

# THE DETROIT teacher

**VOL. 47 — NO. 5**

POSTMASTER: All forms 3579 are to be forwarded to Detroit Federation of Teachers, 2875 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48202



**FEBRUARY 2009**

## **Alert! We Need You At Meetings!**

We need members to attend the union meetings. Our contract is up on July 1 and the district has little stability. We need to get organized, unified and vocal as teachers. Come to the following union meetings to keep up to date and learn our strategies.

### **Meeting Dates**

Feb. 12, 4:30 p.m. at the DFT  
March 12, 4:30 p.m. at the DFT  
April 2, 4:30 p.m. at the DFT  
May 14, 4:30 p.m. at the 20DFT  
June 4, 4:30 p.m. at the DFT

## **Resolution for a Quality DFT Contract and Quality Schools!**

**Submitted to the January 8, 2009  
General Membership Meeting**

**Whereas**, the upcoming union contract negotiations are the most critical in many years.

**Whereas**, it is imperative and urgent that positive changes be made in our schools.

**Whereas**, we will not be the ones to pay for the financial mismanagement of the Board and the previous appointed "Reform Board," or the decades-long unwillingness of politicians to provide the necessary resources for public school students and teachers.

**Whereas**, with the deepening national economic crisis; public education is needed now more than ever. Our schools must be sanctuaries for our students, providing them with the kind of care, commitment, support and hope that every one of them deserves.

**Whereas**, the national Presidential elections made it clear that Americans everywhere are tired of the long years of rollbacks and retreat, and are demanding a new era of progress and optimism.

See RESOLUTION on Page 2

## **Keith Johnson Wins as New DFT President**

**D**FT members elected a new regime in January to lead the largest teachers union in Michigan. In a run-off election, Keith Johnson won by 900 votes to ascend to the presidency.

"I want to focus on two things," Johnson said. "I want to restore solidarity to our union. And I want to focus on the upcoming contract negotiations." The current contract expires July 1.

In one of his first meetings, Johnson welcomed building representatives at a Jan. 24 Building Rep Workshop. In an Obamaesque vein, he asked members to be willing to sacrifice to bring stability to the union, and to help him carry the union forward.

"I'm going to be asking the members to invest in the future of this union,"

Johnson said. "The strength of this union doesn't begin or end with me or the leadership team. I'm going to be calling upon the members to mobilize and to restore vitality and purpose in achieving the goals of this union."

The run-off election also produced three new vice presidents: Mark O'Keefe – voted to become executive vice president – Othniel McGriff and Marjorie Jones. Also elected: recording secretary Felecia Clark, and treasurer Nadonya Muslim. They took office Jan. 20th.



**Taking office are Vice President Marjorie Jones, Executive Vice President Mark O'Keefe, President Keith Johnson and Recording Secretary Felecia Clark.**



## **A New Regime**

**In December members also elected a new DFT executive board (not in picture order): Wendy Newberry, Michelle Puryear, Lisa Scott, Anita Daly, Victor Gibson, Valeria Hatten Mathis, Doris Flaherty, Mark Moroni, Kurtis Brown, Valda Adams and Sidney Lee. The new leadership took office Jan. 20.**



# We Must Come Together as a Union

## President's Report



**Keith Johnson**

**N**ow that the DFT elections are over, it is time for us to restore solidarity to our Union. As president, it is my responsibility to lead the effort for our Union brothers and sisters to realize that the challenges we face in our immediate and distant future will require that we stand together as one, THE DETROIT FEDERATION OF TEACHERS.

During the presidential campaign, I pledged to you that under my leadership we would have a Union of inclusion, not division. No matter whom a member voted for, no matter what caucus or slate they were a part of, we would now become a singular Union with a singular purpose; to continue to campaign, negotiate and fight to ensure the optimum opportunity for educators to educate and for students to learn. I do not have a monopoly on ideas, vision, or perspective as to how to achieve this goal. Therefore I will be calling upon all members to offer their input into developing a comprehensive plan to set a political, legislative, and bargaining agenda.

In the coming weeks I will schedule meetings at the DFT office with all sectors within the DFT; instructional support staff such as social workers, psychologists, and educational technicians. Of course we will meet with representatives from the constellations across the district, as well as the staff

from the career and technical centers.

It is my belief that in order for the DFT to effectively address your concerns, as president, I must know what they are (outside of what we negotiate through bargaining), and I need to hear that from you directly.

In order for me to be an effective leader, I will also rely upon your advice, criticisms, and perspective. If you know something that should be brought to my attention, call or email me. If you are not being serviced by the labor relations administrator assigned to your work location, call or email me.

My personal email address is [keith7606@sbcglobal.net](mailto:keith7606@sbcglobal.net). My personal cell phone number is (313) 570-1871. My direct line at the DFT office is 875-6778.

If we are to progress as a Union we must be a Union, devoid of caucus affiliations, supporters or detractors. There must be and will be room for all points of view. I will make mistakes and when I do I need the membership, including executive board members and officers to tell me.

Equally important, when I do make a mistake I need for the membership to work with me to correct the mistake.

