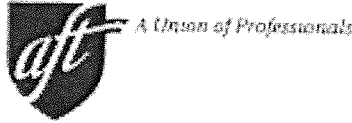


PARKER ATTACHMENT 6



VIA COURIER & OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

April 19, 2010

George Parker, President
Washington Teachers Union
1825 K Street, N.W., Suite 1050
Washington, D.C. 20006

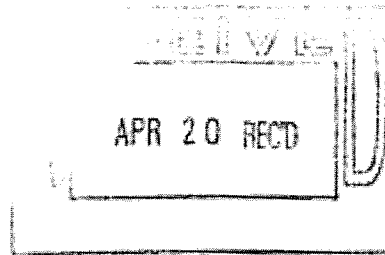
Nathan Saunders, General Vice President
Washington Teachers Union
1825 K Street, N.W., Suite 1050
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear President Parker and General Vice President Saunders:

The AFT has been asked by each of you to assist in the resolution of several internal WTU election-related issues. Such requests are submitted to AFT in its capacity as the national union with jurisdiction to review internal election issues that arise among the affiliates under Article VI, Section 14(b) of the AFT Constitution. In this instance, we have been asked to address certain issues concerning the 2010 election proceedings that have transpired well before the balloting and election counts have taken place. The issues relate to the efforts in April and May 2009 to elect members of the Elections Committee and delegates to the AFT Convention. For the reasons provided below, we conclude that the process for nominating members of the WTU Elections Committee and delegates to the AFT Convention should be reopened followed by elections for these positions.

Article VI, Section 14(b) of the AFT Constitution authorizes the Executive Council to commence an investigation where it appears an internal election has been conducted "in violation of the local or state federation constitution, the AFT Constitution, or applicable federal law. . ." However, before the Executive Council considers such requests, AFT conducts a preliminary investigation of the information relevant to the complaint to determine whether the challenge raises material disputes of fact that require a full hearing. Based on the information provided to AFT, there are no material facts in dispute, and therefore, an investigation and a full hearing by the AFT Executive Council is not warranted.

Unlike many local constitutions where members of the Elections Committee, who are neutral and not candidates for office, are appointed by the local Executive Board, the WTU elects its Elections Committee. The Elections Committee is charged with assisting with the conduct of all general and special elections of the organization. An outside agency, recommended by the Elections Committee, is



American Federation
of Teachers, AFL-CIO

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AFT Higher Education
AFT Public Employees
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Parker/Saunders/Page 4

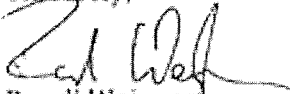
"shall be held" for delegates to the AFT Convention and positions on the Elections Committee, it is particularly important that all reasonable steps be taken to give the WTU members that opportunity to vote or even run for these positions.

Where it is clear, as is the situation here, that there is a compelling interest in having a functioning elections committee, the best approach is to reopen the nominations process. The interests of union democracy are advanced in this instance by giving the members of the WTU a further opportunity to participate either as representatives on the elections committee or as delegate to the AFT Convention. The existing nominees will remain, if their nomination petitions are otherwise qualified, but additional nominees will be sought. Every reasonable effort should be made to notify every WTU member of the opportunity to run for either delegate or member of the Elections Committee in sufficient time to permit the members to nominate the candidates of their choice. In addition, the notice of nominations should clearly set forth the time, place and form for submitting nominations.

Currently, WTU does not have a proper Elections Committee, held over from the 2007 elections, with a working quorum to assist in the conduct of this nominations process and election. As a result, AFT, subject to confirmation from the Executive Council, will monitor and assist with the conduct of this election. The AAA will be retained to actually carry out the balloting and count process.

Finally, we will provide both General Vice President Saunders and President Parker an opportunity to show cause and to submit objections before this decision becomes final. Any objection to this ruling must be submitted to the AFT, care of David Strom, in writing on or before the close of business on Thursday, April 22, 2010.

Sincerely,



Randi Weingarten
AFT President

RW:DJS:od

cc: Tina Flournoy, Assistant to the President for Public Policy, AFT Office of the President
Rita Freedman, Director, AFT Office of the President
Phil Kugler, Assistant to the President for Organization & Field Services
Ann Mitchell, Dir. of Affiliate Services, AFT Organization & Field Services
Al Squire, Director, AFT Southern Regional Office