



I never tire of telling people how proud I am of all our members and the dedication you show in the face of adversity. No matter what our Education Commissioner, any elected official, or detractor says about us or the work we do, we know the truth.

We know there is nothing we wouldn't do to be sure our students, our children, are safe, welcomed, and supported so they can become the success story that is inside each one of them.

Each year we say elections matter, and this year is no different. In fact, this year could be the single most important election cycle in our lifetime.

This year feels different because it is different. Being an educator has always been one of the hardest jobs in the world. Today we all know that it's tougher than ever.

We persevered through the hardest school years in recent memory and are now confronting an unprecedented staffing crisis across nearly every job category.

We continue to work in chronically underfunded public schools.

Radical politicians continue their efforts to censor what we teach or punish us for doing our jobs. New Hampshire educators are growing more disillusioned and exhausted every day.

We are here today because Governor Sununu hired Frank Edelblut despite having no background or interest in public education.

We are here today because Governor Sununu backed and cheered Commissioner Edelblut's efforts to continually destabilize a national model for public education – then gave him a raise.

There was a time in New Hampshire when the commissioner of education was focused on the welfare of the children who attend our state's public schools. We are here today because Governor Sununu, re-hired Commissioner Edelblut for another four years after watching his effort to destabilize our schools drive good teachers out of the state.

Just ask any school district how many teaching positions they have open for the upcoming school year. Without enough teachers, class sizes soar, one-on-one attention vanishes, and student success stagnates.



In just the last two years;

- Sununu signed and started Commissioner Edelblut's school voucher scheme, the most expansive in the country, diverting millions of dollars to private and religious schools.
- Sununu signed the banned concepts law that has chilled important classroom conversations and allowed Commissioner Edelblut to continue his support for efforts that seek to undermine public education at every turn.

Because of his unfailing support for Commissioner Edelblut, it is clear public-school students, educators and their families cannot trust Governor Sununu to support and defend public education.

Now more than ever, we need a leader who will fight for students and educators, not donors and corporations.

Today, NEA-NH announces their recommendation for that very leader for Governor of New Hampshire: Dr. Tom Sherman, because he believes as we do that our schools must be safe environments that are funded fairly.

In the State Senate, Dr. Sherman voted against these misplaced priorities I mentioned over the last 2 years. Instead of diverting money away from our schools, Tom has been focused on increasing state support for public education so that students and property tax payers benefit.

As governor, Tom Sherman will listen to the voices of educator, not attack them, and support a robust public education that makes sure our children are prepared to succeed in the future.

We trust that Tom will always have the best interest of our state's children at the heart of every decision he will make as Governor.

He shares our belief that the lives, health and well-being of public-school students, teachers and education employees and their families is worth fighting for. I am urging all our members to join me in our efforts to elect Dr. Tom Sherman the next Governor of New Hampshire.