



UPDATE

American Federation of Teachers Local 604, AFL-CIO

www.aftlocal604.org

October/November 2021

3 retirees return to the classroom in Joliet...

Once an educator, always an educator



Most of the councils in AFT Local 604 are experiencing a shortage in teachers, paras, custodians, and/or bus drivers. In some cases, though, former professional educators have returned to the classroom after retiring to help with this growing problem that was a growing issue before Covid hit.

For example, at Joliet Township High School, three are back in the classroom after what they thought might be their last days in the buildings.

Mary Spata is at Joliet West teaching Health Careers. Former superintendent Cheryl McCarthy is also at West teaching math. Finally, Karen Stiehr has put the goggles on at Joliet Central and is teaching Chemistry; she took some time out of her busy schedule to do a quick Q & A.

Q. Most teachers anticipate retirement. You, however, retired and returned to the classroom. Why?

I gratefully anticipated retirement but renewed my teaching license for an additional five years because I already had the hours needed and thought...just in case. Leaving in June 2019 was great timing because my mother, who is still very much alive, was experiencing more extreme health issues and needed to relocate to an Assisted Living facility in March of that year. Elder care is very stressful, and retirement allowed me to spend more time helping her get acclimated.

In January of 2020, I subbed for a full month when a physics teacher became very ill, but this was before COVID. Thankfully, he fully recovered. The physics teachers and other staff were extremely helpful, and it was a good experience working with students. When COVID hit in March, I fully expected that to be the end of substituting. It also shattered plans that I had for my first retirement years.

Day-to-day subbing for different teachers was not the same kind of experience. I found that far less gratifying because having a different assignment each day did not allow much of a connection with students.

This year was different. I got a phone call two days before students were set to arrive that there was a critical need for a chemistry teacher in my district, the subject I taught for more than 20 years. In my first heartbeat of that call there was fear of

Covid even though I am fully vaccinated, panic at the thought that my home computer system was just wiped because of Malware which destroyed my school backups, and anxiety about how unprepared I was for the start of a new school year.

In the second heartbeat of that phone call, I recalled all the wonderful things I loved about teaching. I'm working in a lab room which was one in which I previously taught. I'm familiar with most of the curriculum although there have been changes, and the thought of having fun working with students in a lab again kept me from being able to say "No". Also – there is a specific end in sight. I can and will only work 120 days (or less).

Q. Substitute teachers can only work 120 days. How is the District working with this in your situation?

When I accepted the position, it was with the caveat that I had previous commitments that I would have to honor in the first two weeks of school and there will be days that I have to take off for my mother's and my own appointments. The District expects to hire a full-time teacher by the end of this semester. They fully understand that I will not work past Martin Luther King Day because that would jeopardize my pension.

Q. Were you given experience when your salary was decided? Do you have to pay into TRS?

Call me a fool, but I took the position without a discussion of salary. It appears that I have been given a first-year teacher's hourly rate not the normal substitute rate. No, I will not be paying into TRS because I can't accumulate more pension-related days.

Q. How is teaching different now from when you were last full-time?

Going back is a steep learning curve for me with changes in software and procedures even though I was there in 2020. I was surprised at how badly my computer skills were out of date and had atrophied. Virtual learning has been another tough challenge. I have had a few virtual students and running a hybrid classroom does change the dynamic and adds a significant level of stress. It also increases the workload because lessons have to be designed both for in-person and on-line learning. Everyone has been helpful including the students.

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Trying hard to understand



Bill Briggs

On the surface, it seems so simple. We are in the middle of what seems like a never-ending pandemic, and we have a vaccination that is one of the most effective ever. To make it even more enticing, **IT'S FREE!**

What could go wrong? We spent almost a full year in anticipation of a vaccine being approved by the CDC. Add to that, the former president even used Operation Warp Speed to help the pharmaceutical companies produce viable options. And then last January, Trump had his vaccination after a scare with the virus. No, he did not promote it like I would have hoped, and maybe that was the beginning of the current situation we face.

In the following month, Trump knew that the Coronavirus posed a deadly threat to the country; he was interviewed by Bob Woodward for his book *Rage* and said, "You just breathe the air and that's how it's passed...It's also more deadly than even your strenuous flus."

I often wonder what if he would have been honest with the public about the potential problems; would we be in the mess we are now? What if, like all the living former presidents at the time, he would have been public with his shot and from the beginning encouraged all to do the same? I'm trying hard to *understand*.

