**JANUS MESSAGE POINTS FOR FEB 24 AND FEB 26**

* The Koch brothers, the DeVos family and other wealthy, anti-union corporate interests are using the Supreme Court to try to take away our voice and our union. They are trying to rip away our freedom to come together to form strong unions.
* Through the Janus case, being heard on February 26, these wealthy forces seek to defund and destabilize unions and make it harder for us to speak up for our students, patients, families and communities.
* There’s so much at stake for [insert state, city, etc]’s families coming out of Janus v. AFSCME. [Insert story about why people in your community need strong union. What have members been doing through that union that improves the lives of families and the community around them?]
* As a union, we care, we fight and we show up. [insert local examples] We are teachers, nurses and health professionals and public service employees because we care for others—for the students, patients, and public we serve.
* We fight for great public schools, for economic opportunity and security, for healthcare so nobody is one illness away from bankruptcy, and for a secure retirement. We fight for our democracy and for a society that is safe, welcoming and sane and that means fighting against hatred and bigotry in all forms. We fight for jobs, justice and freedom for all.
* And we show up. We show up for one another, for our communities and at the ballot box. We show up to deliver safe drinking water to children and families in Puerto Rico, at rallies to condemn the hatred and bigotry we see from this administration. We show up to help jumpstart economic and educational opportunity in places like McDowell County, WV, the 8th poorest county in America, and we show up to elect leaders who will champion our values or by running for office ourselves.
* Our union is our vehicle to fight for a better life for people, and, unfortunately, the Koch brothers and corporate interests see that as a threat to their power.
* That’s why the Koch brothers and their allies committed $80 million to “defund and defang” unions last year. And then they used their massive tax breaks to increase that spending to $400 million to “break” teachers unions and go after public education and public services.
* The same wealthy forces that are attacking our unions are the ones trying to defund and destabilize public education and erode and suppress the right to vote. They are targeting every vehicle we have to enable opportunity and voice for working people and kids.
* We won’t let them divide us. On February 24—two days before the case is being heard-- we’re joining with other union members, working people and our communities for a national day of action to tell the Koch Brothers and the DeVos family and the corporate interests that want to take away our freedom and rip opportunity away from people that enough is enough. Working people are standing together and we are going to win the better life we all believe in.
* This is a ‘which side are you on’ moment. It’s on us to stand up for the strong unions working people need to secure a better life. It’s on us to defeat this latest attack by the Koch brothers, the DeVos’ and corporate forces by standing together in our union, engaging our communities about the power working people build through strong unions, and holding politicians accountable by asking which side they are on—working people’s or their billionaire funders.

**Potential Soundbites**

* Today working people reminded us what makes our country truly great. Ordinary people came together to stand up to the rich and powerful and make our voices heard because we believe in the freedom of working people to come together to fight for a better life through their unions.
* This case is really about what kind of country we want: one where the people who make our communities work everyday get a fair shot and a decent life or one where the rich and powerful call the shots at everyone else’s expense.
* The billionaires behind this case are spending millions of dollars to fight people who serve their country everyday by teaching our kids, caring for us when we are sick, making sure we have clean water to drink, running into burning buildings—and so much more. That pretty much sums up everything you need to know about who they are and who we are.