

UPDATE



July 2012



LOS ANGELES — Delegates to the 40th International Convention of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO (AFSCME), yesterday elected Lee Saunders to be president, and Laura Reyes to be secretary-treasurer of the union representing 1.6 million public service workers.

Saunders received 683,628 votes to 582,358 for Danny Donohue, CSEA/Local 1000 president, also an International vice president. In the race for secretary-treasurer, the union's second highest-ranking officer, Laura Reyes, UDW/Local 3930 president also an IVP, received 661,413 votes to 603,624 for Alice Goff, District Council 36 president. The election was administered by the American Arbitration Association.

"Both Laura and I are committed to our members and cherish this union," said AFSCME President-elect Lee Saunders. "We had a vigorous and energetic campaign, but now the union will pull together to win victories for working families and our members all across this great country."

"We know that Wall Street and their allies are engaged in an all-out assault against our members and the services we provide. They know that AFSCME stands in the way of their efforts to destroy the middle class. We are united in our commitment to stand up for the men and women who care for America's children, nurse the sick, plow our streets, collect the household trash and guard our prisons. Our members are a cross-section of America, not some elite group as our opponents try to claim. We are energized and ready for the battles ahead, including putting boots on the ground to ensure the re-election of Pres. Barack Obama."

Secretary-Treasurer-elect Laura Reyes said that she would "work night and day for the working families of America."

"Together, we can and will stand up for fairness and for an end to the scapegoating of public service workers. We will pull together in communities across America to find real solutions to the problems facing so many families."

Pres. Gerald W. McEntee, who retires today after 31 years as AFSCME president, said the delegates' decision to elect Saunders and Reyes "strengthens our leadership and will enhance our ability to face the challenges that await us around the country."

"Laura and I are humbled and honored to have been chosen to lead AFSCME," Saunders said. "We have great respect for Danny and Alice and will work with them to move our union forward."

Saunders will be the fourth president of AFSCME since the union's formation 75 years ago in Madison, Wis.



Local 1067 delegates with newly elected Secretary-Treasurer Laura Reyes.

Table Officers E-Mail Addresses

- Kevin Hanley (khanley@bhcc.mass.edu)
- Bunker Hill Community College - 617-228-2154
- Carolyn Mathews (cmathews@worchester.edu)
- Worcester State University - 508-929-8647
- Marzi Carlopoli (mcarlopo@Berkshire.rr.com)
- Berkshire Community College - 413-329-4927
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- Northern Essex Community College - 978-556-3763



Vice President Biden to AFSCME Delegates: *'We Owe You'*

BY CLYDE WEISS | JUNE 20, 2012

Vice Pres. Joe Biden

LOS ANGELES — Vice Pres. Joe Biden, responding Tuesday to attacks on public service workers by GOP Presidential candidate Mitt Romney and right-wing lawmakers, told delegates of AFSCME's 40th International Convention that they deserve unwavering respect for the work they do.

"You provide the safe neighborhoods, you provide the good schools, you provide the school lunches, you provide the day care centers, you provide the hospitals, you provide the roads, you provide the ability of people to live a decent middle-class life. We owe you."

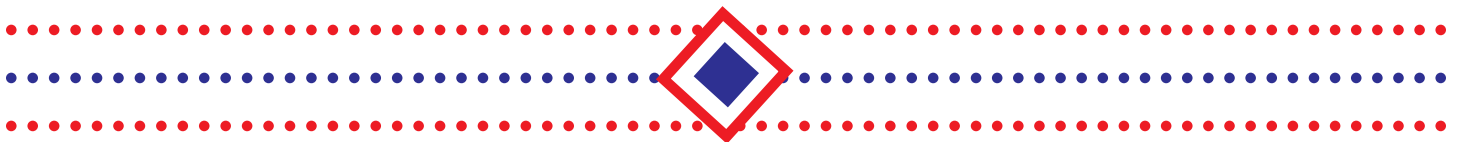
AFSCME members have endorsed Pres. Barack Obama and Vice President Biden for re-election and will doorknock, phonebank and rally to get out the vote this fall.

