



PRESIDENT PARKER'S VOICE MESSAGE **NOVEMBER 2, 2008**

EDUCATION REFORM FORUM

The Washington Teachers' Union (WTU) along with the "Teachers and Parents for Real Education Reform" will sponsor a very important forum on Education Reform, this Wednesday, November 5th from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm at the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church. A copy of this announcement has been forwarded to your email account. Guest speakers include: Ms. Randi Weingarten, President of the American Federation of Teachers, Dr. John Deasy, Superintendent of Prince Georges County Public Schools, and Jennifer Whitman, lead consulting teacher in the Montgomery County Public Schools. This forum is designed to inform teachers, parents and the DC community about successful education reform strategies that have been implemented in other major school districts across the country. It is critically important that our teachers, parents, and the DC community know what works and what doesn't work as we evaluate Chancellor Rhee's 5-year education plan.

DC PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPEN ON NOVEMBER 4TH

This Tuesday, November 4th, is an historic Election Day with an expected high voter turnout. The WTU requested that Chancellor Rhee close DCPS on this day, but she has declined this request, and DC Public Schools will remain open. DC government regulations require that under certain circumstances employees must be allowed administrative leave to vote. A copy of these regulations has been forwarded to your email account. Please review these regulations to see if you meet the requirements to receive administrative leave to vote on this Tuesday.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

The WTU hopes to have some definitive news on contract negotiations by the end of this week. We appreciate your patience and will keep you updated.

You can view a copy of this voice message at your WTU email account.

Thank you for supporting the Washington Teachers' Union.