

Attended Anne Moeller's reception in Elgin June 10, 2014

Attending:

Anne Moeller

Setting up dates with campaign manager. To discuss her position on supporting students, education, and teachers.

Michael Noland

Discussed campaigning, up and coming parades, and setting up a meeting.

Steve Caramelli– Fred Crespo's campaign manager.

Representative Crespo will be meeting with me upon his return to the district.

Elgin Democrats Frank Imhoff Ex-chairman and Carl Strathmann Chairman

Is seeking people to ride on floats for the 4th of July in Elgin and Streamwood.

Michael Mason 6th district candidate from Crystal Lake discussed high stakes testing (NCLB, PARCC, school funding and pensions. He was very interested to hear the view of teachers on the topics.

June 9th

Met with Michelle Mussman from the 56th District. We discussed a wide variety of topics including:

Pension bills and alternatives to what is currently in the courts. (tier 2, 401K's, and other pension plan options.)

Taxing plans including the 5% tax and progressive tax.

SB7 and different evaluation methods with the benefits and drawbacks of each. Also the changes that were made in Springfield over the last session.

Higher education: affordability, test scores, school to careers, trade schools, community colleges, and four year colleges.

High Stakes testing – ACT, NCLB, and PARC testing.

School Board selection processes

Teacher and administrative education programs and qualifications.

Charter schools and academies and shell games many districts use to make schools look better on paper, but just become a shell game of test scores.

We also discussed the veto session that is currently scheduled to take place in November.

ULI June 16th-20th

Spoke with Dan Montgomery IFT President regarding Pensions, up and coming elections, and events that were planned for the AFT Convention in Los Angeles.

Spoke with Kim Kohlhaas President of Wisconsin Federation regarding the changes that have taken place in Wisconsin since Scott Walker took over the office of Governor.

Last year alone 30% of teachers left the teaching profession. Some of these losses were due to retirements, however many were people that retired early, left the state to teach or left teaching all together.

90% of schools in Wisconsin last year started the school year without full staffing or staffing that included non-certified teachers.

The unions used to spend 90% of their time working to improve education and on educational issues. Now the unions are spending 90% of their time organizing. Each year unions must recertify. They can only negotiate base salaries and not raises. Additionally, teachers can be hire and fired at the discretion of the administration with little concern to due process.

Why this is being discussed is in the fact that Bruce Rauner sees Scott Walker as a hero for what he has done to unions.

July 4th

Marched in Hoffman Estates Independence Day Parade with Fred Crespo and Schaumburg Democrats.

AFT National Convention July 11-14

Attended AFT national convention in Los Angeles. Spoke with AFT President Randi Weingarten, IFT President Dan Montgomery, and many other leaders from across the United States.

Listened to California Governor Jerry Brown speak about solutions the state has put in place to support education. Also hear many speakers talk to the extent that voters need to be more than one issue voters. Many candidates are working to polarize voters by bringing up single issues that a candidate stands for or against. We must be educated voters.

July 27th

Attended a Progressive Democrats' Luncheon on the topic of the ERA being put on the ballot in November. Spoke with Senator Terri Link, Lt. Governor Sheila Simons, Representative, Lou Lang, Senator Heather Steans, US House Candidates. PDA is rallying voters to gain support to get the Equal Rights Amendment back on the ballot in Illinois. The Amendment was not passed in Illinois while George Ryan was speaker of the house.

Illinois is the only northern state not to ratify the amendment.

This is important when looking at work women do all around us. Currently white women are making 77% of what men earn for the same work. Additionally black women are making only 67% and women of Hispanic origin are only making 57% of what men make for doing the same jobs.

Illinois should be a starting point for revitalizing the ERA Amendment, not coupled with states such as Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama that refuse to pass any legislation to assist women and make all have equal rights.

August 10th

Attended a picnic held by Jim Moynihan 56th congressional district candidate.

Spoke with members of TRS board of NEA about changes in pensions, evaluations, and funding.

August 20

Attended the opening of Anna Moeller's campaign office. Spoke to members of Elgin Democrats. Discussed pension reform, state funding of education, and assessments.

Labor Day: September 1st

Marched in Schaumburg Labor Day Parade with Fred Crespo, Paul Vallis, Tammy Duckworth, and Schaumburg Democrats.

Spoke with members of IEA and TRS board who were marching with Jim Moynihan.

Attended a picnic with Schaumburg Democrats. Spoke with Representative Crespo regarding SB7 (teacher evaluation/tenure), Changes in state funding for schools, and pension reform.

September 3rd Attended GOP fundraiser at Chandlers in Schaumburg. Discussion was focused on how to beat the democrats, how to get people to march, how to discredit the Democratic party. Very few issues were discussed.

September 4th, Attended an event honoring Fred Crespo held by Mayor McCloud of Hoffman Estates. Spoke to the Mayor, representative Crespo, and members of Schaumburg Democrats. Was placed on the active list for Schaumburg Democrats.