



# AFT Local 604 Senate Meeting

October 11, 2023

Next Meeting: **December 13 at 5 pm IBEW**

Stella has petitions for Rep. Manley, Rep. Walsh, and Sen. Cappel



# Agenda

- ▶ Julie Harris Secretary's Report
- ▶ Sean Hunt Business Manager's Report
- ▶ Darlene Mercer Office Manager's Report
- ▶ Beth Anderson PreK-12
- ▶ Bob Marcink Higher Education
- ▶ Phil Staley Retiree's Report
- ▶ Dan & Adam Invest in Kids post cards
- ▶ Dan Mercer Valley View Update
- ▶ Katie Kollross Chaney Monge Update
- ▶ Bill Briggs President's Report



# Report of the Treasurer, Sean Hunt

## AFT-LOCAL 604

2022-2023 BUDGET

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023

	2022-2023 BUDGET	Month Ending 8/31/2023	Year to Date	Budget Balance
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>				
Dues	\$ 6,640,000.00	\$ 124,347.37	\$ 6,627,111.10	\$ 12,888.90
IFT/AFT Rebate/Asst/Share	\$ 595,000.00	\$ 49,859.94	\$ 510,252.19	\$ 84,747.81
Interest	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 223.11	\$ 1,830.41	\$ 1,669.59
Miscellaneous	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 79.85	\$ 85,463.96	\$ (15,463.96)
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 7,308,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 174,510.27</b>	<b>\$ 7,224,657.66</b>	<b>\$ 83,842.34</b>
<b><u>EXPENDITURES</u></b>				
IFT Dues	\$ 3,700,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,560,638.79	\$ 139,361.21
AFT Dues	\$ 2,290,000.00	\$ 178,481.73	\$ 2,198,656.38	\$ 91,343.62
Labor Dues	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 6,129.28	\$ 94,235.92	\$ 5,764.08
Conferences/Conventions/Meetings	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 931.58	\$ 35,852.30	\$ 14,147.70
Employees	\$ 700,000.00	\$ 89,072.67	\$ 723,109.49	\$ (23,109.49)
Insurance	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 7,185.10	\$ 71,914.24	\$ 8,085.76
Legal	\$ 88,500.00	\$ 8,495.90	\$ 96,152.33	\$ (7,652.33)
Organizational Expenses	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 22,904.72	\$ 384,569.67	\$ (84,569.67)
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 7,308,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 313,200.98</b>	<b>\$ 7,165,129.12</b>	<b>\$ 143,370.88</b>



# Report of the Treasurer, Sean Hunt

## AFT-LOCAL 604

2023-2024 BUDGET  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023

	2023-2024 BUDGET	Month Ending 9/30/2023	Year to Date	Budget Balance
<b>INCOME</b>				
Dues	\$ 6,670,000.00	\$ 61,306.64	\$ 61,306.64	\$ 6,608,693.36
IFT/AFT Rebate/Ass't/Share	\$ 597,500.00	-	-	\$ 597,500.00
Interest	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 757.72	\$ 757.72	\$ 1,742.28
Miscellaneous	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 112.88	\$ 112.88	\$ 79,887.12
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 7,350,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 62,177.24</b>	<b>\$ 62,177.24</b>	<b>\$ 7,287,822.76</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
IFT Dues	\$ 3,690,000.00	\$ 361,550.18	\$ 361,550.18	\$ 3,328,449.82
AFT Dues	\$ 2,280,000.00	\$ 184,543.21	\$ 184,543.21	\$ 2,095,456.79
Labor Dues	\$ 115,000.00	\$ 10,513.82	\$ 10,513.82	\$ 104,486.18
Conferences/Conventions/Meeting	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 854.26	\$ 854.26	\$ 69,145.74
Employees	\$ 710,000.00	\$ 54,451.62	\$ 54,451.62	\$ 655,548.38
Insurance	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 5,473.77	\$ 5,473.77	\$ 69,526.23
Legal	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 3,360.00	\$ 3,360.00	\$ 91,640.00
Organizational Expenses	\$ 315,000.00	\$ 17,829.69	\$ 17,829.69	\$ 297,170.31
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 7,350,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 638,576.55</b>	<b>\$ 638,576.55</b>	<b>\$ 6,711,423.45</b>



