



# **AFT New Jersey, AFL-CIO**

629 Amboy Avenue, 3rd Floor Edison, New Jersey 08837

Phone: (732) 661-9393 Fax: (732) 661-1776

Website: [www.aftnj.org](http://www.aftnj.org)

## **AFTNJ 2017 LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE NEW JERSEY-NEW GOVERNOR-FIGHTING FORWARD PROGRAM**

**Friday, March 31, 2017**

3:00-7:00 PM Registration

**4:00-5:30 PM**

**The Trump Effect on Higher Education**

**Ed Muir – Manager AFT Research and Strategic Initializes**

**6:00-9:00 PM Dinner**

**Room: Garden Room**

Welcome: AFTNJ President, Donna M. Chiera

Invited guests: US Representative, Donald Norcross

NJ State Senate President, Steven Sweeney

Candidate for Governor, Phil Murphy



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## Saturday, April 1, 2017

Registration 7:30-9:30 AM

### **7:30-9:00 AM Breakfast**

**Invited Speaker: Candidate for Governor, Jim Johnson**

### **9:15-10:45 Workshop Session One**

**New Jersey – New Governor – Fighting Forward**

#### **Setting Legislative Priorities**

In this session participants will meet in constituent groups and discuss the legislative priorities we want to advocate for with the new administration in Trenton. Each group will have facilitators to present the current issues and lead the discussion.

#### **Higher Education Faculty**

Facilitators: Tim Haresign, David Hughes, Susanna Tardi

#### **Adjunct/PTL Faculty**

Facilitators: William Lipkin, Elaine Bobrove, Bob Noonan

#### **Administrative, Professional, Support Staff**

Facilitators: Jennifer Higgins, Lucye Millerand, Darlene Smith

#### **PK-12**

Facilitators: Rob Barbier, Pat Paradiso

### **Discussion with Ray Lesniak, Candidate for Governor**

### 11:00-12:30 Workshop Session Two

#### **Framing the Message**

**Evan Sutton, AFT National Assistant to the President for Communications**

How do we craft a message that people can relate to intellectually and emotionally? In the age where people are getting their information through social media, leaders and activists need strategies to compete with those attacking education and unions. Participants will work in groups to frame messages around legislative priorities identified in workshop session one.



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## **Talking to Members About Issues:**

**Ryan Williamson, AFT National Representative**

**Andrew Dixon, Lead Organizer**

In this electronic world; sending members emails asking them to sign a petition or call their legislators are strategies we all use. In this workshop, the participants will learn and practice strategies to be more effective at having a face to face discussion with members about the issues identified in workshop session one.

## **Developing and Maximizing our Political Clout**

**Chris Mattingly, AFT Political, Assistant Director**

**Seth Anderson-Oberman, AFTNJ State Affiliate Political Organizer (SAPO)**

Labor organizations don't have the money of corporations but we have people who vote. Participants in this workshop will focus on strengthening member participation in local COPE activities and developing strategies to build relationships with legislators through the AFT ACE Program.

## **Fighting Forward by Telling Your Story**

**Pete Guzzo, AFTNJ Lobbyist**

**Nat Bender, AFTNJ Communications Director**

Our members know how to fight against legislation and policies that have a negative impact on us. Most of the time we are fighting against something, not advocating for a better alternative. In this workshop the participants will learn and practice strategies to take a more proactive stance, advocating for the legislative values identified in workshop session one.

## **Discussion with Seth Kaper-Dale, Candidate for Governor**

**12:45-3:00 Lunch**

## **Awards:**

- AFTNJ Lifetime Membership Award: TBA
- Friend of PK-12: NJ Assemblywoman Marlene Caride
- Friend of Higher Ed: Senator Paul Sarlo
- Friend of Labor: Laurel Brennan Secretary Treasurer NJ AFLCIO

## **Invited Speakers:**

Charlie Wowkanech – President NJ AFLCIO

John Wisniewski, Candidate for Governor

## **3:00-5:00**

United Adjuncts of New Jersey, Local 2222 Meeting

American Federation of Teachers New Jersey (AFTNJ), AFL-CIO

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