



American Federation  
of Teachers, AFL-CIO

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AFT Teachers  
AFT PSRP  
AFT Higher Education  
AFT Public Employees  
AFT Healthcare

May 11, 2010

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555 New Jersey Ave. N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001  
202/879-4400  
www.aft.org

Dear WTU Member:

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Randi Weingarten  
PRESIDENT

Antonia Cortese  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Lorretta Johnson  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

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Adam Urbanski

As you know, the WTU soon will conduct an election to select its officers, as well as delegates to the American Federation of Teachers' national convention. On April 29, we wrote to inform you about potential problems with both the election of the members of the WTU's Election Committee, which is charged with overseeing the general election and the election of WTU delegates to the AFT Convention. In neither instance was a secret ballot election conducted, which was a violation of the requirements of the WTU's constitution.

WTU General Vice President Nathan Saunders brought this issue to the attention of the AFT in a letter dated March 25. WTU President George Parker requested assistance from the AFT in resolving this problem in order to preserve the local's integrity and to protect the democratic rights of members.

On April 19, the AFT responded in writing to both presiding officers with a proposed solution to stay the election and run a new secret ballot election to select members to serve on the Elections Committee. Neither officer raised any objections to the AFT decision at that time. Both officers agreed to the AFT's involvement, which will be limited to monitoring and assisting with the reopening of the nominations for positions on the Elections Committee and for delegates to the AFT Convention. Consistent with the sequence set forth in WTU's constitution, the election of officers is stayed until after a proper secret ballot vote to elect members of the Election Committee occurs.

The AFT's sole interest is to ensure a fair, transparent and democratic election that complies with the WTU's constitution and the AFT's national constitution. We are and will remain neutral throughout this process. Attached to this letter is correspondence from the AFT to each candidate seeking the WTU presidency outlining the process that we will follow with respect to communication between AFT and any candidate for the presidency of WTU related to the internal election process.

We are hopeful that this process can be completed expeditiously. But our primary concern and obligation is to uphold the constitutional requirements that have been approved by members in order to safeguard the union's democratic processes. Those provisions cannot and should not be overridden by anyone.

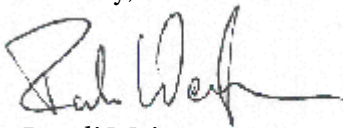
We believe that a proper election can be conducted quickly in the following manner:

- Notice of Nominations and Election of the WTU Elections Committee and Delegates to the AFT Convention will be mailed to all WTU members today, May 11. The notice is accompanied by a nominations petition. The notice and nomination petitions also will be posted on the WTU website and in all schools. **Nominations must be returned to the American Federation of Teachers by 5 p.m., on May 25.**
- The AFT will review the nominations petitions to determine the eligibility of the candidates and prepare the ballot. **The election will be held on May 27 at a general membership meeting from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., at Logan Development Center, 215 G St. N.E., Washington, D.C.**
- The American Arbitration Association will conduct the election, including distribution, collection and counting of the ballots. The votes will be tallied and the results announced at the conclusion of the election on May 27. Each of these steps and the instructions for submitting nominations and eligibility requirements are described in the enclosed notice.

When these steps are concluded, the AFT will turn all matters related to the WTU's internal elections over to the duly elected Elections Committee, which will oversee the remainder of the electoral process.

As always, the AFT is committed to upholding the democratic processes of our union and to promoting fairness and transparency.

In unity,



Randi Weingarten  
AFT President

cc: George Parker, WTU President  
Nathan Saunders, WTU General Vice President  
Elizabeth Davis, WTU Executive Board Member

Enclosures: (3)