



Greensheet

October 2022

DFT681 School Board Endorsements

The DFT681 has endorsed incumbent school board members, Pat D'Ambrosio and Hussein Berry for the election on 11- 8-22.

The USA committee made up of representatives from the Dearborn Public School Unions and Henry Ford College Unions met on September 26th and interviewed the candidates for the School Board election. The decision to endorse D'Ambrosio and Berry was approved by the DFT681 Executive Board.

RED for ED

The tailgate was held on Monday 10-10- 22 from 5:00- 7:00 at the Ten Eyck Park (next to the ASC building) The Union provided soft drinks & snacks for the attendees. We had a good crowd as well as some local politicians , Dearborn City Council members and US Congresswomen Rashida Tlaib.

The school board meeting that followed was cut off due to overcrowding by Community members who were protesting some books that the district is reviewing . The meeting was re-scheduled on Thursday 10-13 . Thanks to members who attended and to the AFT- Mi for their support!

An update on the October School Board meeting .

I spoke at the October rescheduled School Board meeting on 10-13-22, my message is that the attacks on our teachers and our schools is part of a political agenda to discredit public schools and public school teachers. Please make sure you vote on November 8th!

Check the candidates and decide which candidates support public school and public school teachers

The AFT- MI has a snapshot of the candidates which outline their philosophy on many of the issues we are facing!

VOTING ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 8,



DON'T FORGET: VOTE FOR EDUCATION BOARDS AND THE SUPREME COURT

----- Boards of Education *Shape Policy for Our Members, Students* -----

It's critical that we elect leaders to state-level boards of education who support our members, our students, and the vision of public education from PreK-12 through higher education.



Pamela Pugh (D) and Mitchell Robinson (D)
for State Board of Education



Kathy White (D) and Michael Behm (D)
for University of Michigan Board of Regents



Renee Knake Jefferson (D) and Dennis Denno (D)
for Michigan State University Board of Trustees



Marilyn Kelly (D) and Danielle Atkinson (D)
for Wayne State University Board of Governors



----- Don't Forget the *Non-Partisan Michigan Supreme Court Candidates* -----

Michiganders' rights are on the ballot. From reproductive rights to our right to vote, many of the biggest issues facing our members and communities may come down to rulings at the Michigan Supreme Court. Even if you vote straight ticket, you still need to vote for the MI Supreme Court candidates individually.



Justice Richard Bernstein and Kyra Harris Bolden
for the Michigan Supreme Court



For more information and ways to get involved, visit aftmichigan.org/2022ballot

WHY SHOULD



COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY FACULTY AND STAFF

CARE ABOUT MICHIGAN POLITICS?

Paying attention to what's happening at the Capitol in Lansing or in politics in general can be exhausting given the political division facing our state and demands of our work and personal lives. **However, it's imperative that higher education faculty and staff step up and engage in shaping the future of our state.**

1. THOSE WE ELECT HELP SHAPE HIGHER ED IN MICHIGAN

- > **We have the power to decide who is elected and who gets to choose who serves on higher ed education boards.** The boards of community colleges, MSU, UM and WSU are directly elected by voters. The boards of our "directional" universities, like EMU and WMU, are proposed by the Governor and confirmed by the Michigan Senate.
- > **Who we elect directly impacts our members.** Gov. Rick Snyder and Republican lawmakers passed so-called "right to work" and stripped bargaining rights from graduate research assistants to block their organizing efforts at UM.
- > **Who we elect has massive implications for education funding.** Under Gov. Rick Snyder, we saw cuts to K-12 and higher ed and tax handouts for corporations. Under Gov. Gretchen Whitmer we saw the largest education budgets in Michigan history.

2. OUR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES NEED US TO ACT

- > **We need to stand up for our rights.** In Michigan and across the country, we seen attacks on reproductive freedom and the right to vote.
- > **We need to stand up for working people.** Corporations and billionaires are raking in record profits while we fight tooth and nail for the basics.
- > **We need to collectively take action.** When our members and working people across the state come together, good things can happen. We had record turnout in 2020 and we need to double down. Knock doors, donate to our union's PAC, or register your friends to vote.

3. Redistricting gives us an opportunity for change

- > **We have an opportunity for big changes.** Because of the work of everyday folks and organizers, we won the right to redraw Michigan's electoral maps – rather than lawmakers behind closed doors. This has resulted in fairer, more competitive districts where our members can make a difference in who represents us. The time to act on this opportunity is now.

AFT Michigan Endorsed Candidates for University Elected Boards

Michigan State University Board	Dennis Denno (D)	Renee Knake Jefferson (D)
University of Michigan Board	Mike Behm (D)	Kathy White (D)
Wayne State University Board	Danielle Atkinson (D)	Marilyn Kelly (D)

See the full list of our union's endorsed candidates at
aftmichigan.org/2022ballot

WHY SHOULD

PREK-12 EDUCATORS



CARE ABOUT MICHIGAN POLITICS?

