

STRONG UNIONS VS. WEAK UNIONS

Why it's critical to be part of your union

Standing strong together with CEA means higher wages, better benefits, and good working conditions for Connecticut teachers.

In places where anti-union forces are strong, teachers have been convinced to leave their unions, and in doing so have lost their collective voice, are underpaid, and have poor benefits and huge class sizes.



CONNECTICUT – STRONG CEA UNION

- ✓ Some of the highest teacher salaries in the nation
- ✓ Three-year contracts with salary schedules and wage increases
- ✓ Pensions to support teachers in retirement
- ✓ Substantial healthcare and other benefits
- ✓ Personal and sick days
- ✓ Teachers who take maternity or medical leave guaranteed an equivalent position when they return
- ✓ Additional pay for additional responsibilities, including coaching and supporting extracurriculars
- ✓ Class sizes usually under 30
- ✓ Students taught by certified, highly educated teachers
- ✓ Prep periods
- ✓ Free PD provided by district

PLACES WITH WEAK UNIONS

- ✗ Some of the lowest teaching salaries in the nation
- ✗ One-year contracts with no guarantees for future years' earnings
- ✗ No pensions, or pensions that only pay a small amount in retirement
- ✗ Poor quality healthcare and few other benefits
- ✗ No personal or sick days
- ✗ No guarantees for any teacher taking maternity or medical leave
- ✗ No additional pay for additional responsibilities
- ✗ Class sizes as large as 70
- ✗ Many students taught by substitutes without education degrees
- ✗ No prep periods
- ✗ No free PD opportunities