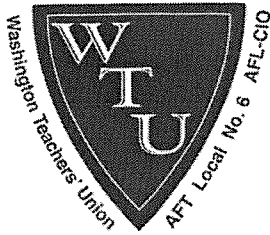


PARKER ATTACHMENT 8



July 1, 2010

WTU Members:

As you are aware, the 2010 Election of Washington Teachers' Union (WTU) Officers was delayed due to the need to correct an error made by the WTU Elections Committee in conducting the 2009 Election of WTU Election Committee Members and delegates to the AFT convention. By letter dated April 29, 2010, American Federation of Teachers (AFT) President Randi Weingarten notified members that the AFT would be delaying the election of officers in order to conduct nominations and an election for members of the WTU Election Committee and delegates to the AFT Convention.

The nomination and election process for WTU Election Committee members and delegates to the AFT Convention was completed on May 27, 2010. In a subsequent letter from AFT President Randi Weingarten dated May 28, 2010, members were notified of the completion of the election and that the AFT would be turning everything back over to the WTU to conduct the election of officers.

Given that the election was delayed due to the election of WTU Election Committee members and delegates to the AFT and could not be completed in the month of May in accordance with the WTU Constitution, the WTU requested a legal opinion from WTU attorneys as to how to proceed; specifically, which body under the WTU Constitution has the responsibility and authority for determining the new date for the election of WTU officers when the constitutionally referenced date cannot be met: the WTU Executive Board or the WTU Election Committee. On June 9, 2010, the WTU received a legal opinion indicating that the WTU Executive Board is empowered with the authority and responsibility for setting the new election schedule for officers. For your convenience, a copy of the legal opinion is enclosed.

In determining the appropriate schedule for the election of officers, the WTU Executive Board considered several factors, including: providing all members with a fair and equitable opportunity to vote and participate in the nomination and election process, ensuring that the WTU membership list of eligible voting members is accurate and up to date following the exit of retirees and other teachers leaving the system during the

summer, determining whether or not conducting an election during the summer break is in the best interest of WTU members and adhering to the legal intent and established election procedures of the WTU Constitution to the extent possible.

At the June 9, 2010 meeting, the WTU Executive Board established the following schedule for the nomination and election of officers, Delegates to the Metropolitan Washington Council AFL-CIO and Delegates to the Maryland State/DC AFL-CIO.

- 1) Notice of the opening of nominations for the election of WTU officers, WTU Delegates to the Metropolitan Washington Council AFL-CIO and Delegates to the Maryland State/DC AFL-CIO will be sent to all members by the WTU Elections Committee - September 30, 2010
- 2) Deadline for submission of petitions – October 29, 2010
- 3) Balloting and election of WTU Officers – November 15 - November 30, 2010
- 4) Counting of ballots – November 30, 2010

In addition, in accordance with the WTU Constitution, voting and balloting will be conducted by the American Arbitration Association, an outside and independent agency. More information regarding the nomination and election of WTU officers will be provided as the process draws closer.

The WTU is aware that several blogs, websites and other informational sources have contained misleading information regarding the election process; therefore, the WTU Executive Board is providing this information to our members so that you can be assured that the process for the election of WTU officers will be conducted in a fair, equitable and timely manner that serves the best interest of all WTU members.

Thank you for your continued support for the Washington Teachers' Union, and we wish you an enjoyable and productive summer break!

In Solidarity,



George Parker, President