

**PITTSFIELD FEDERATION OF SCHOOL EMPLOYEES
LOCAL 1315**



The Pittsfield Federation of School Employees are a union of 350+ Bus Drivers and Attendants, Cafeteria Workers, Clerical/Secretarial Employees, Custodians, and Paraprofessionals committed to the promise of quality public education for all the children of Pittsfield. We are a “Union of Professionals”, and we are committed to each other!

No member of Local 1315 has ever embodied the spirit of what it means to be a dedicated and professional public employee more than Sandi Amburn. Miss “A” as she was known to her students, worked as a Paraprofessional for the Pittsfield Public Schools from 2007 until her retirement in 2023. Sandi served as Vice-President and Chapter Chair of the Paraprofessional Unit from 2012 to 2023, and she also served as Union President of the Pittsfield Federation of School Employees from 2016 to 2023.

Sandi is a life-long resident of Pittsfield. She is a person of strong convictions, who was never afraid to share her opinion. Sandi was a fearless advocate for her members, and she has never been one to shy away from a fight! When it came to defending her members or fighting for a fair contract and better working conditions, no one was better! During our most recent contract negotiations when we secured some of the best contracts and pay increases this Local has ever seen Sandi was instrumental in keeping all five units together and focused on our goal of “Whatever it takes – for as long as it takes”. Sandi was the glue, if you will that held us all together! Without Sandi’s leadership we could not have achieved what we did for all our members!

Last summer in the middle of negotiations, Sandi and her family suffered a horrific and tragic loss when her son-in-law died unexpectedly after a fall from a height during a construction accident at the home he was building in Lanesboro with Sandi’s daughter. As Sandi struggled with the loss her leadership never faltered! She was a constant source of strength when we needed it most.

Late last year Sandi was involved in an incident while she was out of state. Sandi claimed the whole thing was a just a misunderstanding, but it was reported and blown out of proportion by the local media. Make no mistake, the attacks on Sandi’s character that followed in the press were done because she was a Union leader. Sandi paid a huge price personally because of the sensational reporting of an incident which in the end turned out to be nothing more than what Sandi had asserted, a misunderstanding. In the end Sandi was vindicated by the courts, and she emerged with her character and dignity intact. Sandi left the Pittsfield Public Schools on her own terms, retiring in early 2023.

We at Local 1315 owe Sandi Amburn a debt that we cannot possibly repay. We will miss her wit, her sense of humor, her strength and courage under fire, and her fiery unwavering leadership. Please come to the Herberg Middle School Cafeteria on Monday, May 22, 2023 at 5:00 PM. Join us in thanking Sandi for all she has done – and help us to wish her the best in the future!

Sincerely,

Chrissy Bossana

Chrissy Bossana, President

[WEBSITE](#)

PITTSFIELD.MA.AFT.ORG

PLEASE JOIN US
HELP US TO SAY THANK YOU AND GOODBYE
TO
SANDI AMBURN



WHEN

Monday, May 22, 2023 @ 5:00 PM

WHERE

HERBERG MIDDLE SCHOOL

CAFETERIA

501 Pomeroy Ave

Pittsfield, MA 01201