## Report of the Treasurer

**Sean Hunt**

- ▶ Monthly Financial Statement - August and September 2023
  - Dues Income
    - ❖ 99% have paid dues for all 10 months of the 2022-2023 school year.
    - ❖ Kankakee Adjuncts - they still owe for the final 6 months. They are in the process of switching banks and then will issue the delinquent dues.
    - ❖ 25 of the 73 councils have paid September 2023 dues to begin the 2023-2024 school year
    - ❖ Total amounts for dues for the year ending August 31, 2023, were about \$12,000 lower than the budgeted amount.
    - ❖ Total Income was about \$83,000 below the targeted amount.
  - Significant expenses for August and September 2023 other than the normal monthly amounts
    - ❖ Cornfield & Feldman - \$7,645.90 (28 billable hours) - July 2023 legal services



## Report of the Treasurer

**Sean Hunt**

- Significant expenses, continued
  - ❖ Cornfield & Feldman - \$3,360.00 (14 billable hours) - August 2023 legal services
  - ❖ Illinois Federation of Teachers - \$189,970.11 - Per Capita - August 2023
  - ❖ Illinois Federation of Teachers - \$557,827.59 - Per Capita - September 2023
  - ❖ Citywide CPR Inc. - \$2,582.15 - AED Machine; Mounted Wall Cabinet; Electrode Pads
  - ❖ Chloe Whalen - \$2,000.00 - Jacqueline B. Vaughn Scholarship - 1<sup>st</sup> semester payment
  - ❖ PAR Insurance - \$1,826.00 - 401(k) ERISA Bond Insurance - 9/1/2023 - 9/1/2026
  - ❖ Chicago Federation of Labor - \$661.50 - 150 Proud Union Home Member Signs
  - ❖ Illinois Federation of Teachers - \$2,004.59 - Kim Crowe - laptop; warranty; adapter
  - ❖ Domain Networks - \$289.00 - Annual Website Listing - 10/31/2023 - 10/31/2024





## Report of the Treasurer

**Sean Hunt**

- Significant expenses, continued
  - ❖ Creative Promotional Products - \$3,722.79 - 600 Union made zipper pouches - new member packets
  - ❖ Kankakee Federation of Labor - \$690.30 - Per Capita - 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2023
  - ❖ North Central Illinois Labor - \$702.50 - Per Capita - 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2023
  - ❖ Chicago Federation of Labor - \$2,860.59 - Per Capita - 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2023
  - ❖ JJC Technical Office Support Staff - \$750.00 - Expense Reimbursement - Registration Fees - ULI Training - Accelerated Collective Bargaining



## Report of the Treasurer

Sean Hunt

### ▶ COPE II Update - 8/4/2023 - 10/11/2023

- Contributions
  - ❖ Committee to Elect Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant
  - ❖ Southland Friends of Labor
  - ❖ Community for Dee
  - ❖ Painters District Council No. 30
  - ❖ Friends for State Rep. Anthony DeLuca
  - ❖ Illinois Democratic Women of Kankakee County
  - ❖ Grundy County Democrats
  - ❖ Committee to Elect Corinne Pierog





## Report of the Treasurer

Sean Hunt

- Contributions, continued
  - ❖ Kankakee County Democratic Central Committee (KCDCC)
  - ❖ Will County Democratic Central Committee
- Deposits
  - ❖ IFT Rebate (#10) - 8/9/2023



## Report of the Treasurer

Sean Hunt

- ▶ CD Account Balances - Year to Year Comparison
  - CD Interest has increased by \$590.85 over the past 12 months. Currently, we have earned \$1,640.51 in CD interest this past year. That will increase by roughly \$1,000 after I receive our statements at maturity date.
- ▶ Budget - 2023-2024
  - Approved at last Executive Board Meeting and Senate Meeting on August 3, 2023, and August 9, 2023, respectively.



