

GALVANIZE THE LABOR MOVEMENT IN MICHIGAN

- WHEREAS:** Unions are a crucial part of any social justice movements; and
- WHEREAS:** Achieving our goals of a fair and equitable society in which every person receives support to reach their potential from early childhood through retirement requires a broad and energized social justice movement; and
- WHEREAS:** The American Federation of Teachers, AFT Michigan, and our locals have a proud tradition of active participation in the AFL-CIO, including being one of the only unions to require affiliation at all levels; and
- WHEREAS:** If we do not unify the Michigan labor movement by reuniting all unions and forging alliances with community partners, then we will continue losing ground to the anti-worker forces dedicated to eliminating the labor movement, public education and the values we stand for; and
- WHEREAS:** We are stronger together than we are as individuals, stronger as a statewide union than a collection of locals; and stronger as a broader movement than as a single union; and
- WHEREAS:** We as educators are perfectly positioned to play a key role in rebuilding our movement; and
- WHEREAS:** A unified labor movement is imperative to overturning Right-to-Work (for less); and
NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY
- RESOLVED:** That we rededicate ourselves as a statewide union to making the slogan “We Are One” a reality in our unions and communities by:
- Taking on leadership roles in our Central Labor Councils and the Michigan AFL-CIO, including reaching out to engage other affiliates;
 - Identifying ourselves publicly as part of the AFL-CIO, AFT and AFT Michigan, and making sure that all materials we produce also reflect our affiliations with the larger labor movement;
 - Proactively building solidarity with other AFT locals;
 - Building strong community connections through our Central Labor Councils; and
 - Doing whatever else it takes to rebuild a strong labor movement in our state.

Submitted by:

Resolutions & Legislative Committee (May 6, 2014)