



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 27, 2011

**CONTACT**

Monique LeNoir  
Director of Communications  
Phone: (202) 293-8620

**WASHINGTON TEACHERS' UNION PARTNERS WITH LOCAL AND NATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS TO ENDORSE THE "SAVE OUR SCHOOLS" MARCH AND RALLY**

**WASHINGTON, DC** - Washington Teachers' Union (WTU) today announced that it has partnered with local and national labor organizations to support the "Save our Schools" (SOS) Movement on Saturday, July 30th. WTU will stand with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), National Education Association (NEA), Baltimore Teachers Union, additional labor partners, teachers, parents, students, community leaders, and other educational stakeholders to let policymakers know that they have gone astray in their remedies for improving American schools.

WTU will join forces with a diverse group of celebrities, unions, organizations and labor leaders, including Diane Ravitch, Matt Damon and AFT President Randi Weingarten. Scheduled to take place on the White House Ellipse, this grassroots movement is dedicated to restoring educator, parent, student, and community influence over education policy and practice. The main purpose of the rally is to put public school stakeholders back at the center of all education policy conversations and to refocus national, state, and local efforts on providing the resources and support schools need in order to provide a high-quality education for every student.

"Washington Teachers' Unions' endorsement of the SOS Rally is a continuation of our efforts to bring the message to the forefront that we must improve public education for all children," stated WTU President Nathan Saunders. "It's time to put an end to the policies and practices that have demoralized teachers, particularly here in the District, and negatively impacted children across this country. There is strength in numbers, and teachers, students, families and other educational stakeholders must lead the education reform movement, so that all students can receive a quality education that they so rightfully deserve."

###