Paying attention to what's happening at the Capitol in Lansing or in politics in general can be exhausting given the political division facing our state and demands of our work and personal lives. **However, it's imperative that PreK-12 teachers and support staff step up and engage in shaping the future of our state.**

1. THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RIGHTS OF MICHIGAN EDUCATORS WERE GUTTED FROM 2010 TO 2018 WHEN THE REPUBLICAN PARTY HELD THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE AND MAJORITIES IN THE MICHIGAN HOUSE AND SENATE:

- Eliminating teachers' rights to just cause in disciplinary proceedings;
- Prohibiting the use of teacher seniority as the determining factor in layoff or recalls;
- Prohibiting teachers from bargaining over evaluation, discipline and discharge, and placement;
- Significantly undercutting teacher tenure protections; and
- Prohibiting payroll deduction of union dues and passing so-called "Right to Work."

If we are successful on Election Day we can work to reverse these attacks.

2. OUR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES NEED US TO ACT

- **We need to stand up for our rights.** In Michigan and across the country, we have seen attacks on reproductive freedom and the right to vote.
- **We need to stand up for working people.** Corporations and billionaires are raking in record profits while we fight tooth and nail for the basics.
- **We need to collectively take action.** When our members and working people across the state come together, good things can happen. We had record turnout in 2020 and we need to double down. Knock doors, donate to our union's PAC, or register your friends to vote.

3. REDISTRICTING GIVES US AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CHANGE

- **Non-partisan redistricting has created more competitive maps, so our time is now.** Many more Michigan House and Senate races will be competitive than in past years, meaning we could elect pro-public education majorities that will repeal these measures and create new laws ensuring all our students have equitable access to education.

ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 8TH, VOTE TO ELECT:

Pamela Pugh (D) and Mitchell Robinson (D)

for State Board of Education



Currently the Board's Vice President, **Pamela Pugh** is an advocate of the "whole child" approach to education. **Mitchell Robinson**, a former public school music teacher, is a professor of music education at Michigan State University. Both Pugh and Robinson believe all students deserve a high-quality comprehensive education that encourages them to pursue their interests and be well-informed, engaged citizens. Both advocate for more school nurses, counselors and mental health workers as well as making sure schools are safe and welcoming. Both are both adamant about teaching the truth about our nation's history and strongly oppose the DeVos' voucher plan.

See the full list of our union's endorsed candidates at aftmichigan.org/2022ballot

RED for Ed - Tshirts

Red for Ed - T-shirts order form please follow the link to order a REd for Ed t- shirt the cost is \$10.00 per shirt, short sleeve or \$15.00 per shirt for long sleeve.

Please send in a check/money order to the Union office or drop off your money at 15250 Mercantile Dr. Dearborn Mi 48120. All payments are due by October 31, 2022.

Your Contract Campaign Committee is once again making "Red For Ed" shirts available for you to purchase (\$10 for a Short Sleeve Tee or \$15 for a Long Sleeve Tee--Unisex/Men's sizing S-4XL). You must fill out [THIS FORM](#) to order and then get your cash or check to the DFT Office by October 31, 2022 at 4:00pm. (We encourage buildings to work together to get a list of orders/payments and deliver them to the DFT office in one large group).

If you ordered and paid for a shirt in the spring and did not receive it, we have already ordered the replacement for you...no need to place a new order.



New Members

The district has hired over 100 new instructional staff this school year so far! Please reach out to the new members in your building and encourage them to join our Union.

Here are the directions for using your bank account to pay the Union dues, as a reminder dues can not be taken from your paycheck due to State of Michigan legislation. If new members would like to pay their dues in full for the school year please contact Cora Houghan at dft@dft681.org.

Go to: <https://join.aft.org/>

Find your state: Michigan

Find your local: Dearborn Federation of Teachers 681 Dues Form - Local 00681

Fill in personal information

Select membership: Dearborn Federation of Teacher #681 –

\$41.58 per pay

Fill in your banking information: bank name, account number, routing number

Check the two boxes

Sign your name in the box

Hit Submit- You will receive a message back - Thanks!

If you would like to pay the dues in one check for the remainder of this school year, please send or drop off at the office a check or money order for **\$819.32**

If you have any questions or concerns please call the Union office (M-F 8:30- 4:30) at 313-584-5311 or email our office manager Cora Houghan at dft@dft681.org.



Building Union Members

Congratulations to the following buildings for having 100% union paying members! Remember we are stronger in numbers, encourage others in your building to join.

ASC
Cotter Early Childhood Center
DFT
DuVall Elementary
Oakman Elementary

