



# 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

March 31 and April 1, Bally's Atlantic City

### Friday, March 31, 2017

#### **3:00-7:00 PM - Registration**

(Krista, Nat, Seth, Rich)

#### **4:00-5:30 PM - The Trump Effect on Higher Education**

**Ed Muir**, Manager, AFT Research and Strategic Initiatives

**Room:** Central

The Trump-DeVos factor on the PK-12 education has been widely publicized, but will it have an impact on Higher Education? In this session Ed Muir from AFT National will present an outline of what we can expect from this administration on a Federal level and how those policies could “trickle down” and influence our State institutions of higher education.

#### **6:00-9:00 PM - Buffet Dinner Program**

**Room:** Garden

#### **Welcome**

Donna M. Chiera

AFTNJ President

#### **Speakers**

Ted Kirsch

AFT Pennsylvania President

Stephen Sweeney

NJ State Senate President

Phil Murphy

Candidate for Governor



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**Saturday, April 1, 2017**

**Registration 7:30-9:30 AM**

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

**Room:** Garden

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

**9:15- 9:45 AM**

**Discussion with Sen. Ray Lesniak** – Candidate for Governor

**Room:** Traymore A

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

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

**Setting State 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 Fulltime Faculty**

**Facilitators:** Ed Muir and Alison Aguilar, AFT Research and Strategic Initiatives

**Room:** Lincoln

**Adjunct/PTL Faculty**

**Facilitators:** William Lipkin, Elaine Bobrove, Bob Noonan

**Room:** Central

**Administrative, Professional, Support Staff**

**Facilitators:** Jennifer Higgins, Lucye Millerand, Darlene Smith

**Room:** Fairmount

**PK-12**

**Facilitators:** Rob Barbier, Pat Paradiso

**Room:** Monticello

**10:45 – 11:00 AM – Break**



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## **11:00-11:30 AM**

**Discussion with Seth Kaper-Dale** – Candidate for Governor

**Room:** Traymore A

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

### **Framing the Message**

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

**Room:** Lincoln

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.

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

**Ryan Williamson**, AFT National Representative

**Andrew Dixon**, Lead Organizer

**Room:** Central

In this electronic world; sending members emails, asking them to sign a petition or calling their legislators are strategies we all use. In this workshop participants will learn and practice strategies to be more effective at having face-to-face discussions 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)

**Room:** Fairmount

Our unions don't have as much money as corporations, but we have people who vote. Participants in this workshop will focus on 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

**Room:** Monticello

Our members know how to fight against legislation and policies that have a negative impact on us. In this workshop participants will learn and practice strategies to take a more proactive stance, advocating for the legislative values identified in workshop session one.

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

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

**Room:** Garden

### **Awards Program**

AFTNJ Lifetime Membership Award	<b>Prof. Dan O'Connor,</b> Rutgers (retired)
Friend of PK-12	<b>Assemblywoman Marlene Caride,</b> Chair, Education Committee
Friend of Higher Education	<b>Senator Paul Sarlo,</b> Chair, Budget and Appropriations
Friend of Labor	<b>Laurel Brennan,</b> Secretary Treasurer, NJ AFL-CIO

### **Speaker:**

**John Wisniewski,** Candidate for Governor

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

**Local Meeting:** United Adjuncts of New Jersey, 2222

**Room:** Lincoln