

*OUT OF THE SHADOWS
AND INTO THE SUNSHINE...*

**You're invited to a community program on
hot-button issues that shape municipal budgets.**

When:

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Where:

Community Room, Avon Free Public Library

281 Country Club Road. Avon, CT 06001

Join us for a fascinating discussion as we hear from

State Senator Kevin Witkos – “Binding Arbitration”

State Senator Kevin Witkos (R-8) is serving his fourth term in the State Senate. He became Minority Leader Pro Tempore in January 2015, and represents the communities of Avon, Barkhamsted, Canton, Colebrook, Granby, Hartland, Harwinton, New Hartford, Norfolk, Simsbury and Torrington. He is the Ranking Member on the General Assembly's General Law Committee and Higher Education & Employment Advancement Committee, as well as many other leadership positions. Prior to being elected to the State Senate, Mr. Witkos served six years in the State House of Representatives. He has a long history of community involvement.

**Policy Director Suzanne Bates – “Understanding the Differences
Between Public and Private Unions”**

Before being recruited by the Yankee Institute as its Policy Director, Suzanne was a journalist for over ten years, working for news organizations such as the Associated Press, Good Morning America Weekend, and the New Hampshire Union Leader. She has a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University and lives in South Windsor with her family.

Superintendent Gary Mala – “Deconstructing Teacher Contracts”

Along with Atty. Houston Putnam Lowry and Atty. Rebecca Rudnick Santiago

Avon Superintendent of Schools, Gary S. Mala, has thirty-one years of experience in public education and joined the Avon Public School System in March 2011. Prior to Avon, he served as Superintendent of Schools for seven years at Regional School District 17, and before that he was Superintendent of Schools for the Southwick-Tolland Regional School District. He has been a principal, a pupil services director, and a classroom teacher. Mr. Lowry, Chairman of the Avon Board of Education, is a member of the Polivy, Taschner, Lowry & Clayton law firm. Ms. Santiago, General Counsel to the Board, is a member of Shipman & Goodwin law firm.

- Questions from audience following presentations -

This event is brought to you by the Avon Taxpayers Association and is free and open to the public.

Avon Taxpayers Association, P.O. Box 934, Avon, CT 860.677.2121

[This program is not sponsored by the Avon Free Public Library.]