This Union is not defined solely by its leadership, but also by its membership. When we stand together in solidarity we prevail. When we allow divisiveness to infect us, we are destined to fall.

We now must stand together and proclaim for all to hear DFT That's My UNION.

## Thank You "Green House"

Thank you to the "Green House" aka Finney High School.

To my friends and colleagues at Jared



**DFT President Keith Johnson attends a Coalition meeting with New Detroit CEO Shirley Stancato and Bob Berg, Vice President of Berg Muirhead and Associates.**

W. Finney High School, I could never repay you for all the kindness and support you gave me during my assignment to Finney. It was a pleasure and an honor to serve with you as we worked to restore Finney's status as the "pride of the eastside." We had some challenging times to be sure but as a staff we stuck it out together.

You are among the finest, most dedicated educators I have ever encountered, and I am forever in your debt for your support, your friendship, and your dedication. I know Finney High School is in great hands and that our students will continue to grow and achieve academically as well as socially and become responsible young men and women under your guidance.

To my principal Alvin Ward Sr. and the entire administrative team, you were the greatest to me. You allowed me to work into what we were trying to accomplish at Finney and helped to turn a troubled school into one where students could come to learn in a safe, stable educational environment.

Last but certainly not least, my students at the "Green House." I am truly going to miss my "Rugrats" for you are the reason we are all here in this business of education. You brought so much joy to my life by allowing me to teach you about subject matter as well as life. I hope that I have made as much a difference in your lives as you made in mine.

## Resolution for a Quality Contract and Schools!

### RESOLUTION from Page 1

Plans for a national economic stimulus package must include massive new resources for our urban public schools.

**Resolved**, that the Detroit Federation of Teachers (DFT) hereby opens our public campaign for a quality union contract and quality schools for the students of Detroit.

**Resolved**, that we urge all members to attend the membership meetings scheduled for the remainder of the school year: February 12th, March 12th, April 2nd, May 14th, and June 4th. The union Constitution and Bylaws make these membership meetings the highest decision-making body of the union. These meetings will discuss and vote on the key priority demands of the union, including (a) NO concessions, and (b) for-real school improvements, such as class size reduction. These meetings will also make

plans for publicizing the DFT contract demands amongst the general community, and for mobilizing the membership and the general public in support of our monumentally important struggle.

**Resolved**, that the union office will begin phoning members via the phone dialer in order to give them the dates of each meeting in advance, and to read them point #2 directly above in order to further motivate them to attend. The Building Representatives and Union Committees will supply the union office with update phone lists, including cell phone numbers of the teachers at their schools, by the February membership meeting.

**Resolved**, that the DFT hereby establishes a Mobilization Committee for the purpose of organizing a series of meetings and rallies that will bring together teachers and the people of Detroit in

unity behind our demands for no concessions and for positive change in the schools. The Mobilization Committee will have its first meeting at 4:00 p.m., on Thursday, January 15, 2009, at the DFT Union Hall, open to all members. The committee will report to each future membership meeting.

**Therefore be it Resolved**, that this resolution — every Whereas and Resolved — will be printed at the top of the front page of the next issue of the Detroit Teacher. It will also be posted on the DFT website and faxed to the area media, the school board, the state Superintendent of Education, and the governor.

*The above resolution was passed at the January 8, 2009, General Membership Meeting of the Detroit Federation of Teachers.*

# THE DETROIT teacher

(ISSN 0011-9695)

The Detroit Teacher is the official publication of the Detroit Federation of Teachers, American Federation of Teachers Local 231, AFL-CIO. Member of the Union Teacher Press Association, International Labor Press Association and Michigan Labor Press.

The Detroit Teacher is published monthly, except for July and August, for \$4 per year by The Detroit Federation of Teachers, 2875 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48202. Periodical Postage Paid at Detroit, MI.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Detroit Teacher, 2875 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48202.

Editor — Margaret Weertz



# UPDATES...

## Detroit Produces 20 NBCTs

Some 28 Michigan teachers became National Board Certified Teachers in 2008 and 20 of those were teachers in the Detroit Public Schools. National Board Certification is a rigorous professional development program that can take up to three years.

NBCTs comprise 2 percent of the national teaching force and have won nearly a quarter of the 2008 State Teacher of the Year Awards and a third of the 2007 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Detroit Public Schools now have 78 of the 272 NBCTs in the state of Michigan.

NBCT meet Michigan's definition of a highly qualified teacher under NCLB, strengthens teaching practice, and improves students' learning according to research.

"All that I've been doing is paying off," said Detroit Teacher Janice Ford. "It teaches you how to become a better teacher, how to be a more effective teacher."

The following teachers were declared NBCT: Sally Benedict, Kimberly Capron, Arthur Champagne, Crystal Coburn, Kimberley Cole-Murray, Deidre Davis, Gayle Dooley, Janice Ford, Marta Frederick, Jennifer Hernandez Toler, Valeria Jackson, Enchanette James, Krista King, Melanie Matthews, Tiwanya Robinson, Karen Russell, Leigh Schiappacasse, Lakeisha Simpson, Diane Walker and Barbara Watts.

