

Talking Points for Feb 26

Define the Threat:

- Wealthy special interests are fighting to destroy our unions and the things we value. They've funded Janus vs. AFSCME, a case before the Supreme Court that poses a direct threat to our voice, our values and our union.
- They want to roll back roll back our hard-fought victories: our ability to collectively negotiate for fair pay, basic health care and a secure retirement; our community of colleagues developing and sharing best practices and professional development tools; our support system if we need representation; etc.
- They're already beginning to organize a campaign to use this case to erode our ability to fight for our pay, our benefits, our voice.

Highlight Pro-Union Message -- Our Voice, Our Values, Our Union:

- Our local union negotiates for higher pay and better benefits, and makes sure our contract is honored. Our state union fought to protect our pensions by beating back last year's constitutional convention campaign.
- With united membership, we have the power to exercise and protect our rights, to defend the things we value and to give our members a voice. In addition to pay and benefits, we use our collective strength to build public support for our members, champion our profession and provide support in crisis.
- Defending our union means preserving our voice, defending our values, and protecting what we need to succeed in our professional lives. By keeping our union strong, we preserve our voice and protect our values.
- If our voice is diminished, our students, our schools and the people we serve lose.

Provide Message of Hope -- A Plan of Action:

- We have the will and the power to fight this threat and protect what is ours. When we all commit to our union by signing the re-enrollment card we can protect what's ours and defend what we have earned (like a secure retirement).
- Signing the re-enrollment form is the best way to defend our voice, our values and our union.
- Use our voice to promote our union among your colleagues, and to speak out for our profession and our community.