

DFT Votes to Keep Collective Bargaining Rights

With a 78 percent yes vote, the DFT ratified an agreement with DPS that will provide an enforceable contract through June 2016.

DFT President Keith Johnson praised the commitment of the membership to keep the DFT engaged in the fight to maintain collective bargaining rights as the vehicle to secure the best teaching and learning opportunities for 52,000 Detroit students and the 4,000 DFT members who educate them.

The membership voted 2,114 for the agreement and 584 against it.

"When you look at the innovative and effective reforms designed to move our students forward," Johnson said, "they are usually achieved through collaboration and the collective bargaining process, not through dictating and micro-managing."

The DFT met in a marathon negotiating session the weekend before the vote when the district gave a last best offer. The DFT held a mass meeting with 300 members at King High School March 19 to discuss the deal.

Johnson said he was not happy with the agreement but wanted to have a contract in place, the return of due process, final and binding arbitration, a third prep period in 2014, and a sick bank cash out for those retiring the next three years.

"We are going through a very, very bad time," said member



Lenore Ellery. "But something is better than nothing."

"Ratifying this document means things can get better," Johnson said, quoting a member. "Rejecting this document means they can only get worse."

Marshal Widick, the Waldman Sachs attorney for the DFT, said the agreement was about keeping the ability to fight.

"Equally important, this agreement allows us to maintain and enforce class size limitations, administrative support on disciplinary matters, and focus on creating an environment conducive to teaching and learning," Johnson said.

"It also shows that our members are not willing to allow anyone to eradicate more than 45 years of educational improvement through the collective bargaining process with the senseless, relentless attacks upon teachers and the unions that represent them," Johnson said.



MEMBERSHIP SAYS

“DFT is Still My Union”

President's Report



**Keith
Johnson**

By a margin of 78 percent, DFT members accepted the terms of a new agreement that assures we will maintain bargaining rights at least through the year 2016. Make no mistake, this is not an agreement that anyone, especially the DFT leadership, embraces as an agreement we wanted.

We embrace it for what it is — an enforceable document that guarantees certain protections such as class size limits, due process rights, and binding arbitration. Equally important — especially as DPS muddles its way through the financial calamity it created — this agreement puts the DFT in a position to negotiate a better contract as circumstances improve.

It also prevents the emergency manager or his successor from arbitrarily changing the terms of the agreement or abrogating it altogether. It's disappointing that nearly a quarter of our members were willing to throw away more than 45 years of achievements through collective bargaining because they are angry about the outcome of these negotiations.

Many wish to ignore the reality

that DPS is under the direction of an emergency manager. We are all angry about the legislature passing another emergency manager law after the citizens of Michigan repealed it.

As long as the law remains in effect, however, all the protests and demonstrations will not negate the fact that the EM has unmitigated, unprecedented authority. With the in-

creased authority granted under the law, the emergency manager could have imposed the content of what we negotiated anyway. He could do even more.

Mary Helen D'Angelo, chair of the DFT Election Committee, pointed out, "With the ratification of this agreement, we know things can get better. With its defeat, it could only get worse."

The critics offered no alternatives other than to say "we don't like this, we don't want this, and we will fight this." REALLY? What will you fight it with? Will raising your voices in opposition change the outcome?

Some said we should rally the Detroit community; "They will side with us." That is true. However, we are talking about the community of more than 700,000

people who just had their city (my city since I live in Detroit) taken over by AN EMERGENCY MANAGER!

The fact of the matter is, thanks to your support and rational thinking, the DFT remains in a position to continue fighting to make a difference for the students we teach. We put the next generation of educators in the position to proudly proclaim "DFT, THAT'S MY UNION!"

“It prevents the emergency manager or his successor from arbitrarily changing the terms of the agreement or abrogating it altogether.”



Thank You DFT Members!

By Edna Reaves
DFT Executive Vice President

On behalf of this leadership and all of the leaders that came before us, we thank you for your show of support and solidarity. We sent a crystal clear message to Gov. Rick Snyder and Roy Roberts that collective bargaining is a right our members are not willing to give up.

For over 45 years, we have fought to improve working conditions for our members and the learning environment for our students. Recently, our rights have been attacked and stripped away layer by layer.

Updates . . .

Stroll into Spring Fundraiser

The Student Assistance Services, Inc. is celebrating 60 years of service. SASI was founded by Detroit Public Schools attendance officers in 1953 to help school aged children remain in school. They provide needy students with material necessities to enable them to attend school regularly and to participate in educational programs. SASI gives children clothing, shoes, glasses, and the repair of hearing aids. To celebrate 60 years of this generous work, SASI is inviting the community to a “strolling buffet” fundraiser from 3:30 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 14 at the American Serbian Memorial Hall, 19940 Van Dyke in Detroit. The cost is a cash donation to SASI. Donations of \$25 and more are tax deductible. For more information, call SASI president Kathy Cornish at 313-460-5304 or chairperson Marquette Sims at 313-725-0252.