## Retirements Announced

The following DFT members have retired: Tracey L. McNeely. If you have retired in the last six months and would like it announced, please call the editor at 313-875-3500 ext. 776.

## Clothes for Kids Needed

Detroit teachers are seeking donations of warm clothes and accessories for our students during the cold months. Mearon Lewers, who heads up the "Accessories for Kids" drive, is seeking hats, scarves, gloves, undershirts, socks and tights. These new items may be dropped off at four locations: the DFT office, the Welcome Center (both on W. Grand Blvd.), the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren, and the Comerica branch in the lobby of the Fisher Building.

Lewers intends to give the warm clothes to kids through March.

"It's crucial," said Lewers, a Joyce Elementary School teacher. "I need support from the teachers to donate so I can begin

to fill these orders." For more info, contact Lewers at MearonLewers@aol.com or call her at 313-866-7545. Orders for students can be duplicated (from December Detroit Teacher) and faxed to her at 313-866-8061.

## Parade Seeks Volunteers

The Disability Pride and Awareness Parade Committee has a mission to focus on the value of citizens in our community who have special needs or disabilities.

The committee, an outgrowth of Learning for Life (a division of the Boy Scouts), is looking for volunteers and candidates to sit on a steering committee.

The committee will be drafting plans and seeking sponsors for a 3-mile parade route in the city of Detroit. They invite educators, care-givers, business, civic, community and celebrity leaders to support them as they develop this ground-breaking project. The parade will be held Oct. 10, 2009. If interested in helping, call Adwoa Muwzea at 313-361-1281.

## What a Difference a Hug Makes

By Kathy Hemingway, Behavior Specialist

Recently I had an opportunity to see both a principal and a student interact in such a special way! The irony was that it wasn't about unions, district policy or even a choice. It was about a child needing a "hug." The student was having a difficult time and had been sent to the office. He just could not get it together so



Principal Miriam Adams

Principal Miriam Adams said, "Malik, you need a hug." And as a child would do, he went to her and she gave him a hug.

You may ask, what is so great about a hug? I would respond: the opportunity to remember what a hug is all about. You have to remember that in that moment Principal Adams had a choice; to send him home or to remember why we are all in education and that is to truly help our kids. So I thank you, Mrs. Adams, Principal of Clara W. Rutherford Academy, for showing love when a child needed it the most!

But this is what your school is about: caring, sharing and demonstrating, that it is not the building that makes a school but the people inside who "CARE." I guess my mother was right when she told me, "Kathy, you just never know who's watching you!"



## Thank You President Virginia Cantrell

The DFT bids a fond farewell to outgoing President Virginia Cantrell. Cantrell served as president for two years, executive vice president for six years, and as an administrative assistant (labor relations administrator) for four years. Before joining the union staff in 1996, she was a DFT building representative and has been an outspoken advocate for quality education, students and teachers. Cantrell has been employed by DPS since 1967. During her tenure, she made tough financial decisions for the union and won numerous grievances, among many other accomplishments.

# World-Traveling Teacher Celebrates Her 89th Birthday

As she typically does, Catherine Blackwell returned to her namesake eastside school to celebrate her birthday.

At 89, she might be one of the most precocious in the school. Blackwell, a retired Detroit teacher, cases the entire room to see what's happening. Her curiosity and sense of alert is as strong as it was at the head of the classroom.

The staff at Blackwell Institute held a school-wide birthday celebration Dec. 10 with a luncheon, cake and presentation. She's a fascination to the students and the staff, not the least because she's journeyed to Africa 65

times, visiting 42 countries.

"I wanted to find out about my heritage," Blackwell says. "The story of

Tarzan didn't sit right with me."

What did she find out?

"We came from a great people and we are a great people," she said. "I wanted to be able to tell my kids about my people."

Each year Blackwell is delighted to visit the school to teach the young people the importance of a good education. Blackwell Institute is her favorite place in Detroit and it's named in her honor.

"This is the second best thing that's happened to me other than meeting my husband."







# Detroit Students Celebrate President Obama's Historic Inauguration



## Harding Elementary

**D**etroit teachers were exhausted after Inauguration Day. That's because they pulled off hundreds of "teachable moments" to celebrate the historic inauguration of President Barak Obama. At Harding Elementary School on the west side, fifth-grade students and teachers Pamela Hornbuckle and Kevin Brockberg created 11-foot tall replicas of the Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial (pictured on right). Their students were careful that no one — not even invited guests — walked on the 200-foot reflecting pool.

Fifth-graders also paired up to do projects on Washington D.C. memorials and historic sites. Brianna McGee became obsessed with her subject: the White House.

"The White House was painted white to cover up the burns and smoke marks because it was burned down during James Madison's Presidency," McGee said. "It has 132 rooms." McGee pulled out an encyclopedia to show the diagram of the White House to show that much of the White House is built underground.

Like most schools, Harding had a live TV feed of the inauguration. But Harding also staged its own with students filling the roles of president, Supreme Court Chief Justice, Gov. Jennifer Granholm, the first children and many more state and national figures.