Biden had sharp words for the right-wing's assault on working families. Those who want to undermine labor and reduce public services "don't get we're the most professional, disciplined and well-trained workers" in America.

Romney and his supporters are "insisting on keeping a \$4 billion-a-year tax cut for oil companies – a subsidy the oil companies say they don't need," Biden said. He pointed out that money could be used to double the amount of child care provided in the U.S.

He thanked AFSCME for speaking up for all working families.

"You're not just in this fight because of your job. You're in this fight because you care about the families that live next door."



"Although it is true that only about 20 percent of American workers are in unions, that 20 percent sets the standards across the board in salaries, benefits and working conditions. If you are making a decent salary in a non-union company, you owe that to the unions. One thing that corporations do not do is give out money out of the goodness of their hearts."

Molly Ivins



President McEntee Urges Delegates to Fight On

Pres. Gerald W. McEntee delivers the opening keynote address Monday morning before a cheering crowd of more than 5,000 delegates, alternates and guests.

BY CLYDE WEISS | JUNE 18, 2012

Pres. Gerald W. McEntee delivers the opening keynote address Monday morning before a cheering crowd of more than 5,000 delegates, alternates and guests.

LOS ANGELES — Pres. Gerald W. McEntee, in his final keynote address after 31 years leading AFSCME, told delegates to AFSCME's 40th International Convention the nation is witnessing a time when "the American Dream is under attack" and called on his union sisters and brothers to "choose to be a union with ambition, a union that dreams big dreams" – and one united for the challenges ahead.

"When we defend collective bargaining, we are fighting for the future of America. These battles are tough. But we're used to fighting hard. We have made our union a driving force for economic and social justice throughout the nation."

President McEntee also reminded the delegates of some of AFSCME's victories, including the historic fight by members of Memphis, Tenn., Local 1733 "who put their lives on the line in 1968 to win collective bargaining rights."

More recently, in Ohio, AFSCME members "forged coalitions and got out the vote" to defeat Ohio Gov. John Kasich's attack on collective bargaining rights. "They forged, and last year, we killed that anti-worker legislation dead."

President McEntee concluded his remarks by telling the Convention delegates:

"I have always believed in you and in what together we could accomplish for our members and for others. I have always been proud of the choices you have made, not just for ourselves, but for all the working families of America. My dream for AFSCME is that you will choose to travel the road ahead with courage, determination and, yes, with solidarity. Forever."

Special guest Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), U.S. House Minority Leader, joined members from across the country in a moving tribute to President McEntee.



Alva Arellano Wins Race for Northern New England IVP

Dept. of Legislation, Political Action and Communications
| Thu Jun 21, 2012

In the race for Northern New England Vice President, Council 93 Director of Organizing and Training Alva Arellano won the seat vacated by Council 93 Executive Director Anthony Caso. Caso announced weeks earlier he would not seek re-election and would support Arellano for the seat.

Arellano defeated AFSCME Local 1526 President Elissa Cadillic garnering 25,189 votes to Cadillic's 12,445 votes.



QCC Plans to expand



Priyanka Dayal McCluskey

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College's board of trustees has approved a plan for the college to expand to a new Worcester campus.

With growing enrollment, the college has outgrown the space at its main campus on West Boylston Street. The college plans to expand its health care and workforce development programs to 70,000 square feet of space elsewhere in the city.

QCC has yet to name its new location. College leaders have previously said they want to open a campus downtown.

The state Division of Capital Asset Management is running the college's search for new space, college spokesman Josh Martin said.

"The need for more space and state-of-the-art facilities has been uppermost in our minds for some time now, and we're pleased that we're able to proceed with this important expansion," **Ron Josephson**, chairman of the board, said in a news release.

The new Worcester campus will serve more than 2,000 students and employees, QCC said. Over the past two years, the college also opened sites in Southbridge and Marlboro.

