

Notes from the Delegate's Assembly/Executive Committee Meeting
May 18, 2017

- I. Executive Committee heard information regarding a Members' Rights Hearing from a Newport teacher. The teacher's appeal was denied.
- II. To help NEARI keep in contact with new teachers, NEARI is asking all local unions to create a new teacher liaison position that would be a contact person for NEARI information and services.
- III. Legislative Update
 - A. Betsy DeVos, Secretary of the Department of Education, is proposing a \$1 billion budget cut
 - B. At a state level, NEARI is interested in creating a continuing contract bill and believes that RI relies too much on local property taxes to fund public education
 - C. DeVos is a proponent of school vouchers. One federally-funded voucher program was studied. Students who chose to attend a private school performed worse on state testing than those who chose to remain in the public school.
- IV. NEARI's new policy statement on charter schools will be shared at the Representative Assembly in July