

May and June, 2022 - Legislative Director Report - Kevin Palmer

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Monday May 2, 2022 – Breakfast with Representative Lindsey LaPointe

Representative LaPointe 19th was facing a tough primary from a candidate backed by the Charter Schools network. Lindsey has remained a strong advocate for public education and IFT/CTU. However, she represents a district on the Northwest side of the city that has a strong Republican base. We supported her financially, and my meeting was to deliver our campaign contribution. I am pleased to report that she defeated her opponent handily.

Monday May 2 and Monday May 16 - Bi Weekly Legislative Directors meeting with Local 1211 President Steve Elza

Thursday May 12 – Bon Foster, Lambda Legal fundraiser

Although not a part of my Legislative Director duties, GLBTQ+ is an issue close to me personally. Governor JB Pritzker was the keynote Speaker and I was able to talk to him, although briefly. Governor Pritzker is a strong advocate for many issues important to us.

Wednesday May 18 Fundraiser for Democratic candidate Mary Beth Canty with Brad Graba

Mary Beth Canty is running in the newly drawn 54th Illinois District and has a strong chance of flipping the seat due to the new boundaries. She is a great campaigner and has a solid campaign organization. Because of her electability, Illinois House Speaker Chris Welch 7th was present, along with Representative Marcus Evans 33rd Assistant Majority Leader, Representative Kam Buckner 26th, and Representative Nick Smith 34th. Brad and I were able to speak at length with Speaker Welch, Mary Beth Canty, and both Representatives Evans and.... We were able to thank the Representatives for their support for education and we again established the importance of Local 1211 participating in these events.

Monday May 23 – Senator Christina Castro fundraiser

It goes without saying that Senator Castro 22nd is a strong advocate for public education and IFT as well as our Local. I was able to speak to the Senator for a brief period as this was a very well attended event. Senate President Don Harmon was present as well, showing Senator Castro's leadership in the Illinois Senate.

Tuesday May 23 - Progressive Caucus Legislative Town Hall

The two Illinois Representatives and two Illinois Senators in my residence area in the city, held their annual town hall. All four are part of the Progressive Caucus in their respective legislative bodies. The spoke at length about their legislative successes and took questions from the audience regarding issues relevant to the community. Representative Will Guzzardi 39th, my Illinois House Representative, was the

emcee. Also present were Representative Delia Ramirez 4th, and Senators Omar Aquino Majority Caucus Whip 2nd and Christina Pacione-Zayas 20th.

Wednesday June 1 - Fundraiser Omar Aquino and Christina Pacione-Zayas

Senato Pacione-Zayas 20th is my Senator and Senator Omar Aquino 2nd represents the district directly west. Along with them, Representativ Delia Ramirez 4th was in attendance. I was able to speak to all three at great lengths. IFT has been running phone banks for both Senator Aquino and Representative Ramirez in her bid for the Democratic nomination for the newly created 3rd U.S. House District. I was pleased to inform them that the phone banking was successful. In fact Representative Ramirez earned 67% of the primary votes to advance to the November General Election. The district leans strongly Democratic. Governor Pritzker was also in attendance but I was unfortunately unable to speak to him as he was there only briefly. I also met Lilian Jiménez who is running to replace Delia Ramirez in the 4th District.

Saturday June 4 - Lilian Jiménez fundraiser

Lilian Jiménez is running in the 4th Illinois House District that Delia Ramirez is leaving in order to run for Congress. Lilian is strongly supported by IFT/CTU and has a Charter School opponent. Fortunately, Lilian won her primary with over 65% of the vote.

Tuesday June 14 – Representative Ann Williams Fundraiser

Although running unopposed in both her primary and currently the General Election, Representative Williams 11th is a strong supporter of education and we want to continue to show her our support. I was able to chat with Ann for quite a bit.

Wednesday June 22 - Representative. Kelly Cassidy Pride Event

Similarly, to Representative Williams, Representative Cassidy 14th is running unopposed in both her primary and currently the General Election, and is a strong supporter of education and we want to continue to show her our support. I was able to chat with Kelly as well as her staff.