

RECRUITING AND RETAINING HIGH QUALITY TEACHING PROFESSIONALS

- WHEREAS:** Many Michigan educators have experienced decreases in compensation; and
- WHEREAS:** Teachers have been under attack from select politicians and education reformers, and have been blamed for not overcoming systemic challenges to providing a quality education; and
- WHEREAS:** These attacks combined with declining compensation undervalue the teaching profession, distort the public image of educators, and lead others who would consider entering the profession to choose different careers; and
- WHEREAS:** Teachers are required to instruct students with diverse learning, social, emotional, behavioral, and language needs while still maintaining rigorous educational standards and dealing with increased class sizes and challenging school conditions; and
- WHEREAS:** Teaching requires high quality training and continual professional development; and
- WHEREAS:** Newly hired teachers repeatedly ask for additional support in effective classroom management and other critical areas; and
- WHEREAS:** Providing such training will help in developing and retaining quality teachers; and **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED:** AFT Michigan will work with legislators and policymakers to explore funding solutions to enable districts to recruit and retain the highest quality teachers; and **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER**
- RESOLVED:** AFT Michigan will raise the respect of the profession by challenging misperceptions about the value and effectiveness of teachers; and **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY**
- RESOLVED:** AFT Michigan will work with districts to ensure that veteran, probationary, and pre-service teachers receive continuous and quality training and professional development.

Submitted by:

Dearborn Federation of Teachers Local #681

Revised & Recommended by Legislation & Resolutions Committee

Approved by AFT Michigan 74th Convention (May 14, 2016)