College officials said they want to play a role in the revitalization of Worcester.

"We're committed to our economic partnerships with the city of Worcester and our new location means that we're aligned with the city's plan for expansion," **Gail E. Carberry**, college president, said in the news release.

Earlier today, the college released a statement saying trustees had approved an expansion in downtown Worcester. QCC then issued a revised statement that said trustees approved an expansion in Worcester, but not necessarily downtown.



MassArt storefront supports emerging artists, shows off their work

The Next Great Generation June 1, 2012 04:36 PM By Ethan Bukowiec

- Everything from paintings to scarves, jewelry to photographs, and vases to blenders can all be found at MassArt Made, a retail venture by the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, that showcases and sells the work and talents of current and former students.
- After renovations to the MassArt campus that made room for the store, its doors opened in April of last year, the brainchild of former MassArt president and creative economy advocate, Katherine Sloan.
- Located at 625 Huntington Avenue in the Longwood Medical Area, the store's window exterior puts all the unique works on display to the public eye. The name MassArt Made could not be more fitting for the retail shop, because everything about it was created by a student, alumni, or faculty member of MassArt. The architecture, logo, website and items sold at the establishment were all created by members of the MassArt community.
- While the store's original purpose was to showcase the overall creativity that MassArt represents, it has grown into an establishment that that's helping shape the careers of emerging artists and contribute scholarship funds for up-and-coming creators.
- Ginger Russell, creative director and manager, has made it a focus to help upcoming artists learn how to market themselves and prepare them for the future.
- "It has been a great learning experience for the students who have their works showcased here. I actually think they are learning more than they realize," said Russell.
- There are 79 artists who contribute to MassArt Made and 15 to 20 of those artists are currently enrolled at MassArt. In order for students to have their work featured for sale, they must submit to a blind jury judging. After a student's work is chosen to be displayed, they work with Russell and her staff to decide on a price at which to sell the piece.
- Martin Figueroa, a MassArt 2010 grad, has been working at MassArt Made since day one.
- "It is interesting how some students price their work," he said. "Some students set their price way too high and we have to work with them to make it a bit more reasonable, and others set their price too low and we have to encourage them that their work is worth more."
- Russell, Figueroa and the rest of the MassArt staff put a great focus on preparing students for a career in art by educating them on how to market their work and advertise it so that they can make money doing what they love.
- "We really want to direct students towards beginning their own businesses when they graduate," said Russell.
- When a piece is sold, the artist and MassArt Made split the profit 50/50. Of the 50 percent that MassArt Made keeps, 10 percent of that money goes towards scholarships for MassArt students working unpaid internships.
- MassArt Made is also dedicated to staying current and up-to-date with popular trends in the art scene, and it doesn't hurt that each year the incoming freshman class of MassArt will provide artists with new ideas to contribute to MassArt Made, ensuring the store will always stay current and relevant.



Greenfield Community College adopts \$10 per credit fee increase

06/13/2012 -

The Greenfield Community College Board of Trustees has approved a fee increase of \$10 per credit for the next fiscal year, effective this fall. They lay the blame for the hike on the need to compensate for lagging state funding for higher education.



The Union shall be permitted to use the same or similar facilities of the College for the transaction of Union business during working hours which have been used in the past for such purpose, and to have reasonable use of the College facilities during off-duty hours for Union meetings subject to appropriate compensation if required by law. This section shall not be interpreted to grant an employee the right to carry on Union business during his/her own working hours not granted elsewhere in this contract.



Fred Rogers inspired millions of children to use their imagination—to imagine beyond what they see—and to grow. His patience in explaining things, asking questions, and giving us permission to be afraid spoke directly to each tiny viewer as he or she peered at the screen. Fred Rogers broke ground in television and helped a nation go places it had never been before.

I compiled some quotes by Mister Rogers; I hope he brings you some inspiration today.

1. "Often when you think you're at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else."