Fast forward to the start of the school year. It had to be better than 2020, right?

As we all know, Gov. J.D. Pritzker first mandated that masks be worn. The backlash that erupted was intense. Some board members, administrators, educators, and parents were threatened if they supported the decision.

Parents and some not even connected to the community shouted "individual 'rights' were being taken away; children need to be free; parents should make the decision for their children." All of this was reasoned as the number of children under the age of 12 started to flood hospitals. I had gotten used to "Pritzker Sucks" signs, but now "Unmask our children" signs began to appear. I'm trying hard to *understand*.

None of this information is news to you, but what still amazes me is that we are in this position. It's become political—the blue vs the red when, in reality, it should be purple since we all care about the safety of our children and members.

As of Sept. 28, Illinois ranked in the middle, #25, for the percentage of residents vaccinated, 53.33% or 6,757,715 people. Only one southern state ranks ahead of Illinois, in terms of the number of people vaccinated, Florida. Can you believe it.

But this masking issue was just the beginning. A new mandate came out that anyone in education in Illinois had to be vaccinated by Sept. 5 or be tested. And then the shouts of "what is my

Union doing for me" surfaced. The question, I guess, is fair, but sometimes the answer was not what the member wanted to hear.

A new twist was added to the mix when I learned that in some districts, teachers and support staff did not want the community to know that they had been vaccinated because of backlash, really! Up until this time, I thought it was the unvaccinated who wanted anonymity.

To be clear, the AFT, IFT, and Local 604 support and advocate for a safe learning environment for both staff and students. In doing so, we have taken a hit for supporting the mandates for masks and the option of either being vaccinated or testing on a weekly basis. I can say with confidence that none of our members wants to be the one who infects a coworker or student.

Again, I'm trying hard to *understand*. Currently in Illinois, the following are the minimum immunization requirements for entering a child care facility or school in Illinois, according to the Illinois Department of Public Health: Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Polio, Measles, Rubella, Mumps, Haemophilus influenzae type b, Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine, Hepatitis B, Varicella, and Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine; yes that's 11 different ones.

So, why are members and others in education so dead set against this "invasion"? I tend to believe, to a degree, it goes back to the former president who did not come out forcefully in support. Some say they want control over their bodies and what goes in it or that they did not have a choice when their parents had them vaccinated as a child.

If we ever want to go back to a normal life, one without masks and most other Covid-related issues, there is one path to herd immunity: vaccination. Without following the science, the end is not near. We will continue to have outbreaks; we will continue to see the number who die climb, and maybe the saddest thought is that we will continue to see another empty desk in the classroom because of a Covid-related death.

I realize what I have written will offend some of our members. That was not my intent, but it is the reality. In AFT Local 604, I have read statements from members who refuse to follow the state mandate. Usually, one of the reasons is they have to follow what they believe, and so do I.

For years, I have said that we, as a Union, must acknowledge that not all of our members have the same views. But again, our vision is directed by what is best for education and the safety of our members and students.

And in the end, I am still **trying to understand** all of this and how we move forward, together.

A Tale of Two Community Colleges: Management, the Pandemic, and Inclusive Decision

By: Jeanne McDonald, WCC Faculty Council
President



As two Local 604 community colleges are working to meet Governor Pritzker's vaccination/testing and masking mandates, the contrast in managements' decision making is notable.

Joliet Junior College began implementing its new COVID plan on the 20th to comply with the governor's new mandate. They are using Cleared4, a firm that is working with a lot of colleges and universities across the country to provide a database for employees and students. Cleared4 allows those who are in the database to update COVID information—symptoms, testing, vaccination status—and to receive a digital "pass" to show at the entrances for admission. The pass can also be printed out.

The college is implementing the governor's plan by requiring that employees and students show proof of vaccination or submit to one COVID test per week. This applies to everyone who comes to any of the colleges' three campuses. This also applies to contractors. Although JJC has required masks and temperature checks since last fall, the revised plan will not be fully implemented until October 4.

In contrast, at Waubonsee Community College, a Mandate Response Team (MRT), consisting of all management, chaired by the college president, initially worked on implementing Cleared4 software to track vaccination and testing status. Indoor masking had been already in place in early August. No plans have been announced to restrict building access to compliant personnel and students. They also applied to SHIELD Illinois for on-campus testing to take effect in mid-October. Then, came messaging to students and college personnel to encourage registration on Cleared4. Some students were already dropping classes as a result of the governor's mandate, so management wanted to "get out ahead" of those actions.

