Every person in America deserves the freedom to thrive, fueled by opportunity, justice and a voice in our democracy. That requires not only addressing the multiple crises affecting our country—COVID-19, the economic fallout and inequity, racial injustice, the climate crisis and threats to our democracy—but also creating the just and equitable conditions for economic and educational opportunity for all.

A “freedom to thrive” agenda requires bold action to promote an economy that works for all, including the ability to form and join a union; high-quality, accessible healthcare as a right; retirement security; great public schools and affordable, world-class higher education; civil rights and anti-racism in all aspects of our lives, including unfettered access to the vote; a vibrant democracy; and safe, welcoming and healthy environments and communities for all, regardless of who you are, your gender identity, who you love, your immigration status, how you worship or where you live. The crises gripping our country are affecting young people deeply, and schools must be supported and well-resourced to address the trauma, social and emotional needs, and developmental and academic recovery of our children, who are the future of our communities and our country.

With President Joe Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris and the new Congress, we will now have partners in working to achieve this agenda. We will do our part through our work in education, healthcare, public service and the labor movement. The AFT will fight for that freedom to thrive for our members, our families and our communities—by caring, fighting, showing up, teaching and voting. Together we can accomplish what is impossible to do alone.