



We were once members of the union for the first time, too. We know you still have a lot of questions and a lot you still want to learn. We also know that you have the fresh ideas, the talents and the energy we need to make the union stronger for all of us. So, as you get to know us, your union brothers and sisters will want to know you better, too. We want you to join with us to advocate for the things we believe and the values we hold in common with the same passion and intensity we bring to our work every day.

This is who we are.

This is our union.

A union of the American Federation of Teachers.

A union of professionals.

OUR RECORDS INDICATE THAT YOU ARE NOT CURRENTLY A MEMBER OF OUR UNION (BUT ARE PAYING MONTHLY FAIR-SHARE FEES). WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO JOIN AS A FULL MEMBER.

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MEMBERSHIP. IF YOU FEEL WE HAVE MADE A MISTAKE ABOUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS, PLEASE LET US KNOW SO WE CAN ENSURE YOUR INFORMATION IS CORRECT.



Washington Teachers' Union
1239 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003
202-293-8600
www.wtulocal6.org



We are a community of colleagues joined together for the common good. We support one another's personal and professional success. We stand up for what's right for our schools and our students. We look forward to you making our union stronger through your participation as an active member.

We are dedicated to the mission of public education.

We know what is right about our schools, so we work through our union to spread the word about the great work each of us do every day and the difference we make in the lives of the students we serve.

At the same time, we know that schools must do better to meet the demands of a changing world and to help overcome the challenges so many students bring to school with them every day.

So amidst the attacks leveled on education and the ideas of the month floated by politicians and pundits, we through our union make sure that our voice as front-line education professionals is heard—whether it is in the media, in the community, at the district level, the state legislature or the halls of Congress. We advocate for educational policies and programs that are good and sound—not just sounding good—and

we stand up to the forces whose real interest is to dismantle public education.



We look out for each other.

We collaborate and share ideas as union colleagues to make each other the best we can be. And through our union we both advocate for, and sponsor on our own, programs of quality professional development.

We through our union use the power of collective action and solidarity to continually fight to improve our working conditions so that we have what it takes to educate effectively. This includes reasonable workloads, time to prepare, adequate materials and supplies and policies that support safe and healthy schools. But it also includes competitive salaries, decent health care and a secure retirement.

We also advocate for fairness in the workplace and we come to the aid of individual members who need help standing up for themselves if they have issues with how they are treated on the job or to make sure their rights are protected if they are the subject of discipline or accusation on work related matters. This even means providing legal assistance, if necessary.



We are the union.

We take pride in making our union the most open and democratic institution it can be. This means we elect our leaders at the worksite and union-wide level. We provide them guidance on the positions and priorities they should advance to that represents the best interests of all members. And we hold them accountable for how our dues money is spent.

At the same time, we know that the real power of our union to achieve its objective depends on our being educated and active members. We share basic duties and obligations as union members. These include:

- Making good-faith efforts to attend and contribute to union meetings and functions
- Staying informed on union issues and events
- Participating in union activities to influence education priorities and policies
- Helping to build an effective chapter of the union at our worksites
- Participating in the democratic processes of the union
- Taking on positions of union leadership when possible, according to our individual skills and interests