Some pop-up vaccinations clinics have been held on campus, but there had been no testing—only self-assessment and contact tracing. One nursing faculty had been tapped to sit in on a weekly call to the Kane County Health Department previously. Only after the Board of Trustees praised the work of the MRT at the September 15th meeting did invitations go out to the Faculty Council, Student Senate, and Staff to send representatives on September 21st.

One thing is clear, if the IFT and other unions had not advocated for the extra time to comply with the governor's mandate, those colleges who bypassed recommendations from IBHE and ICCB to take the same actions in July would not have been able to respond in any timely fashion.

In Other News--JJC has asked President Judy Mitchell to stay on past her announced retirement in December to allow for a thorough national search for a new president. She is expected to

stay on until the summer of 2022. The search process is beginning. Two faculty members will serve on the search committee, which is being co-chaired by two members of the JJC Board of Trustees according to Bob Marcink, President of the Faculty Union.

WCC's Board of Trustees has just renewed President Christine Sobek's contract for four more years. She has been president since 2001 and is one of the highest paid community college presidents in Illinois. Trust and communication have been on the agenda for every meeting between council and college leadership which has resulted in more monthly all-college "town hall meetings."



WCC Faculty Council Treasurer, Scott Hollenback, delivers more than \$1300 worth of school supplies donated by faculty members to East Aurora District schools. See full article at: <https://www.ift-aft.org/post/waubonsee-union-members-donate-more-than-1000-in-school-supplies>

DeLuca Event

Pictured below (L-R) are Vicki Morris, co-president at Park Forest School District 163, State Representative Anthony DeLuca, Kim Elmore-Perkins, council vice president, and Fredi Taylor, co-president. Both Kim and Fredi are from Park Forest as well.

The event, "An Evening on Hungry Hill," was held at the Amaseno Lodge No.3 In Chicago Heights.



Your rights under the Workers' Compensation Act

by James M. Ridge, attorney at law

If I Am In An Automobile Accident, Who Pays My Medical Bills?

Often when we sit down with someone who was seriously injured in an accident, one of their first questions is, "I wasn't at fault in this crash, so who's going to pay my medical bills?" As is often the case in the law, the answer is complicated.

Under Illinois law, a negligent driver (usually covered by insurance) is responsible to pay for your reasonable and necessary medical care and treatment for any injuries you sustained in the crash. This includes any bills for medical treatment reasonably necessary that you will owe in the future.

Sounds great, right? Well, it's not that simple.

Insurance companies will not pay your bills as they come in; that's not the way it works. Instead, the insurance company will pay your medical bills when your case settles, or a jury awards you compensation after a trial. Oftentimes, this payment will not be until years after the crash occurred. That can leave crash victims struggling to stay above water in the interim.

There are two options you have to help pay your medical bills while you wait for compensation: your own health insurance and your car insurance's medical payment coverage.

Option #1: Your Own Health Insurance

You buy health insurance to protect yourself from a mountain of medical bills if something goes wrong. Automobile accidents, oftentimes, are that something wrong.

Most health insurance policies are required to pay for your medical care and treatment regardless of whether a crash was the cause of your injuries. Your job is to get the treatment you need to get better. Upon arrival at the hospital or doctor's office, provide them with your medical card and have them bill

your health insurance company.

Option #2: Medical Payment Coverage

Another option you have after an accident-related injury is to utilize your medical payment (Med pay) coverage through your own automobile insurance policy. Some people purchase Med pay and others don't. If you don't have Med pay insurance, we highly recommend you add it to your policy. The premiums are generally fairly low. Most of the time, it only costs you a few dollars per month. It can be a huge help if you are ever in financial trouble because of mounting bills after an accident.

Under your Med pay coverage, your own insurance company will pay the medical expenses for you and other passengers up to your Med pay coverage limits – regardless of who was at fault in the crash. Med pay coverage can help injured clients pay some or all of their medical bills. This can be especially beneficial when bills are coming in, but you have not been cleared to go back to work.

Contact Us If You've Been In An Automobile Accident

If you don't have health insurance or medical payment coverage, make sure that you get it. Most of our clients didn't expect to need these financial protections but are glad they had it when life happens.

If you are suddenly facing a mountain of medical bills after a crash, feel free to call us at **312-372-8282** to schedule a free consultation.