2. "Forgiveness is a strange thing. It can sometimes be easier to forgive our enemies than our friends. It can be hardest of all to forgive people we love. Like all of life's important coping skills, the ability to forgive and the capacity to let go of resentments most likely take root very early in our lives."

3. "Love and trust, in the space between what's said and what's heard in our life, can make all the difference in the world."

4. "The child is in me still and sometimes not so still."

5. "Discovering the truth about ourselves is a lifetime's work, but it's worth the effort."

6. "Knowing that we can be loved exactly as we are gives us all the best opportunity for growing into the healthiest of people."

7. "I don't think anyone can grow unless he's loved exactly as he is now, appreciated for what he is rather than what he will be."

8. "There are three ways to ultimate success:

The first way is to be kind.

The second way is to be kind.

The third way is to be kind."

9. "Feeling good about ourselves is essential in our being able to love others."

10. "Love isn't a state of perfect caring. It is an active noun like struggle. To love someone is to strive to accept that person exactly the way he or she is, right here and now."

11. "Try your best to make goodness attractive. That's one of the toughest assignments you'll ever be given."

12. "The connections we make in the course of a life—maybe that's what heaven is."

What lessons do you remember from Mister Rogers and his wonderful neighborhood?



Westfield State University will increase by \$411

WESTFIELD – Tuition will remain the same but fees at Westfield State University will increase by \$411, or 5.9 percent, for the 2012-2013 school year.

The university's board of trustees approved the increase Thursday night along with a new operating budget of \$87.5 million for the new fiscal year that begins July 1. The budget represents a \$3.1 million increase over this year.

Officials said the fee increase is modest and needed to meet expenses and the loss of about \$2 million in federal American Recovery Act funding from last year.

President Evan S. Dobbelle said despite the increase "WSU continues to be the best value among its competition" in the state college system. "That is important," he said. "Westfield State University has the lowest cost of any of the state universities," he said.

Tuition remains steady at \$970 and the total cost for tuition and fees for an in-state student will be \$8,297. A student opting to live on campus or in university housing will pay an additional \$9,237 or a total tuition, fees, room and board bill of \$17,534. That \$17,534 represents a maximum increase of \$749 or 4.4 percent above the same bill for the school year that just ended.

Students here had faced a fee increase of \$461 over last year as early as Wednesday. But Dobbelle said a change in state calculations on employee benefits reduced the burden to \$411. Dobbelle said the \$50 difference "had" to be returned to students, "who are our taxpayers."

Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance Michelle Maggio said the 5.9 percent increase in fees is the "smallest increase in the last four years."

Last year trustees increase fees by a total of \$799.

University of Massachusetts trustees last week approved a 4.9 percent fee increase for students there. That increase adds about \$580 on in-state undergraduates. Students at the Amherst campus will now pay, on average, \$13,242 in fees. That does not include room and board.

Holyoke Community College recently raised its mandatory fees for in-state undergraduates by 3.5 percent and Springfield Technical Community College by 6.9 percent for the school year that begins in September, according to the state Department of Higher Education.

A student attending Holyoke Community College last year paid \$1,320 in fees for 10 credit and \$1,556 for 12 credits.

WSU trustee finance chairman John F. Flynn III said trustees "committed last year to capital improvements and the new nursing program. We need to continue that commitment. This represents great budgeting, a great plan."

Several capital improvement projects are underway at WSU for a total of about \$103 million. That includes the recently completed dining commons upgrade, construction of new student housing, new academic building and renovations at the Ely Campus Center and at other on-campus housing units.

New nursing students will pay an additional \$1,000 to cover the cost of that program including additional teaching materials.

There will also be a \$124 annual increase in the optional student health insurance for a total insurance package of \$1,261.

Dobbelle said the university must be "grateful to Gov. Deval L. Patrick for our state resources," noting that the state appropriation for the new fiscal year is level funded at \$20.1 million.

The fiscal 2013 budget only allows for one new staff position at WSU. That will be for an institutional research assistant that was recommended by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.



