

Legislative Director Report – Kevin Palmer, October 2020 (from summer through October)

Spring and Summer contacts

Given the current Pandemic, I remained in contact with legislators via social media and emails. I have thanked them for navigating these unusual times and especially thanked them for addressing issues related to remote learning.

Fundraiser for Illinois State Senator Ram Villivalam, 8th District

Senator Villivalam held a virtual fundraiser on Tuesday July 28. Ram laid out his current efforts in the legislature and what is expected during the Pandemic. It was a very informative meeting but short on details given the limbo the legislature is currently experiencing.

Lunch meeting with IFT Legislative Director John Cusick

I met with John Cusick to discuss upcoming strategies for the November election. John is a great source for accessing legislators and will continue to keep me informed up future events.

Youth Town Hall hosted by Illinois Representative Ann Williams 8th District and Lindsey LaPointe 19th District

This was a virtual gathering of representatives from several youth organizations focused on getting young people engaged in politics/government and of course, vote.

Teens to Tally discussed turning around low turnout in the 18-29 age group including incentivizing voting. Identifying issues to attract youth voters – Climate Change, Education, Police Reform, e.g.

It was very informative and the five groups represented were quite engaged and enthusiastic about getting out the vote.

Fundraiser for Lindsey LaPointe Illinois Representative , 19th District

Representative LaPointe represents the far Northwest side of Chicago which can trend Republican. She was appointed by the Democratic Committeemen to replace Rob Martwick who was appointed to the State Senate seat. Lindsey has a background in social work/education and has proven to be an important ally to education. Representative LaPointe discussed the current agenda in the state legislature and the importance of the upcoming election.

Fundraiser for Representative Greg Harris 13th District, Majority Leader in the Illinois House of Representatives

Representative Harris cohosted this event with Illinois State Senator Christine Castro, 22nd District. The format was for each to discuss the legislation passed in both chambers, the efforts on the part of the governor, and what to expect in the future session. Of course the election was discussed.