## Report of the Treasurer

Sean Hunt

- ▶ Miscellaneous Information
  - ❑ Certification to Educational Employer Form (CTE) - please fill out ASAP
    - ❖ Send copy to your business/payroll office
    - ❖ Send copy to AFT Local 604 - attention Sean Hunt
    - ❖ Received 48% (35 of 73 councils) of these forms already. This time last year I had back 29 of the forms.
  - ❑ Annual Audit
    - ❖ Due Date - November 15, 2023
    - ❖ If you have questions, please reach out to me
    - ❖ Received 8% (6 of 73 councils) of the audit already



## Report of the Treasurer

**Sean Hunt**

- ▶ Miscellaneous Information, continued
  - Form 990
    - ❖ Due Date - November 15, 2023, if your council year end is June 30, 2023
    - ❖ Due Date - January 15, 2024, if your council year end is August 31, 2023
    - ❖ Same as prior years, I will be completing all the Form 990's due to the e-filing requirements, etc. Please reach out so you can email or drop off the documents needed
  - Local 604 annual audit tentatively scheduled to start the week of 11/27/2023.
  - The Local is now accepting dues payments electronically via ACH transaction. Payments can be made directly from bank to bank. Some of our councils have taken advantage of this option. Other councils have tried to set this up, but their respective banks are charging them fees and they have decided to continue to mail checks.

# Say no to Vouchers

**PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**SAY NO TO VOUCHERS!**

The latest in K-12 A+ to just another voucher scheme that diverts money from our underfunded public schools.

**NO VOUCHER SCHEMES. NOT IN ILLINOIS!**

Illinois has **PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS** and has been doing so since our state's early days. We have never allowed our public schools to be underfunded. We have never allowed our public schools to be underfunded. We have never allowed our public schools to be underfunded.

Research shows that school vouchers do not improve students' academic performance. In fact, vouchers have the quality of education for all students and tend to increase discrimination and inequality in the school system.

**NO TO VOUCHERS!** - Illinois public schools are underfunded and need more state funding for education. Don't let them.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**SAY NO TO VOUCHERS!**

# Addresses

## Representatives

**Rep. Natalie Manley**  
1050 W. Romeo Rd., Suite 101  
Romeoville, IL 60466

**Rep. Harry Benton**  
24047 Lockport Street  
Plainfield, IL 60544

**Rep. Anthony DeLuca**  
195 W. Joe Orr Rd. #201  
Chicago Heights, IL 60411

**Rep. Larry Walsh, Jr.**  
121 Springfield Ave.  
Joliet, IL 60435

**Rep. Lance Yednock**  
628 Columbus St., Suite 408  
Ottawa, IL 61350

## Senators

**Sen. Meg Cappel**  
20660 Caton Farm Rd. Unit D  
Crest Hill, IL 60403

**Sen. Patrick Joyce**  
179 S. Wall Street  
Kankakee, IL 60901





# Invest in Kids,

Capitol Fax. 10/4/23

- ▶ **Some problems with Invest in Kids**
- ▶ **State law requires the Scholarship Granting Organizations to send annual reports to the Illinois Department of Revenue with demographic and other items. The Dept. of Revenue's report from this past spring caught some folks' attention.**
- ▶ **According to the report, White kids received 5,426 scholarships, compared to just 1,904 Black kids, even though Black Illinois children are four times more likely to be living in poverty than are White children.** Some Black legislators are also upset because they know of private and parochial schools which spend a lot of effort recruiting Black students, but, for whatever reason, the schools aren't receiving scholarships.
- ▶ **The IDOR study reported that 3,060 Latino kids were receiving scholarships, so proponents pointed to that number as well as the fact that 1,214 kids were identified as "other" on race, although there's no proof either way what race those kids are. Just 64 students were identified as "two or more" races.**
- ▶ **The statute also requires the granting organizations to prioritize "priority groups." One priority group is kids who are "members of a household whose previous year's total annual income does not exceed 185% of the federal poverty level." But the report showed about a third of the recipients are above that level.**
- ▶ **The law also requires that priority be given to families who live in "Focus Districts," which are defined as public school districts that have severely under-performing schools. But just \$21 million went to scholarships for kids from focus districts, while \$42.3 million went to what was categorized as "Other/Non-Priority" groups.**



