

Negotiations Update

On Friday March 24, even though it was 4:00 on a Friday before spring break, DFT681 members came out with signs, bells, and noisemakers to cheer the negotiating team as they entered the building. We also had many members circling the parking lot as well as the Central Office building honking their horns in support.

DFT681 is not only looking to win back concessions that have been made over the last 15+ "lean" years in education, we are aiming to make sure every member who has committed to stay in education benefits from the current financial climate and the ongoing educator exodus. We plan on winning a contract that attracts and retains educators.

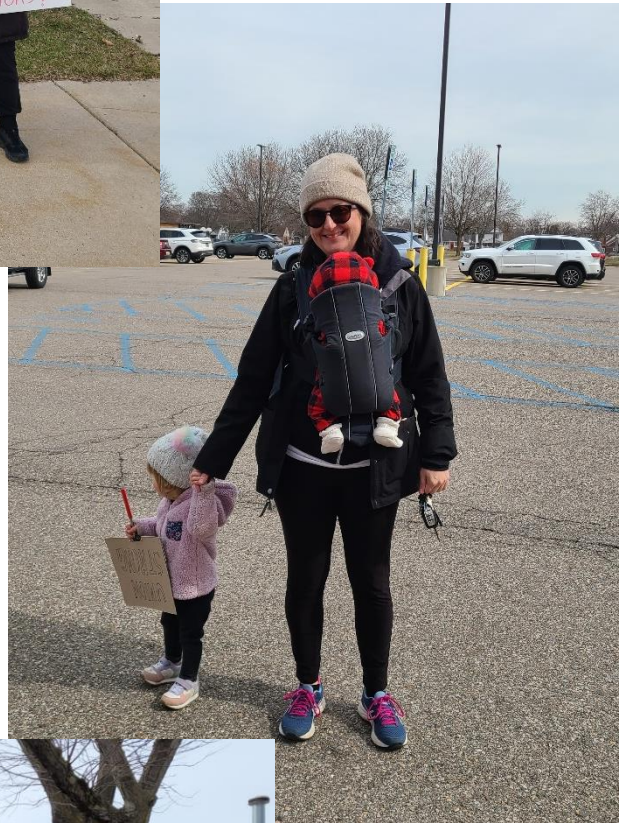
Negotiations have been moving slowly. The district wants to focus on the calendar and they have not been able to answer all of the negotiation team's questions about their early release proposal. We have submitted proposals that include a calendar, decreased staff meeting minutes, more control of committees, less committee demands, as well as a return to the old start and end times. The district has not yet responded and is focusing on early release. It would be a great show of solidarity to have all members attend the May 8th school board meeting.

Next steps: We will continue meeting to decide on a calendar and will be discussing a one year contract extension considering the possible law changes in Lansing and what that means for contract language as of April 2024.

Please [sign up](#) to attend the last school board meetings of the year. This will help us to win the best contract possible.

Please join us at the upcoming school board meetings:

May 8
June 5
June 19





AFT TEACH 2023 Conference ▶ July 21-23 ▶ Washington, DC

AFT TEACH will bring together educators and union leaders from around the country in a supportive, energizing environment where we'll find new ways to support one another and help our students thrive academically and developmentally. The last few years have been hard, and we cannot wait to connect and learn with you in person.

Early Bird Deadline is June 1

[Register by June 1 to save \\$200.](#) First-time attendee? Early bird registration is only \$50!

Amazing Sessions

[TEACH will feature more than 70 sessions](#)—on instructional strategies, safety and well-being, and more—to help ensure participants have what they need to teach and students have what they need to learn. Workshop space is limited; register early to secure your top choices.

Pre-TEACH Literacy Mini-institute

Come to TEACH one day early and spend the day focusing on knowledge, skills and strategies to teach and advocate for evidence-based reading instruction.

TEACH Literacy Scholarship Deadline

Are you an AFT member working in preK-12 who wants to spend four days focusing on what it takes to get students to be joyful and confident readers? If you are interested in attending the full day of pre-TEACH and at least three workshops focused on literacy, then apply for a literacy scholarship! Scholarships will cover hotel (four nights) and travel; registration fees and personal expenses will be the responsibility of the winning members. [Apply by April 16.](#)


Conference registration includes:


- Conference bag
- Light breakfast Friday and Saturday
- Attendance at any general sessions or workshops (space permitting)
- Lunch available during Lunch & Learn sessions (space permitting; pre-registration required)
- Welcome Reception
- Closing Brunch


SAVE THE DATES!




2023 GREAT LAKES UNION LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

 **Monday, June 26, (3 p.m.) to Friday, June 30 (noon),**

 **Location**
LAKE LAWN RESORT
2400 E. GENEVA ST.
DELAVER, WIS.

 **Registration**
will open **March 30** and will close **May 19**.
For more information go to:

 <https://www.lft-aft.org/professional-development/ULI/great-lakes>
or call **630-468-4066** if you are in Illinois. Call **800-238-1133**, ext.
4497, if you are in Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio,
West Virginia or Wisconsin.

This year's Great Lakes Union Leadership Institute offers four tracks—all aimed at helping local unions build power to better the lives of our members, the people we serve and our communities:

- Union Leadership Skills to Help Build a Strong Union
- Effective Grievance Administration and Organizing
- Introduction to Negotiations and Contract Campaigns
- Organizing with Parents and Communities

*Note that each course is offered through the entire week,
thus limiting enrollment for any participant to a single track.*



PAC Donations

Elections matter!! Thank you to everyone currently donating to PAC!!

Donate via Bill Highway–Cora can help dft@dft681.org or 313-584-5311

Recommended Amounts:

\$2/pay for Members

\$5/pay for Building Reps

\$10/pay for eBoard Members



Building Membership

Congratulations to the following buildings for having 100% union membership.

ASC

Cotter Early Childhood Center

DFT

DuVall Elementary

Geer Park Elementary

GSRP

Lindbergh Elementary

McDonald Elementary

Miller Elementary

Nowlin Elementary

Oakman Elementary

Salina Intermediate