The fourth grade lined the hall with biographies of all past presidents. The third grade did a timeline of presidential events. Simply put, every presidential theme was covered at Harding. Still the 1/10 scale model of the National Mall won the most awe.

"The thing that surprised me was when they did the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument," said Harding Principal Sharon Harvell. "I have a great staff. I can't compliment them enough. They do go out 100 percent."



**Harding Teacher Pamela Hornbuckle with students at the Washington Monument they built.**



## Parker School

### A Page from the Obama Book

Shawnay Cooper fumbled her oath of office for Fox 2 like other high-powered officials. But Cooper got lots of practice afterward. She did several takeovers for local media and school board members.

Cooper, an eighth-grader at Parker K-8 School, took part of a simulated inauguration. But her oath was real: she affirmed her duty to uphold the office of president of the student council.

Student Council Sponsor Karen Warner administered the oath to Cooper and student council vice president Rosalind Molette on a Webster's Dictionary. They had all the inaugural trappings: a decorated stage, Secret Service man Jyair Conaway, and a poet laureate. But all were simulated by students for their own duties to Parker School on Detroit's west side.

Parker teacher Dwayne Brown said the students didn't miss a beat: "We even played Hail to the Chief."

## Birney Elementary



**Birney Elementary students and teacher Cindy Turner celebrate the inauguration with an Inaugural Ball at the school.**

## Houghten Elementary



**Houghten Elementary, PreKindergarten through Grade 5, celebrated the Inauguration of Barack Obama. Pictured with students (left to right) are Cecelia Muhammad, Principal, Bernardo Wilson, 4th Grade Teacher, and Joretha Loving, Noon Hour Aide.**

Submitted by DFT Rep. and Pre-Kindergarten Teacher, Wanda Lundy- Colquitt



# THE DETROIT teacher NEWSMAKERS

## Henry Ford Celebrates Christmas and Kwanzaa

By Shahidah Muta

Samuel T. Knight, Choir Director and Accompanist, knows the importance of music for all students, especially during this time of year. Under his direction, the Henry Ford High School students, staff and parents embraced the joy and goodwill of the holiday season, Christmas and Kwanzaa.

The special holiday musical program extended an invitation for all to embrace the seven principals of Kwanzaa by recognizing the connections we have to one another by uplifting our communities and schools. Jonathan Braxton, a student in the autism program, gave a special Kwanzaa welcome. Arika Pore gave a clear meaning of what Kwanzaa means to her and the community.

One of the highlights was the giving of special gifts to Mother Mary by the three kinds. The students looked very much like kings wearing their long flowing golden robes and crowns. Mary received the gifts warmly by singing a special selection to show her joy and thanks.

What would a holiday program be without talent and purposeful movement by talent dancers? Four beautiful young ladies performed a spiritual dance with graceful movements, under the direction of Toni Battle, special education and dance teacher.

Ending with "Joy to the World," the entire audience found joy and cheer with the program and departed with much joy to carry with the promise to share their special gifts with others in their homes and communities.



## Engineer Brightens Logan Elementary

By Nancy Balogh, Title I Reading/Math Teacher  
Logan Elementary School

I'd like to send kudos to the principal of Logan Elementary School, Mauro Cruz, and the building engineer, Dave Jachman. Both men contributed to painting the panels that surround the outside of the school building. This was truly a labor of love as the relief panels had to be scraped and primed before they would be painstakingly painted in bright colors of yellow, blue and fushia. The other amazing fact was that the panels are located high on the facade and could only be reached from an extension ladder. Not only was this year-long endeavor an act of love, but the risky work was also an act of bravery!



Logan Principal Mauro Cruz and Engineer Dave Jachman.

## Munger Elementary School Stages Christmas Play





# GRANTS...

## Environmental Learning

The Earthwatch Institute offers fellowships for educators to get out in the field and conduct actual research for the environment. This opportunity allows teachers to get out of the classroom to learn about cutting-edge research and conservation efforts, develop professional skills and make a difference for the environment. The fellowships provide funding for educators to join one of 90 expeditions worldwide, working with scientists. **Deadline:** Feb. 9, 2009 For more info, visit [fellowshipawards@earthwatch.org](mailto:fellowshipawards@earthwatch.org).

## History Research

ABC-CLIO is an award-winning history reference and research publisher, and the Annual History Research Competition is an opportunity for secondary school teachers, librarians and students to participate and learn in the process. Teams of two to six students and their teacher or librarian may participate in the competition by selecting the top 10 people, events or places that have shaped the course of history. Winners will receive prizes of \$500-\$2,000. **Deadline:** March 30, 2009. For info, visit [www.abc-clio.com/historyuncovered](http://www.abc-clio.com/historyuncovered).

## Visual Teaching

Inspiration Software encourages teaching with visual learning through its Visual Learning Awards. The award requires teachers to submit examples created by students using Inspiration Software.

Three gold star and 12 silver star winners will be selected to win software and new technology and more. **Deadline:** Feb. 27, 2009. For info, visit [cf.inspiration.com/vlawards](http://cf.inspiration.com/vlawards).