For more information on your rights contact:

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Doing what's right, not always easy

By: Steven DePasquale, Council President at Kankakee Community College



On October 19, 2020, a colleague and I met with the Kankakee Community College's president Dr. Michael Boyd to discuss the hiring of a new Vice-President for Academic Affairs. I informed Dr. Boyd that faculty members expressed to me that they were disappointed that one of our current associate deans was not chosen as the new V.P. I also expressed that not hiring her might put the new V.P. in an awkward situation since faculty members had hoped for someone else. Dr. Boyd immediately slammed his hands on the table, took on a very menacing and intimidating physical position, pointed his finger at me, and asked quite forcibly if I was threatening him. I tried to express to him that no I wasn't threatening him just stating what might happen when the new V.P. started. While I had no doubt that faculty would welcome the new V.P. and fully cooperate with her, I was concerned if she found out faculty had initially preferred someone else it could upset her.

This conversation continued for 30 to 40 minutes in which Dr. Boyd remained combative. Multiple times, I feared he was so enraged he might physically attack me. During the entirety of the meeting, I never said anything threatening or disrespectful, and remained seated all the while he was berating me, intimidating me, and pointing his finger at me in a threatening manner. I was stunned. I didn't know how to get out of that situation. Fortunately, my colleague attending the meeting with me needed to leave the meeting to prepare for class which allowed me to leave as well. I went to my office and shut the door. I was so upset I was shaking. I didn't know what to do.

In hindsight I should have reported the incident immediately. I was, however, afraid to report it because I didn't think the incident would be taken seriously since Dr. Boyd is the college's president. Instead, I spent the next few months leery of coming to campus for fear I might run into him as well as depressed and anxious because of the incident. When faculty returned to campus after spring break in March of 2021, I did everything I could to avoid direct contact with him. The few times I've been on campus and in the same location as Dr. Boyd, I've avoided interacting with him and sat in fear that he might mistreat me.

On April 4, 2021, I received an email from Dr. Boyd in which a part of it can only be described as offensive. In the email's first paragraph he stated, "I hope all is well with you, Steve. If it's not, I hope you'll feel comfortable enough to ask for help and let me connect you with any resources you need." To me, that suggested that I have a mental illness. Not only is that offensive, but it's also outrageous that Dr. Boyd feels he can diagnose what may be wrong with me. He also asked why our relationship had become strained.

I took my time deciding how to best deal with the previous situation and Dr. Boyd's email to me. May 17, 2021, I responded to Dr. Boyd. I asked him what he thought is wrong with me and what resources he thinks I need; he didn't answer my question. I explained to him why our relationship was strained; it was the events of the October 19, 2020, meeting. He responded that he had a different recollection of the meeting. I

brought my colleague who attended the meeting with me into our email thread asking him to corroborate my story, which he did. Dr. Boyd then encouraged us to contact H.R. I contacted David Cagle, Director of Human Resources, and asked him if a complaint against Dr. Boyd would be taken seriously. He assured me it would, so I filed a formal complaint.

I suffer from, and have been diagnosed with, depression and anxiety. I take prescribed medication for both. In addition, I have a prescription to take as needed if I'm having an anxiety attack. After reading Dr. Boyd's email in which he denied wrongdoing, I suffered anxiety attacks for the next two days in which I needed my additional medication. In addition, I had night terrors in which Dr. Boyd was either trying to fire me or physically harm me. It took all the strength I could muster to file a complaint against Dr. Boyd.

An investigation was conducted by Mr. Cagle and the Board's Attorney Claire Chaplinski, Esq. My complaint was dismissed based on two findings. The first was "Conflicting testimony of the four persons interviewed." There were only three persons in Dr. Boyd's office that day: Dr. Boyd, my colleague, and me. Despite not being in the room, and in fact having a room between her and Dr. Boyd's office, another employee claims to have only heard me raise my voice. To be frank, I don't believe her testimony should be considered relevant because from her position that day there is no way she could have heard what was going on to be considered a reliable witness.

Approximately two and a half years ago, I represented a faculty member who was being accused by a support staff member of verbal abuse during a phone call. The faculty member claimed it didn't happen and the support staff member claimed it did. There were no other witnesses that heard the exchange. An investigation conducted by the faculty member's associate dean and vice-president concluded the faculty member did verbally abuse the support staff member despite the conflicting testimony. They chose to believe the support staff member, not the faculty member. How can this faculty member be found guilty with conflicting testimony, but Dr. Boyd can't? Especially when there are two reliable witnesses. The faculty member chose to appeal the findings. Dr. Boyd granted the appeal and dismissed the findings not because he thought the faculty member wasn't guilty, he did, but because the investigation had been conducted improperly according to college policy.