THE DETROIT teacher

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 & Michigan Labor Press.

Editor — Margaret Weertz
mweertz@dft231.com — 313-875-6776

The Detroit Federation of Teachers
2875 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan 48202
(313) 875-3500

We are now in a position to move forward to recover some of what has been taken from us. In the coming weeks, we will solicit your thoughts on how we should undertake such a momentous task.

The Emergency Manager and Right-To-Work laws took effect on March 28. Our immediate attention with this collective agreement was to protect us under the Emergency Manager Law. However we cannot express how important it is that we have secured equal and fair representation for each of our members through the duration of the agreement. This gives us an opportunity to protest RTW in the upcoming months. It gives us time to assess our strategy for the 2014 elections.



Edna Reaves

RTW has made us think about how this would change the union as we know it. Many have questioned whether it is worth their dues, considering all the concessions we have had to endure over the past five years.

Let me assure you, you get more out of your union dues than you do from your homeowners, renters, or auto insurance. Those are policies you might use once in a while, if at all. Your union dues are working for you every day, even if you don't realize it.

It's easy to see when we get you a 2.5 percent bonus but here's a list of what you might not see:

- Every time your building representative goes to the principal on your behalf or the staff's, that's your union dues.
- When a grievance is filed, that's your union dues.
- Every time the union contacts payroll on someone's behalf, that's your union dues.
- When we win an arbitration award, that's your union dues.
- When our attorney goes to court, that's your union dues.
- When we filed the lawsuit in teacher evaluations, that's your union dues.
- When we represent at discipline hearings, that's your union dues.

These events, which protect teachers in the classroom, occur on a daily basis that most members don't think about. And even if you may not see or experience it, we are working for you every day.

THE DETROIT teacher NEWSMAKERS



Reading the Classics at Marcus Garvey



There's nothing like the classics.

Marcus Garvey Academy students enjoyed "The Tale of Peter Rabbit," by Beatrix Potter during "March Is Reading Month."

"I believe it is important to keep the classics alive for our children," said Evelyn P. Holmes, ASD teacher at Marcus Garvey.

Preschool through second-grade students enjoyed four versions of "The Tale of Peter Rabbit." First they heard the oral story. Then they were treated to a story skit (featuring first grade student Kyle Fantroy Jr. as Peter Rabbit and Daryl Weaver, Dean of Student Affairs, as Mr. McGregor).

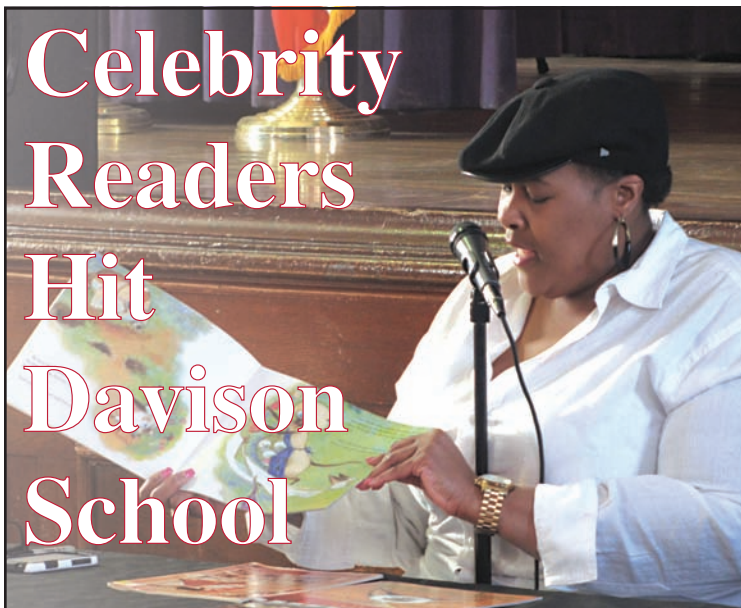
The students also got a Mightybooks.com version - a website discovered by librarian Carol Bennett. Last, the students saw the VHS animated movie. Holmes says using multiple strategies for literacy education allows students to "own" a story.

Improving reading proficiency, enhancing reading enjoyment and increasing performance on standardized tests are a few of the desired results.

"This is what differentiated instruction and learning is all about," Holmes said. "I strongly encourage teachers to use multiple strategies to improve their student's ELA skills. We have a continuous need for strategies to plan and implement curricular objectives."