## Unsung Heroes

ING is accepting applications for its 2009 Unsung Heroes awards. The grants go to K-12 educators who employ new teaching methods and techniques that improve learning. Each year 100 finalists win \$2,000 grants to support their innovative programs. Of those, three are selected for additional awards. **Deadline:** April 30, 2009. For info, visit [ing@scholarshipamerica.org](mailto:ing@scholarshipamerica.org).

## Do Something

The Do Something Awards recognize young people's outstanding service to their communities and their world. Only U.S. or Canadian residents under 25 are eligible to apply for the awards, which total \$100,000 in grants and scholarships. Candidates will have identified a problem in their community and found ways to combat the problem. In 2009, the awards will go to five winners who will receive at least \$10,000 in community grants and scholarships. **Deadline:** March 1, 2009. For info, visit [jwells@DoSomething.org](mailto:jwells@DoSomething.org).

## About Congress

The Dirksen Congressional Center supports research by providing funds to further understanding of the U.S. Congress.

The Robert H. Michel Special Project grants provide funds for scholars who conduct research about Congress as well as teachers who teach social studies, history, political science and other subjects that relate to Congress. These grants, of up to \$5,000, are meant to fund work that increases understanding of Congress. **Deadline:** Ongoing. For info, visit [info@dirksencenter.org](mailto:info@dirksencenter.org).

## Math and Science

Each year, Intel honors U.S. schools that have demonstrated excellence in math and science education as Intel Schools of Distinction. The honor will go to 18 schools in each of two categories – math and science. Awards are \$2,500 to \$15,000 for programs with replicable models for other schools across the country. **Deadline:** Feb. 17, 2009. For info, visit [www.intel.com/education/schoolsofdistinction/index.htm](http://www.intel.com/education/schoolsofdistinction/index.htm).

## Event donations

If you are holding a fundraiser or event, Dreyer's Small Grants are a source of support. The Dreyer's Foundation makes small grants (\$3,000 or less) and donates ice cream products, gift certificates, and auction items to nonprofits for events. Written requests should be sent at least eight weeks before the event and before the seventh day of the month. **Deadline:** ongoing. For info, visit [www.dreyersinc.com/dreyersfoundation/small\\_grants.asp](http://www.dreyersinc.com/dreyersfoundation/small_grants.asp).

## Museums and Libraries

The American Association of School Libraries (AASL) offers the Collaborative School Library Media Award to recognize successful partnerships between school library media specialists and teachers in planning a program, unit or event that enhances information literacy, independent learning and social responsibility using the resources of the school library. Grants are \$2,500. **Deadline:** Feb. 2, 2009. For info, visit [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org).

## Essay Contest

The Ayn Rand Institute sponsors an essay contest for high school juniors and seniors (in grades 11 and 12). The contest is based on the book The Fountainhead by Ayn Rand, and the first prize is \$10,000. Five second prizes are \$2,000 and more than 200 prizes are given from \$50. The essay must be no fewer than 800 words and no more than 1,600 words and will show an understanding of the philosophy of the book. **Deadline:** April 25, 2009. For info, visit [www.aynrand.org](http://www.aynrand.org).

## Free Books

The Ayn Rand Institute provides free copies of Ayn Rand's novels Anthem and The Fountainhead, along with teacher's guides and lesson plans, to high schools, thanks to the institute's donors. The books appeal to young readers and the stories are exciting and inspiring with heroic characters fighting for their ideals. For info, visit [www.aynrand.org](http://www.aynrand.org).

# ROLL CALL...

### — Detroit Federation of Teachers Membership Meeting — December 11, 2008 —

Adult Education	Chadsey	Denby	Fitzgerald	Home Teaching	Maybury	Osborn	Spain
Bagley	Children's Museum	Detroit City	Ford (HS)	Houghten	McColl	Parker	Stark
Barton	Clark	Detroit Open	Gardner	Howe	McFarlane	Pasteur	Stewart
Bates	Clemente	Detroit Transition	Garvey	Hutchinson	McKenny	Pershing	Substitutes
Birney	Cleveland	East	Golightly	Jamieson	McKinney	Priest	Taft
Bow	Clinton	Dixon	Gompers	Jemison	McNair	Psychological	Thirkell
Boynton	Clippert	Douglass	Greenfield Union	Jordan	Mumford	Services	Trombly
Breithaupt	Cody Nine	Drew Attendance	Guyton	Kettering	Munger	Pulaski	Turning Point
Brewer	Coffey	Duffield	Hally	King (JR)	Murphy	Renaissance	Van Zile
Bunche	Columbus	Earhart	Hamilton	Law	Neinas	Retirees	Vernor
Campbell	Commun. Media Arts	Early Intervention	Hanstein	Logan	Nichols	Robeson ELC	Western
Carleton	Cooley North	Edmonson	Harding	Loving	Noble	Robinson	Westside Alternative
Carstens	Courtis	Elmdale	Harms	Ludington	Nolan	Scott	White (J)
Carver	Crary	Emerson	Head Start	Malcolm X	Northwestern	Sherrill	White (KB)
Cass	Crockett	Ferguson	Heilmann (ES)	Mann	NW Early Childhood	Social Workers	Winterhalter
Central	Crockett (HS)	Field	Holmes (AL)	Marquette	Oakman	Southeastern	Young (CA)
Cervený	Davison	Finney	Holmes (OW)	Marshall (T)	Office of Mathematics	Southwestern	