The second finding to dismiss my complaint was based on the following: No conduct in violation of College policy. Even if we were able to conclude that the alleged actions by Dr. Boyd occurred, they do not give rise to a violation of College policy. Specifically, there was no evidence or information presented to suggest or show that the alleged harassing behavior was "directed at a particular individual or group on the basis of an individual's actual or perceived race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, or any other legally applicable protected status."

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Doing what's right, not always easy...

Therefore, there is insufficient evidence to sustain a violation of College policy.

The way I understand it if the investigation had found Dr. Boyd had acted in the manner I described, it would have been acceptable. I find that to be outrageous that KCC is a place where it is okay to verbally and physically intimidate someone. If that's the case, then the faculty member mentioned above should have never been found guilty of verbally abusing the support staff member. What would happen to me, or any other faculty member, if a student was treated that way? As president of the faculty association, I would never tolerate a faculty member bullying a student and would work with administration to find a suitable remedy.

My final issue with the report is that it made no mention of Dr. Boyd's email. Is it also permissible under college to suggest an employee has an illness? I would hope not.

Since the events of October 19, 2020, have occurred, I have struggled with how to handle the matter. Part of the reason I didn't come forward was I assumed Dr. Boyd would apologize and the matter would be put behind us. Another reason was the adage "you can't fight city hall." The results of the investigation bear that out. Ultimately, I decided to come forward hoping for some justice for myself. Perhaps an even bigger reason is for the good of the college. Several KCC employees have told me Dr. Boyd has treated them the same way he treated me. They, however, are afraid to come forward for fear of retaliation. Someone needed to call attention to Dr. Boyd's behavior. Thus, I decided to come forward knowing not only is it the right thing to do, but I have the protection of tenure and a union.

Getting to know...

Kristen Ryan,
Ohio School District 17



1. Tell me about your job and why you love what you do. How do you make a difference?

I am a veteran (30 year) Kindergarten teacher. I love my little people and how they light up the world with their excitement. I make a difference by being there for my littles each day on a consistent basis and caring for each of them. I want to provide some stability for those who need it.

2. How did you get involved with the union?

When I started in Ohio, we had a group of parents that did not like how we were teaching certain subjects and were very vocal at school board meetings. It was our union that helped us and I was hooked.

3. What brings you joy outside of your work?

I love to read, repurpose furniture (just starting), float in my pool, I enjoy my adult children, my significant other and my dogs!

Getting to know....

Anthony Galasso,
Lockport High School
District 205



1. Tell me about your job and why you love what you do. How do you make a difference?

I am in the maintenance department; we are responsible for keeping the building running properly, efficiently, and safely. We are a combination of all trades rolled into one. I love working with my hands and never having the same day twice!

I make a difference by sharing the knowledge I have learned (I have been in the HVAC/Building maintenance field for 23 years.) I try to be a good co-worker and team-mate.

2. How did you get involved with the union?

I got involved with the union because my department representative position became open and someone needed to fill it. I think everyone should volunteer or consider joining a committee or something like that because it is everybody's union. The union is only as strong as its membership. Everybody has a voice.

3. What brings you joy outside of work?

I enjoy spending time with my family and traveling.

Vicki Goebel, Local 604 Field Staffer for Lockport High School Support Staff says, "Anthony was a great addition to the negotiations team and as a representative of the maintenance team at Lockport District 205 several years ago. He is thoughtful, professional, and not afraid to ask questions to learn the information he needs to support his fellow union members."

Retiree Meetings/Events



November

Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.
AFT Local 604 Office
1520 N. Rock Run Drive, Crest Hill
Program: Presentation by Road Scholar Ambassador

December

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 11:30 a.m.
Luncheon at Cemeno's Pizza
1630 Essington Road, Joliet
More information concerning the cost will be sent at a later date.

No meeting in January or February

Wilco

Business Logistic & Construction Students build Micro Pantry

By Sherry Harris, HR Director at Wilco

Romeoville, Ill. – Five students pursuing a career in Business Logistics at Wilco Area Career Center helped fill the new Micro Pantry (located at 500 Wilco Blvd., Romeoville, IL) with non-perishable food and personal care items.

The Micro Pantry is a community service project which will further community support and goodwill.

The project will help students learn the importance of developing leadership skills, personal integrity, helpfulness, and respect when interacting with community members in need of assistance.