# Local discrimination,

Cassie Creswell, Illinois Families for Public Schools

## From the Diocese of Joliet's policy "Human Sexual Policies for Catholic Schools"

"The diocesan school will interact with students according to their biological sex as based upon physical difference at birth. **A member of the diocesan school community who wishes to express a gender other than his or her biological sex is understood as operating outside of the 'reality deeply inscribed' within.** Assisting the person in his or her disconnection with this reality, however sincerely experienced, by agreeing to participate in any efforts to change natural gender expression is contrary to the pursuit of the truth."

Also from that policy, homophobic statements and directing LGBTQ students and their families to make use of counseling services to address their gender identity and sexual orientation:

- **"While homosexual acts are always objectively wrong, same-sex inclinations are not in themselves sinful or a moral failing."**
- **"To the extent that a same-sex attraction is not freely chosen, there is no personal culpability in having such an inclination. Nonetheless, when oriented toward genital activity, this inclination is objectively disordered."**
- **"Labels can falsely promote a lasting identification or enduring notion of self, therefore, the diocesan schools avoids labeling individuals with such terms as 'gay,' 'lesbian,' 'bisexual,' or 'queer,' even when the individual might desire such identification."**
- Joliet Catholic Academy had a scandal that unfolded in 2020 and 2021 where the religion teacher was fired for racist content online, then moved to another nearby Catholic elementary school, and then got arrested for soliciting a minor.



# Report of the President,

Bill Briggs

## ➤ All scholarships from Local 604 are now online

1. Richard Manley Certified Staff: due Nov. 13 (\$2,000)
2. Richard Manley Support Staff: due Nov. 13 (\$2,000)
3. Paul O. Johnson Scholarship for those going into education: due Feb. 1 (\$4,000)
4. Jacqueline Vaughn Scholarship: due Feb. 1 (\$4,000)
5. **NEW:** For current college students: due Feb. 1 (\$4,000)

## ▶ Organizing: we have two potential new councils:

1. **Kankakee bus drivers**—Kim is working with the group of potentially 90+; van drivers might also be included
2. One group has not gone public with their plans
3. **Illinois State University**— On Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>, the IFT filed a majority interest petition with the IELRB on behalf of approximately 650 tenure-track faculty. Once certified, the unit will be known as United Faculty of ISU. **After former attempts to organize, why now. 1:1 conversations about low pay, lack of a voice and equity, and overwork.**



# Report of the President,

Bill Briggs

- ▶ **Director of DCFS Resigns:** Marc Smith was appointed to director of the state's Department of Children and Family Services by Gov. J.B. Pritzker shortly after the governor took office in 2019. The announcement of Smith's impending departure comes a little more than a week after the state's auditor general issued a scathing report on the agency that among other things cited significant delays in reporting abuse and neglect to local prosecutors, other state agencies and to officials at children's schools.



# Springfield Update,

Cynthia Riseman

- **The fall veto session is scheduled for October 24, 25, 26 and November 7, 8, 9**
- Sex Education Mandate (Senator Villivalam introduced [HB 5188, SA #1](#) on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (lame duck session). The bill- that mandates the teaching of comprehensive sex education- was heard in the Executive Committee later that night. **IFT flipped in support of the bill because we believe the intent is correct, that all students should receive comprehensive health and safety education.** Senator Villivalam has indicated that he is gathering information from sources on both sides of the issue and will decide closer to the date whether to reintroduce a bill that would mandate sex education or allow the law to be permissive.
- **Hallah/Kosher Food Mandate- [HB 3643](#) (Rashid/Villivalam) would require all public schools, the University of Illinois Hospital and state correctional facilities to offer a kosher and halal (a dietary law derived from Islamic teachings, meaning 'lawful or permitted.') food option upon request.** Specifically in schools, the bill would require the State Board of Education to enter into a statewide master contract with a vendor and provide districts access to the contract to more efficiently provide the meals to students. The prepackaged meals for schools would be required to meet both the state and federal nutritional guidelines for school lunch programs. **The bill would only require a school district to provide the meals as long as the State Board is able to enter into a master contract. The FY24 state budget did not include any funding to support ISBE entering into a master contract to provide these meals.** Governor Pritzker vetoed HB 3642 in totality and we are hearing that legislation may be advanced in the fall veto session that would add language “subject to appropriation” to the bill.