### — Detroit Federation of Teachers Membership Meeting — January 8, 2009 —

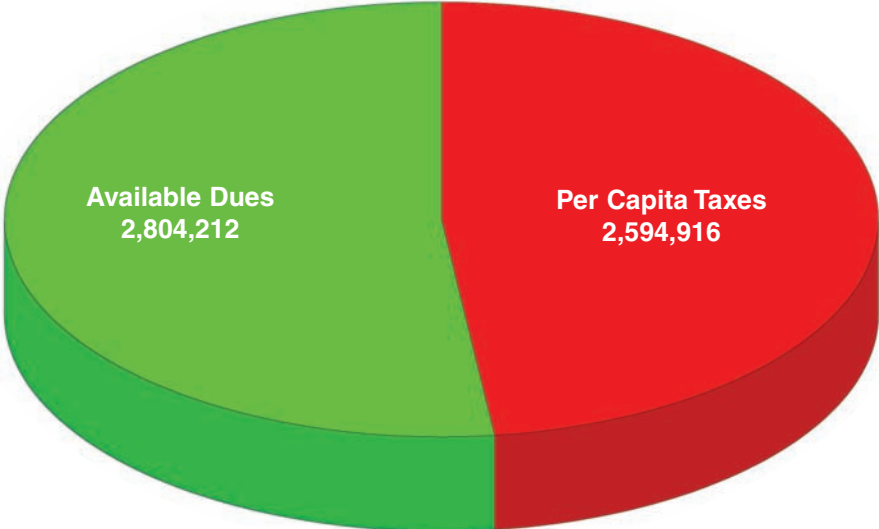
Adult Education	Carver	Detroit International	Fitzgerald	Howe	Marshall (JC)	Osborn	Southwestern
AFT Michigan	Cass	Detroit Transition	Ford (HS)	Hutchinson	Marshall (T)	Pasteur	Spain
Bagley	Cervený	East	Gardner	Jemison	Maybury	Pershing	Stark
Barbour	Chadsey	DFT	Garvey	Joyce	McColl	Priest	Stewart
Beckham	Clemente	Dixon	Golightly	Kéidan	McFarlane	Psychological	Taft
Bennett	Cleveland	Douglass	Guyton	Kettering	McKenny	Services	Thirkell
Birney	Clinton	Duffield	Hally	King (ES)	McKinney	Pulaski	Trombly
Bow	Clippert	Earhart	Hancock	King (HS)	Mumford	Renaissance	Turning Point
Boynton	Cody	Edmonson	Hanstein	Lessenger	Munger	Retirees	Vernor
Breithaupt	Coffey	Ellington	Harding	Logan	Neinas	Richard	Western
Brown	Commun. Media Arts	Elmdale	Harms	Loving	Nichols	Robeson ELC	Westside Alternative
Burt	Cooley North	Emerson	Heilmann (ES)	Ludington	Noble	Robinson	Westside
Burton	Coolidge	Farwell	Heilmann (MS)	Malcolm X	Nolan	Scott	Multicultural
Butzel	Crary	Ferguson	Holmes (AL)	Mann	Northwestern	Sherrill	White (J)
Campbell	Crockett Vocational	Field	Holmes (OW)	Mark Twain	NW Early Childhood	Social Workers	Winterhalter
Carleton	Davison	Finney	Home Teaching	Marquette	Office of Mathematics	Southeastern	Young (CA)
Carstens	Denby	Fisher	Houghten				

# DFT Audit Reports for 2007-2008

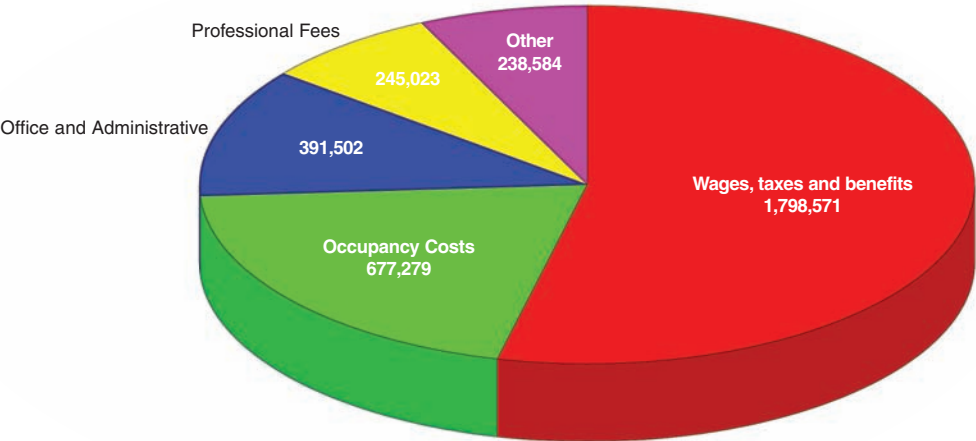


DFT Business Manager Sherri Patrick and auditor David Taub, of Kushner, Kippelman & Taub, look over the 2007-2008 audit.