Javon Stacks, the owner of The Exotic Zoo, (1exoticzoo@gmail.com) contributed to the learning experience and fun by providing several real-life bunnies and rabbits for the children to enjoy.

Celebrity Readers Hit Davison School



Davison Elementary School kept the red carpet down for "March is Reading Month" activities.

Detroit celebrities visited March 4 to read to students.

In the morning, FOX 2 news anchor Anquetette Jamison, at right, read "Oh, the Places You'll Go!" by Dr. Seuss and "Llama Red Pajama" by Anna Dewdney to preschool and kindergarten students.



In the afternoon, WJLB FM 98 radio personality Coco, at top, read "Skippy John Jones and the Big Bones" by Judy Schachner to second- and third-graders.

Students enjoyed the animated and thought-provoking reading done by the celebrity readers. They shared stories, asked questions and took pictures with the guest readers.

"There was fun had by all," said Calli Leslie, the instructional specialist who facilitated the event. The event was scheduled and organized by kindergarten teacher Leighann Lingemann.

THE DETROIT teacher NEWSMAKERS

Dads Do the Reading at Carleton



Carleton fathers John Fitzgerald, DeShaun Johnson and Michael Jackson read at Carleton.

The Men of Carleton is a program designed to encourage fathers, uncles, grandfathers and other positive male role models to step across the door steps of the school and become visible in the students' lives.

"At Carleton, we think dads helping their children to become readers is one of the best things that they can do as a dad," said Carleton teacher Donald Thomas, founder of Men of Carleton.

In an effort to celebrate National Reading Month, Thomas and staff members invited the Men of Carleton to visit the school and read to the students and engage them in enriching reading activities.

The Men of Carleton was launched at the start of this school year and is proving successful in welcoming fathers into the school.

Clark Student is Meteorologist for a Day

Joshua Peoples, a 4.0 student at Clark Preparatory Academy, was selected as the WDIV "Junior" Local 4Caster winner. Clark teacher Willie Wood helped Joshua submit the winning video.

Joshua, a 4.0 student, wants to become an architectural engineer and he loves math, science and reading. He is a member of the Science Engineering Math Aerospace Academy through Wayne State University.

He's involved in junior great books and participates in a male mentoring group at Sacred Heart Church.

Joshua went to the Michigan swimming Junior Olympics this year and has been swimming since he was four years old. He swims with the City of Detroit's Recreational Swim Team under coach Gary Peterson.

Such a success, what advice would he give to other kids his age? Never doubt yourself, he says, and always believe that with hard work you can achieve all of your goals.

Joshua is the grandson of retired Clark teacher Gwendolyn Peoples.



WDIV meteorologist Andrew Humphrey with Clark student Joshua Peoples.



Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss

March 1 was national Read Across America Day in honor of Doctor Seuss's birthday. Carver S.T.E.M. Academy celebrated this event by dressing up in Dr. Seuss hats and characters and reading books written by Dr. Seuss. Teachers reinforced that reading is the bridge that carries students to a wealth of opportunities. Carver continues to encourage and stress the importance of reading. Reading acquires knowledge and knowledge is power!

Detroit Teacher Wins Top Technology Educator Award

When Sylvia Tillman walks into a classroom, everyone is happy to see her. Besides being bubbly and optimistic, Tillman can fix computer glitches.

Tillman, an instructional specialist for technology education, teaches Detroit teachers how to use technology to chart data, input grades and differentiate instruction — all on the computer.

When she walked into the computer lab at Gompers Elementary School recently, a teacher frowned about a computer problem.

“What happened,” Tillman said in a comforting “I-can-fix-it” tone.

Tillman wasn’t always a computer geek but she got hooked. Now she is one of Detroit Public Schools’ leading technology experts. She plans professional development, guides teachers in accepting how technology can help them, and

fixes glitches for teachers.

Tillman was honored March 22 at the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) conference at Cobo Center. Tillman was named the 2013 Frank Miracola 21 Things Educational Excellence Award. The award recognizes the Michigan educator who espouses the values of a global 21st Century educator, while implementing the 21 Things for Educators in the classroom.

As first place winner, Tillman receives \$300 for resources, MACUL conference registration, one year membership in

MACUL, and assorted software.

“Your commitment and creativity in demonstrating leadership in the field of instructional technology is appreciated,” wrote MACUL President Steve Schiller, “by your colleagues both in your district and in the technology field.”



African American Museum at Nichols

From the Underground Railroad to the Harlem Renaissance, Nichols School introduced its students to the important figures in African American history on March 1. Every classroom at Nichols turned into an interactive hands-on museum on African American history. Principal Linda Whitaker and program chairs Shellina Dearing and Monica Tyson organized the all-day event to explore and study the life, works and events in African American history.



