

## AME Happenings

**The latest update regarding CSEA's attack on our AME SCCC members: As the case is before PERB...what's next? In order to give AME members at Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) relief, AME forced CSEA to "put up or shut up" at PERB!**

Fri, Jul 15th, 2011 8:12:00 pm

Unit representation election at SCCC will be scheduled—pending CSEA obtaining new cards!

The only way to ensure that our AME members could move to a swift conclusion on the decertification attempt at SCCC was to agree, at the Public Employment Relations Board, to allow an **election** for "bargaining unit representation." To secure an election, however, CSEA must produce signature cards showing 30% interest in each bargaining unit. Although CSEA wanted to be granted an extension to obtain these signature cards, thus prolonging our members' suffering, the PERB judge agreed with AME's expedited terms. Regrettably, CSEA's hostile action sealed the fate of fragmenting the college from the county negotiations. AME maintained our three AME bargaining units (#2-White; #6-Blue; and #25-College Aides) would remain intact, honoring their long-standing identity; something CSEA vehemently fought and had their SCCC witnesses testify against.

"Doing Management's Job"—CSEA stalls SCCC Contract:

It is well known that SCCC administration wants to be declared as the "sole employer" of our college members, recently going so far as to get its own Tax ID number and separate Deferred Compensation designation. AME has steadfastly refused to accept this premise, and filed a court action (Article 78) to have our members remain as joint employees of Suffolk County and SCCC. CSEA, however, in its decertification filing, asked for - and was granted—a motion to separate the college employee members away from the county, in a process known as fragmentation. This is nothing more than a divisive, divide and conquer strategy used by CSEA as they petitioned to become the "sole bargaining agent" for AME SCCC employees -a move that benefits management over the employees. This is actually what the college administration (management) has wanted all along and what CSEA is now giving them!

Is CSEA trying to portion-off AME piece by piece to attain what CWA failed to accomplish in their 2009 hostile raid?

So, one needs to ask CSEA: are they taking part in planning *another* raid on AME once the attempt at the College fails? And even if they are not, CSEA selfishly and effectively rendered college employees *unable* to receive any of the benefits from AME's new Contract with the County ***indefinitely!***

Not surprisingly, CSEA, during the hearing in support of their divisive and cynical campaign to undermine AME, trotted out its *witnesses*:

- The **expelled** former AME president **Phyllis Garbarino** (who incorrectly stated: "there was *no difference* between the blue and white collar contracts...")

- **Elvira Weeks**, SCCC Secretarial Assistant, who did not testify, but supported the inaccuracies stated by the others;
- **Charlotte Serrano**, Principal Clerk, (who stated: “the College Aides do pretty much the same thing I do: *answer phones...*”) and
- **Ousted** former SCCC Blue Unit President, **Steve Durkel**, also not testifying but encouraging the decert; along with **Rosanne Catalano** and **Philip Marochini**
- **All signed in as CSEA!**

These CSEA Supporters, AME traitors all, apparently would rather lead SCCC into disaster watching their co-workers lose benefits under CSEA than continue as AME.

**CSEA should suffer a harsh punishment after it literally took money away from our SCCC members! Say “NO” to CSEA!**

Sadly, the action by CSEA was brought upon by the *same group* of misguided members who failed miserably with the CWA decertification. However, in this instance, the net result has one group of AME members enjoying the fruits of our recently-negotiated 2009-2012 Contract, approved by 85% of the non-college membership, while the other - SCCC college members, languishes... as the small minority who signed CSEA pledge cards holds the larger group hostage!

The truth will prevail and **AME will win in a face-off election** with CSEA because the good members at SCCC deserve the **best representation**: AME! The needs of the many **will** come before the selfish and tyrannical desires of the few.

We did it in 1984 –

and we can do it again!

**Say “NO” to CSEA!**

Support your independence and say **“YES” to AME!**