# Springfield Update,

Cynthia Riseman

- **Invest in Kids-** The Illinois legislature adjourned its spring session without extending the Invest in Kids Act Tax Credit Scholarship Program. Invest in Kids — which grants tax credits to people who fund scholarships that allow Illinois students from low-income families to attend private schools — is slated to sunset Dec. 31, 2023 unless state legislators approve an extension. It is possible there could be an attempt to extend the Invest in Kids voucher program during Veto Session this fall. The IFT and other stakeholder partners including Illinois Families for Public Schools, Illinois Education Association, School Management groups and others have been working to educate lawmakers prior to the Veto session about **allowing the law to sunset. Part of that effort is a postcard campaign asking lawmakers to oppose any extension of the Invest in Kids Act.**
- **Pensions-** Tier 2 discussions are concentrated on [HB 4098](#) (Kifowit, D-Aurora). The House Personnel and Pensions Committee, which Rep Kifowit chairs, has held four hearings so far this summer. Changes to retirement age, social security wage base, and cost of living adjustments are all part of the proposals being considered. These discussions are concentrated in the House with little to no involvement by the Senate. **IFT anticipates that a proposal will emerge during Veto session, but it is unclear whether or not it will get enough traction for a vote or for consideration in the Senate should it pass the House.**





# Springfield Update,

Cynthia Riseman

- **Paid Leave Trailer Bill-** Governor Pritzker the [“Paid Leave for All Workers Act”](#) (“PLAWA”) into law in March of 2023 guaranteeing paid time off for virtually all working Illinoisans (the bill exempts those employees with existing time off provisions as part of their Collective Bargaining Agreement). **Set to go into effect on January 1, 2024, the PLAWA will provide a minimum of 40 hours of paid time off for employees to “maintain their health and well-being, care for their families, or use for any other reason of their choosing.”** The Illinois AFL-CIO is working to pass an amendment (called a trailer bill) to this legislation to include airline and parcel delivery employees (who were mistakenly excluded when the bill originally passed). The Catholic Conference has been in conversation with the AFL-CIO and also IFT about possibly including workers at private schools. At this time, the trailer bill does NOT include any language to cover the private schools.
- **Supplemental Appropriations-** the IFT has been in contact with the House and Senate Budgeteers (lawmakers charged with negotiating the budget) and while it is unclear whether or not a supplemental budget bill will surface during the fall veto session there are a number of fiscal issues outstanding. One of those issues is the funding of [Public Act 103-0532](#), the Healthy School Meals for All Program. Illinois lawmakers took a critical first step in ensuring our school children are hunger-free, healthy, and able to learn and thrive by passing the Healthy School Meals for All law. **The work now pivots to asking lawmakers to appropriate \$209 million in funding to ensure every child who needs and wants one can access a free breakfast and lunch at school.**

## A look ahead

- ▲ Legislators are in their districts for the next two weeks and it’s a good time to schedule meetings and or to talk/email with them about the importance of allowing the Invest in Kids Tax Credit Scholarship program to sunset. They will return to Springfield in October and November for the Fall Veto session.
- ▲ The dates for the Spring legislative session have not yet been announced, but the IFT is already busy preparing their legislative agenda for the Spring 2024 legislative session. Legislative initiatives are informed by IFT Convention resolutions and approved through the IFT Executive Board; please share ideas for Spring legislation with Local 604 field service directors and the legislative team for consideration.