BOSTON — State legislators are close to finalizing some important changes to the governance of the state’s 15 community colleges, including measures that could give a state board in Boston enhanced powers to help select college presidents and that could base future funding for the colleges on performance.

The pending changes could provide Gov. Deval L. Patrick a great amount of what he wanted when he filed bills early this year to create a more close-knit system of community colleges and to improve their ability to train people for jobs.

The state House of Representatives and the state Senate have approved different bills to overhaul governance of the colleges as part of each branch’s version of the state budget for the fiscal year that starts July 1. A six-member legislative panel will develop a compromise from the two bills and include those measures in a final state budget to be presented to the governor, likely in the next several weeks.

William F. Messner, president of Holyoke Community College, which has 7,000 students, said the House and Senate bills are less dramatic than the governor’s proposals, but they still will have an impact.

The governor, for example, sought to allow only the state Board of Higher Education to appoint community college presidents, who are currently named by local boards of trustees with approval of the state board. The House and the Senate did not give sole appointing authority to the state board but they both require the board to issue guidelines for the search, selection, appointment, pay, evaluation and removal of presidents.

Patrick also asked for the power to appoint the chair of a college’s local board of trustees. A governor currently appoints trustees, but then the trustees choose the chair.

The House gave Patrick the power to name a chair as long as the person comes from the local region. The Senate requires the governor to choose a chair from among three nominees by local boards.

Messner said he would love to see all the proposed governance changes dropped because the community colleges in Western Massachusetts are working well. He said business leaders have raised no criticisms about the way community colleges in Western Massachusetts are responding to their needs.

“If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it,” Messner said, repeating a phrase. “It ain’t broke out here.”

Messner said trustees are better equipped to determine among themselves who should be chair. He later said that he does not object to people looking at how the colleges operate and making recommendations for improvements.

Ira H. Rubenzahl, president of Springfield Technical Community College, which has about 6,700 students, said he generally agreed with Messner. Rubenzahl said community colleges in Western Massachusetts have good partnerships with local employers, local vocational-technical and high schools and regional employment boards, which oversee public-financed worker training and job placement programs.

“I think we have been responsive,” he said. “We’ve been able to work in the existing system.”

Messner and Rubenzahl said the colleges have been hurt by state budget cuts in recent years that have prompted the colleges to annually raise student fees. The operating budgets for the colleges are set to be level funded for the fiscal year that starts July 1.

“Unfortunately, we didn’t get additional operating funds, which I think we need to improve quality and workforce training,” Rubenzahl said.

Messner and Rubenzahl said they do like the House and Senate plans to establish grant programs for the colleges.

The governor wanted to give the state board of higher education the power to set the budgets of individual community colleges with a focus on a college’s role in training workers.

Instead, the Senate creates a special commission for this purpose. The House requires the commissioner of higher education to work with campus presidents to develop a funding formula for budgets based partly on the performance of the colleges in meeting goals such as improving graduation rates and the ability to transfer course credits.

The governor also sought to have the state higher education board develop parameters for local boards to approve student fees. The Senate does require the board to develop a statewide tuition and fee plan, taking into account certain needs of individual colleges.

S. Paul Reville, the state secretary of education, said he is optimistic that the administration will receive from the Legislature much of what it is seeking in reforming community colleges. Reville said the goal is to create a tighter organization with a better capacity to respond to the needs of employers.

“We are looking for greater coordination and greater capacity to prioritize certain state employment needs,” Reville said. “We were never looking for central authority.”

Reville said, for example, that the board of higher education now basically rubber stamps a local board’s selection of a president. The House and Senate bills will allow the state board to play a more active role in selecting presidents while working with local boards, making it more of a joint process and a genuine system, Reville said.

department head at Westfield Vocational -Technical High School, and state Secretary of Education S. Paul Reville talk during a tour of the school by Reville in May. Reville is pushing a plan that would partly align community colleges more closely with vocational schools for improved job training.