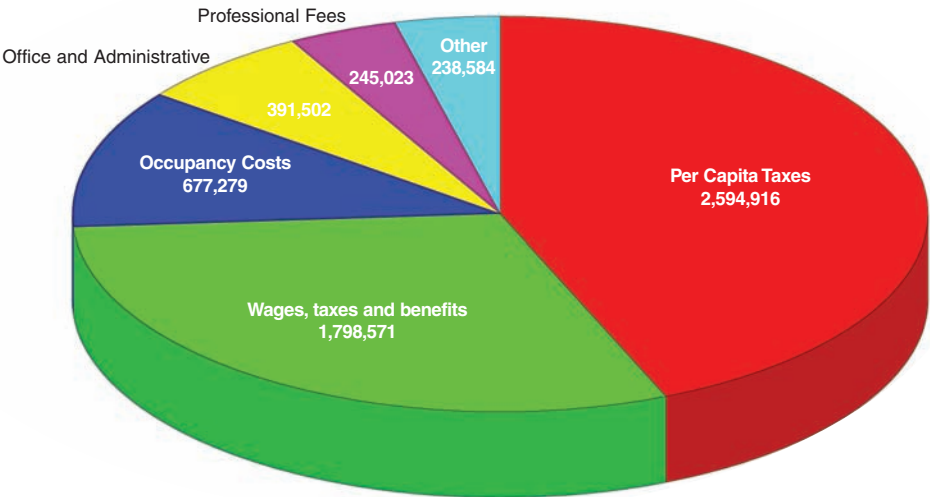
DUES



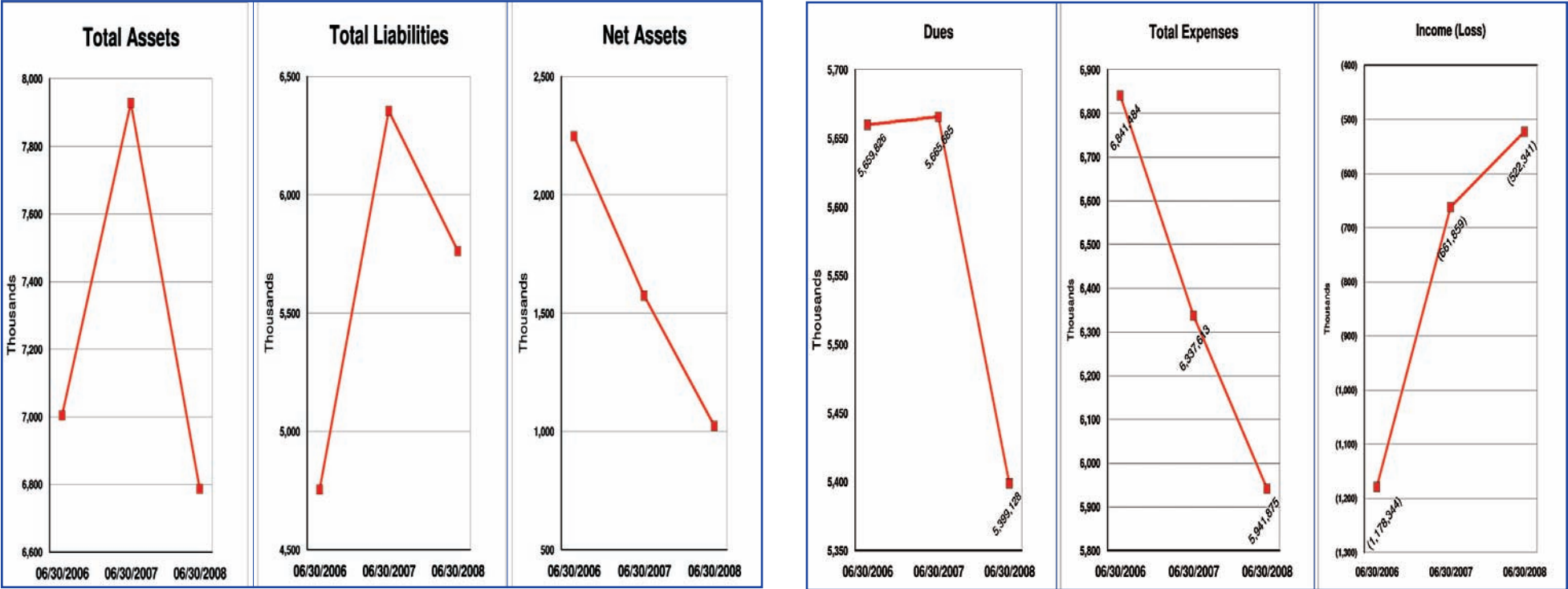
EXPENSES LESS PER CAPITA



TOTAL EXPENSES



<strong>Occupancy</strong>	
Mortgage Interest	197,393
Property Taxes	160,156
Depreciation	116,994
Utilities	70,490
Security Services	63,216
Alarm	27,041
Maintenance	41,989
	<u>677,279</u>
<strong>Office and Administrative</strong>	
Interest, Charges and Fees	105,010
Depreciation	92,591
Machine Rental & Maintenance	73,726
Insurance	49,637
Computer Expense	42,422
Telephone	28,566
Postage & Delivery	26,857
Office Supplies & Expense	20,506
Insurance Refund	(47,813)
	<u>391,502</u>
<strong>Wages and Benefits</strong>	
Board of Ed Reimbursements	908,833
Office Salaries	584,657
Payroll Taxes	109,110
Employee Insurance	150,028
Employee Pension	45,943
	<u>1,798,571</u>
<strong>Board of Ed Reimbursements</strong>	
Officers and Labor Relations	
Administrators Wages/Benefits	<u>908,833</u>





# M. L. King History Re-enacted at Winterhalter

Children at Winterhalter School are like students everywhere. They don't know much about history. Martin Luther King Jr. isn't a known figure in their lives. King's importance needs to be taught. Now more than ever. "They need to have a black history class," says Sabrina Wiggins, a Winterhalter parent. "They don't know their history."

Winterhalter teachers Bettye Hence, Aileena Acoff and Sarah Thomas, therefore, went to task this year as they do every year. They provided a re-enactment of King's last days on earth in April 1968. Students heard his "Free At Last" speech to the Memphis garbage workers striking to get equal pay. Several students marched as striking garbage workers. The students and staff even re-enacted his funeral, borrowing a casket from Swanson Funeral Home.



Assistant Superintendent Derrick Coleman told the students that the life of King "was no fairy tale – he made the ultimate sacrifice for all of us. "We're not talking about a superhero, we're talking about a man," Coleman said. "He kept the struggle while the world around him was crumbling. If Dr. Martin Luther King had not come before us, we would not have a Barack Obama today."

DETROIT FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO BE HELD AT THE

MARCH 12, 2009 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

REGULAR ELECTION OF THREE (3) ELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(TWO-YEAR TERM OF OFFICE: MARCH, 2009 to MARCH, 2011)

ELECTION CALENDAR

January 26, 2009 (Monday)

OPEN NOMINATIONS: Nominations and acceptances may be mailed to P.O. Box 02010, North End Station, 60 E. Milwaukee, Detroit, MI 48202 OR hand delivered to the DFT office during office hours.

