This is understandable as there are many HSA's out here that are not very good. Ours is very different with low cost shares and hard caps to prevent excessive out of pocket costs. We have reached out to Anthem and have scheduled the session on March 5, from 4 -530 pm at our NHFT building. We are inviting Connex as they are the credit union that handles our funds.