



Thursday, January 18, 2024

Greetings CSEA Family!

Fight Back with the Truth!

We will be holding a series of webinars titled “Fighting Back with The Truth” for ALL members to learn about the Freedom Foundation’s lies and attacks and how they can fight back with the truth. All members will be sent an email with a link to register for the webinar in their region. Please encourage your members to register and attend one of three dates the webinar will be offered. Knowing the truth about the Freedom Foundation will only help strengthen CSEA so it’s important for as many members as possible to attend.

January 23 at 7:00pm [Register here.](#)

January 30 at 7:00pm [Register here.](#)

February 1 at 7:00pm [Register here.](#)

2024 NYS budget proposal summary

On Tuesday, the Governor proposed her FY2025 budget. The budget balances a \$4.3 billion deficit without raising taxes, laying off state employees, or eliminating vacant positions in state agencies. While we oppose the Governor’s proposal to close up to five state correctional facilities with only 90 days’ notice, we are supportive of other proposals to bolster public services, including 125 new inpatient treatment beds in the Office of Mental Health. In addition, the Governor is proposing to end the 5-day lag pay withholding for state employees who are hired on and after July 1, 2024. The budget also increases funding for school districts by \$825 million and increases funding for Medicaid. The budget is due by April 1.

We are continuing to review budget documents and will have a more comprehensive summary in the coming days.

DMV adopts “Under the Hood” Exemption” for Commercial Driver License road test

Governor Hochul recently announced a plan to remove barriers for prospective school bus drivers applying for commercial driver licenses. The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has implemented a federal waiver that allows school bus driver applicants to skip the engine compartment component, also called the “under the hood” component of the commercial driver license road test. This waiver

will make it easier to get a commercial license at a time when school bus drivers are desperately needed and is the latest in a series of actions directed by the Governor to address the critical shortage of truck and bus drivers. For more information visit: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-new-effort-get-more-school-bus-drivers-road>

January is National Mentoring Month

January is a time to celebrate the diverse array of mentoring relationships, from professional mentorships to guidance within communities, and showcase the transformative power of guidance and encouragement. National Mentoring Month recognizes that mentorship comes in various forms and plays a vital role in professional and personal development. To learn more about National Mentoring Month, visit <https://www.mentoring.org/campaigns/national-mentoring-month>.

Union members help minimize snow's impact in Western New York

As Western New Yorkers (WNY) find themselves digging out of the latest winter snowstorm, we'd like to recognize all of our union members who helped keep the community safe during hazardous times. From local members to those deployed across the state to aid WNY, without their hard work and dedication, events like these have the potential to be much worse. Thank you to everyone who worked around the clock to minimize the detriment of this past week's weather – your work is essential to the function of your community.

Member Benefits Spotlight: Planning a trip to Disney in 2024?

Do your 2024 plans include a trip to Disney? If so, you are in luck. Member Deals is offering adult Disney tickets at children's prices for three day passes or more. You must act quick as this offer is for a limited time.

Visit: <https://memberdeals.com/cseany/packages.php?sub=packages&action=view&id=3445&login=1>

Education & Training Virtual Workshop Schedule available online

A full list and descriptions of Virtual workshops is available at <https://cseany.org/training-workshops> (under the last tab, "VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS FOR MEMBERS IN ALL REGIONS").

Required Union Representation **IN-PERSON Trainings:**

Local Government Discipline and Interrogation – Beacon (Region 3)

Saturday, February 3, from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Call (845) 831-1000 to register.

Local Government Discipline and Interrogation – Binghamton (Region 5)**

Tuesday, February 13, and Wednesday, February 14, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (607) 338-1130 to register.

State Government Grievance – Fallsburg (R3)**

Tuesday, February 20, and Wednesday, February 21, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (845) 831-1000 to register.

State Government Discipline and Interrogation – Oneonta (Region 5)**

Tuesday, February 20, and Wednesday, February 21, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (315) 433-0050 to register.

Local Government Grievance Representation – Commack (Region 1)**

Tuesday, March 19, and Wednesday, March 20, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (631) 462-0030 to register.

*****This is a 2-part training, participants must complete both sessions to receive credit for completion.***

Required Union Representation **VIRTUAL Trainings:**

Discipline & Interrogations Recertification

Monday, January 22, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

<https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1212>

Grievance Representation Recertification

Monday, January 29, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

<https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1216>

Discipline & Interrogations Recertification

Monday, February 26, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

<https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1241>

Grievance Representation Recertification <see next page>

Wednesday, February 28, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

<https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1244>

Required Officer Trainings:

Contact your region to register.

Region 1 – (631) 462-0030 Region 4 – (518) 782-4400

Region 2 – (212) 406-2156 Region 5 – (800) 559-7975

Region 3 – (845) 831-1000 Region 6 – (716) 691-6555

***There are no scheduled officer trainings at this time.*

What do you want to read about?

I'm asking for your feedback on any topics you'd like to see covered in future editions of this weekly leadership update. If you have ideas, please take the time to fill out our quick online survey

at: <https://forms.office.com/r/seCVpFhVaG>.

I appreciate your response.

In Solidarity,



Mary E. Sullivan
President

Information is **Power!**



Share this information with **all CSEA members** in your Local or Unit!