\*\*February 12, 2009 (Thursday)

CLOSE NOMINATIONS and acceptances at 4:00 p.m. for Post Office and 5:00 p.m. hand delivered to the Election Committee at the February membership meeting.

February 16, 2009 (Monday)

List of candidates mailed to schools, to homes of nominees, and posted in the Union office.

\*\*March 5, 2009 (Thursday)

DEADLINE FOR GRIEVANCES regarding nominations.

ELECTION COMMITTEE hears grievance(s), if any.

EXECUTIVE BOARD hears grievance(s), if any.

\*\*March 12, 2009 (Thursday)

MEMBERSHIP hears grievance(s), if any, and votes on decision(s). VOTING BEGINS IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER.

IF THERE ARE NO GRIEVANCES

voting will begin at 4:00 p.m. Those in line at 5:30 p.m. will be allowed to vote.

Candidate's Eligibility Date:

February 11, 2008

Voters' Eligibility Date:

January 23, 2009

\*\* ELECTION COMMITTEE MEETS:

Election committee members should mark the starred dates on their calendars.

Election Committee members who are candidates for re-election will be replaced by temporary appointees named by the Executive Board.

DETROIT FEDERATION

OF TEACHERS

2008 DUES FOR TAX PURPOSES

Full Dues

.....

\$742.10

Three-Quarter Dues

.....

\$556.52

Half Dues

.....

\$371.16

Quarter Dues

.....

\$185.58

Check your last paycheck for 2008 and it will list the actual amount you paid for the year.

Calendar

All meetings will be held at 2875 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, unless otherwise noted. Dates and times are subject to change. The DFT telephone number is 313-875-3500.

FEBRUARY

2

Counselors Chapter, 4:00 p.m.

5

Executive Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m.

9

School Social Workers Chapter, 3:45 p.m.

9

Contract Proposal Meeting, 4:00 p.m.

12

General Membership Meeting, 4:30 p.m.

17

Retirees Chapter Meeting, 11:30 a.m.

18

Attendance Agents Staff Meeting, 3-4 p.m.

23-27

Schools Closed for Winter Break

24

Pre-Retirement Seminar, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

MARCH

2

Counselors Chapter Meeting, 4:00 p.m.

5

Executive Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m.

9

School Social Workers Chapter, 3:45 p.m.

10

Pre-Retirement Seminar, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

12

General Membership Meeting, 4:30 p.m.

17

Retirees Chapter Meeting, 11:30 a.m.

18

Attendance Agents Staff Meeting, 3-4 p.m.

19

Ed Technicians Meeting, 4:15 p.m.

26

Executive Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m.