June 6, 2020

Look up your Suffolk County legislator here:   
[www.scnylegislature.us/199/District-Maps](http://www.scnylegislature.us/199/District-Maps)

Legislator Al Krupski

**include your legislator’s district**

Suffolk County District #1  
423 Griffing Avenue  
Suite 2  
Riverhead, NY 11901

**addresses are on the Legislature website**

Dear Legislator Krupski:

**begin with a thank you**

I write to express my heartfelt thanks for your supporting the contract for the Faculty Association of Suffolk Community College on Tuesday, May 19.   
  
I am a constituent of yours in **~~R. idge~~**, on the far western edge of your district. I have taught at the Riverhead Campus of SCCC as a professor of English since 2004 and I’ve been an officer of our faculty union since 2007. From my experience in both roles, I can tell you from firsthand experience that our members absolutely deserve to have this contract passed.   
  
First, as you know, the contract was originally to be presented far in advance of the coronavirus pandemic and the contract was negotiated in good faith with only modest raises and the considerable giveback of sizable increases to all of our online classes. I served on the negotiating team, and we worked diligently toward a fair, reasonable contract in light of the college, county, and state financial situations.   
  
In addition, as a faculty member, I can tell you that our members—both full time and adjuncts—are hardworking and mindful about their jobs every single day. But they went *well* above and beyond in their efforts to teach, support, and retain our students when the pandemic forced the college to move to remote teaching and learning.   
  
I volunteered for two weeks in the middle of March (our spring recess) to teach my colleagues how to use the college’s course management system, Blackboard, so they could continue teaching and counseling and advising from afar. I was resoundingly impressed with the hours upon hours that my colleagues—many of whom had never even looked at Blackboard before—devoted to learning this program so that they could serve our students.   
  
The members of our union are the ones interacting with and transforming the lives of students every single day at the college. We, as academic unionists, are committed to collaborating with administration to help get the college through these difficult financial times.   
  
Thank you for your vote of support for our faculty.  
  
Sincerely,   
  
  
  
Cynthia Eaton

**conclude by reiterating your appreciation of their support**

**identify that you’re a constituent**

**personalize your letter with your experience & perspective**