According to Reville’s office, 216,000 people are looking for work in Massachusetts and there are more than 135,000 open jobs, up from 120,000 in January. Many openings for skilled jobs are in information technology, health care, advanced manufacturing and bio sciences.

Paul S. Grogan, president of the Boston Foundation, which financed a report last year that called for better alignment of higher education and workforce needs, said both the House and the Senate bills provide for funding the campuses on a competitive basis and put a clear emphasis on improving a college’s ties to employers.

“I think we are going to get a good result,” said Grogan, also a member of a 62-organization coalition working to create more accountability for the colleges and stronger connections with employers.

The coalition last week sent a letter to key legislators, saying the most important issue might be to create and put into effect a funding formula that uses performance metrics to fund community colleges. The formula should reward achievement and innovation while eliminating redundancies and ineffective programs, the letter said.

Grogan said there’s no audience for the message that community colleges are working very well and all they need is more money. The colleges are critical for the future of the state, but they have suffered budget cuts partly because they don’t have a strong external constituency.

Grogan said a key is that both the House and the Senate include measures to improve the ability of students to transfer credits among community colleges and four-year university campuses.

“This is an opportunity for these schools to come into the spotlight in exchange for modest changes in how they operate,” Grogan said. “They would still enjoy very substantial local autonomy.”

Here are some aspects of different plans by the state House of Representatives and the state Senate to improve the governance and operation of community colleges:

HOUSE:

- Require each board of a community college to select a trustee to serve as a non-voting member on the board of a local vocational-technical school.
- Calls for analysis of the collaboration between vocational-technical schools and community colleges.
- \$5 million for the state Department of Higher Education to award incentive grants to community colleges to promote higher graduation rates and standard course offerings that can be used across colleges and universities.
- Requires commissioner of higher education, working with local college presidents, to develop a funding formula for the campuses based partly on performance data such as graduation rates.
- \$1.25 million for grants to the colleges for workforce training.
- Requires state Board of Higher Education to set guidelines for the selection, pay, evaluation and removal of college presidents.

SENATE:

- \$750,000 for an office of coordination in the state Board of Higher Education.
- \$4 million to establish a degree audit and tracking system with \$2 million to establish standard core of course offerings that would be honored for credits across colleges and universities.
- Requires state Board of Higher Education to develop a master plan including a statewide tuition and fee plan for community colleges.
- \$3 million in competitive grants for workforce training programs.



AFSCME LOCAL 1067 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION (2012)

Please complete each section A – E of this application. If you omit any section, you will be disqualified. Deadline for submission of all materials is *8/1/12*

(A) Name: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: (including area code) _____

High School attended (graduated from): _____

High school town/state _____

(B) Relation to AFSCME 1067 member (name and school where employed)

____son____daughter____grandson____granddaughter____other(explain):

Member's Name: _____

Member's College: _____

(C) **Three** letters of reference should be submitted. They should be sent separate from this application to:

Kevin Hanley, President, AFSCME Local 1067 Scholarship Committee, Bunker Hill Community College, 250 New Rutherford Ave., Boston, MA 02129

You should have one letter from each of the three types of people in your life listed below:

1. A person from your High School that knows you and can tell us how they think you will succeed in college/a technical program.
2. A person you have worked with (job related, or on a committee) explain.
3. A personal reference from someone in your community that can explain how long they have known you, and their vision for your success.

(D) Attach a copy of your acceptance letter to the school/technical program that you will attend.

(E) Attach a **short essay of 100 to 250 words** explaining what you would like to major in at the college/program you have selected and been and accepted to attend, and what career you hope to enter upon graduation. (NO MORE THAN 250 words. Longer essays will result in disqualification.)

***** PLEASE complete each section of this application; omission of any section will result in disqualification! The **deadline for submission** of all materials to complete the application packet is **August 1, 2012**. When the application is completed, **please mail to:**

Kevin Hanley, President, AFSCME Local 1067 Scholarship Committee,
Bunker Hill Community College, 250 New Rutherford Ave., Boston, MA 02129

*****No online/ email applications will be accepted*****