# Lay Faculty Association Local 1261 Newsletter

138-25 A 31 Drive/Flushing, New York 11354 (718)5396440

<u>WWW.LFA1261.ORG</u>

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# Right-to-work laws referendum defeated in Missouri



People built a massive campaign to defeat the proposed law, gathering 300,000 signatures to put the referendum on the ballot. Construction workers, ironworkers, teachers and steelworkers knocked on about half a million doors to mobilize voters to the polls, according to the AFL-CIO, the nation's largest federation of



unions. A union-backed group raised \$15 million for the effort — more than five times the amount of money raised by two business groups supporting the right-to-work bill.

## The Child School Wins Achievement Award

On behalf of the Lay Faculty Association, we would like to thank Vicky Schneps for her decades of commitment to being a voice for so many differently-abled youth, her representative Toni Cimino with whom we worked very closely to make all of these accolades a reality, and Ms. Vishu Grover, Director of **The Child School** for continuing to ensure that Special Needs kids in the New York Area have ongoing access to the arts and education in general.

An important tax note for teachers- One miscellaneous un-reimbursed job expense deduction was retained amid the wave of reforms: classroom teachers and other education professionals who pay for school supplies out-of-pocket can still claim a deduction of up to \$250 for such costs.

#### **Union Members**

We advise ALL of our members to never participate in a meeting with the administration WITHOUT being accompanied by your Delegate or Alternate Delegate. We are here to protect your rights under the contract.

Please visit the Union Plus web site. <a href="https://www.unionplus.org/">https://www.unionplus.org/</a> to use this website, you will need to enter LIUNA and your email address to take advantage of various offerings.

Have a great 2018-2019 school year.

#### Retirees

Please send us your email address to receive the digital newsletter each month. Send your email address to <a href="www.ddvt2001@gmail.com">www.ddvt2001@gmail.com</a>. Help us save a tree and a postage stamp. Thank you.

### **A National Union Victory**

Unions representing federal workers on August 25<sup>th</sup> declared victory in what they have described as an assault by the Trump administration after a federal judge struck down key provisions of a set of executive orders aimed at making it easier to fire employees and weaken their representation.

The ruling, by U.S. District Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson in Washington, was a setback to the White House's efforts to rein in federal unions, which have retained significant power over working conditions even as private-sector unions are in decline.

"It's a big win for us," said David Borer, general counsel for the American Federation of Government Employees. With 750,000 members, the AFGE was the largest of about a dozen unions to sue the administration to block the new rules affecting 2.1 million civil servants.



LaBron James visits **Christ the King High School** and makes a donation.

James' ties to **Christ the King** have produced exclusive sneakers and the high school featuring his logo and brand.

# The President's Message.....

Welcome Back! I hope you all had a restful summer. The LFA Executive Board and I wish you a successful new school year.

Ratification of our Memorandum of Agreements as a result of our successful negotiations has taken place this summer or in progress this month in eight of our schools. Thank you to all of the Bargaining Team volunteers who worked tirelessly to represent their colleagues.

Negotiations at Bishop Kearney are at a standstill and hopefully will resume soon.

Remember to check our website regularly for union issues, announcements, and benefits www.lfa1261.org.

Ciro Quattrocchi

# Next month this newsletter will go digital, retirees will continue to receive a hard copy.