Each of the students – Bolingbrook HS, Christopher Edquiban (12), Bolingbrook HS, Sebastian Flores (12), Bolingbrook HS, Alec Wloch (12), Bolingbrook HS, Evelyn Cruz (11) and Lemont HS, Dominic Cisneros (11) all helped collect non-perishable items to fill the Micro Pantry.

The Micro Pantry was constructed by Wilco’s construction class under the guidance of Instructor, Jeff Kinsella.

A BIG Thank you to our students and staff who teamed up to make a difference in our community!

“The purpose of life is to contribute in some way to making things better—Robert F. Kennedy”

Wilco Area Career Center, Romeoville, IL, serves nearly 1400 students district wide and offers students career-based courses providing skills required for continuing education and/or employment upon completion.

Every Student Needs A Skill.
###

Shawn Walsh Benefit



Most had hoped returning to in-person learning for the 2021-22 school year would be without masks. But how wrong we were as Covid numbers continue to spike. At a recent event for the Will County ROE superintendent, the fashion statement is evident.

Therese Skwarczynski, Joliet 86 council president; Zoe Lindstrom, 86 council vice-president; Samantha Walsh, JTHS West librarian; and superintendent Shawn Walsh follow the state mandate.

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Once an educator, always an educator...

But the basics haven’t changed. The first day there was so much excitement and joy in the eyes of the students. They WANT to be back in person. I handed out an assignment on paper and one student grabbed it to his chest and said, “**Thank God – paper not a screen!**” This year is unlike any other, but I have already seen a level of seriousness and appreciation from students for in-person learning that was rare especially at the end of a summer. Even the simplest comment to a student, “Good job,” “You’re getting the hang of this,” or “That was perfect” is like watching water nourish a plant and it shows in their eyes.

Q. Describe your teaching experience up until you retired.

My last couple of years before retirement were very stressful. There was the anxiety about whether or not I would be able to live comfortably on my pension. **I can.** There was a feeling that I can best describe as “grief” over the loss of a career that brought me so much joy. I left my industrial job (with a significantly higher salary) after 19 years and couldn’t wait to do something different. Leaving teaching didn’t feel that way even though I knew it was time to pass the torch to the next generation.

Q. Anything you want to add to the interview?

My great-aunt Julia was a teacher in a one-room schoolhouse. She described teaching as leaving a fingerprint on the forehead of her students. I went back to teaching this semester to help the district, but more importantly, to try to make a difference in the life of a child. It was the reason I became a teacher in the first place.

Local 604 members meet to discuss issues with Lawmaker

Recently, AFT Local 604 council presidents from the Kankakee area met with Rep. Jackie Haas (R-Kankakee) to discuss education-related issues. State Sen. Patrick Joyce (D-Essex) was also scheduled to be part of the group but was called to Springfield for an important clean energy vote. This would have marked the first time both parties had met with the leaders in one setting. Additional bi-partisan meetings will be scheduled this semester.

Issues discussed included student testing, COVID-19, staff shortages, school funding, and employee stress.



Pictured here are AFT Local 604 president Bill Briggs, Central council president Bob McGill, Representative Jackie Haas, Kankakee Community College council president Steve DePasquale, and Kankakee School District 111 council president Beth Anderson.

Next Senate Meeting:

December 14, 2021 @ 5 p.m.
Holiday Party @ IBEW Hall in Joliet
176 West Banquet Facility
1100 North East Frontage Road
Joliet, IL



→ Confirm with Darlene by November 22nd ←
if you are planning on attending.

darmerc@ift-aft.org
Or call at
815/725-0402 x 2802

Holiday Food Drive

Each year for the attendees of our Local 604 Senate Holiday Party, we ask that you bring food in for us to donate to a few food pantries. We will again this year be asking that of our councils. Food may be dropped off at the Local 604 office, we just ask that you call ahead of time to schedule a drop off. If you are donating food and have a food pantry that you'd like us to consider donating too, please let us know. We will choose 3 by drawing. There will also be 3 councils who participate who will get 1 of 3 \$100 gift cards in their councils' name donated to a pantry also.

Thank you and we hope you can attend this event!

AFT Local 604 website...

Please check us out at www.aftlocal604.org

The website offers information about our *Staff, IFT news, Resources* which include, student debt, legal topics, council contracts, member benefits, scholarship information and union sites. The website also offers *Events*, such as meetings and classes offered and contact information. You can also view the latest issue of the *Update* newsletter as well as older issues.

We hope you find this tool useful!

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