

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