Nichols students McKenzie Beauford & Destinee Beauford



Nichols staff: assistant principal Kim Walker, teachers Monica Tyson and Shellina Dearing, principal Linda Whitaker, and kindergartners DeQuan Martin Jr. as Fredrick Douglass and Zy'air Clements as Harriett Tubman.

Learning About Your Heritage

Detroit Lions Academy hosted a celebration of African American heritage this week. Students conducted the program by reading poetry and creating posters on the rich contributions of African-Americans.

The students entered a poster contest and Who's Who, where students looked at famous African-Americans who have contributed to our history. They qualified to win prizes, thanks to Principal Cheryl White and counselor Robert Moore.

With staff and student support as well as refreshments donated by Development Centers, the parents and faculty were able to learn new information in a creative café style setting.

The program was coordinated by Social Studies staff Marsha A. Lewis and Michelle Sanders and resource teacher Alicia Sandelin.



Teachers' Generosity is Not a Cliché

By William Weir
Schulze teacher

If you read this letter to any group of teachers you will without question, hear narratives of the heartfelt generosity and love teachers hold for our charges. These stories go beyond the clichéd tales of buying toilet paper or decorations for bulletin boards.

The sentiments of this letter are every day occurrences in schools across America. In urban schools, especially, these stories are parable like. Teachers don't expect to be photographed and filmed so we can be seen uttering disingenuous proclamations that "it's all about the kids" and then jump into our chauffeured chariots and head north.

This mother who established a genuine relationship with the school staff could be subject to facing an all new staff and perhaps a new school entity before the year is out. She will not be consulted ahead of time or given a say in the matter, unless she gets an invitation to the Detroit Athletic Club or some other sanctum far removed from the world she is familiar with. Her son loses the bond of those who have taught him to compete in Academic Games and enjoy prose, a social studies teacher who aroused his

Letter from a Detroit Parent

I would like to give a special thank you to the staff of Schulze for coming together to help raise the money my son Deonte' Gillespie accidentally lost on Tuesday, which was in support of the school's Academic Games tournament next month. It really touched my heart when I received the phone call that the staff had donated enough money to cover the loss on Deonte's behalf to be able to attend the tournament.

After I received the call, I cried as my heart felt so warmed with joy. Ever since my son and I moved back to Detroit, the staff here at Schulze has made this transition in our lives very smooth. His science teacher has made him more interested in life itself and how things go hand and hand together, which has also helped improve his reading by being curious. His math and academic games teacher has always pushed him to the next level because of both of their love of math. His English teacher is patient with his level of reading which has helped him improve two grade levels. His social studies teacher has him interested in the news and the world. His writing teacher has him wanting to write poems and sweet letters to brighten my days. Most of all, thank you to the baseball coach for being a great role model in his life. I truly appreciate you and the love and patience in your job for our children.

So when somebody says to me that the Detroit Public School's teachers don't care...they are a liar because all of you have shown our family is that you care and love, not only what you do, but children as a whole, from your own to mine.

*With great appreciation,
Ms. LaLonnice Gillespie*

curiosity in world events.

Image the joy this mother must feel having a son who transcended the stereotypes with his endearing poems and letters. As his baseball coach,

I have watched him grow as an uncoordinated 12-year-old to a player who never gives up.

We feel blessed that there are those with hearts, like this parent, that are truly on the side of the children. More important, the vile disrespect heaped on teachers by the EFMs and their immediate staff is a far cry from who we are and what we do.

I leave you with this true story: One cold and rainy morning, there was a power outage at a school. The principal instructed a staff member to inform waiting parents who had to go to work that there would be no school. After about an hour, Roy Roberts' second in command drives up in her chauffeured SUV and her driver pops out and opens an umbrella for her. She enters scowling and speaks to no one as she pours over two cell phones. As she verifies there is no chance the power will come back on, she spewed the following: "I had to make sure because all these teachers want to do is go home anyway."

The words oozed from her mouth like puss from a wound, nasty and unapologetic, to the surprise of the principal and teachers in earshot.

Most of the teachers did what we do with serendipitous days off. We check papers, catch up on lesson plans and PD 360s.

Life Under an Emergency Manager

What Detroit Residents Can Expect

By Mark O'Keefe
DFT Controller

As the City of Detroit prepares for life under an Emergency Manager, city residents and employees are wondering what to expect. If it is anything like the experience of the Detroit Public School system, prepare to be overwhelmed.



Mark O'Keefe

In 2009, when Robert Bobb took over as Emergency Manager of DPS, the district deficit was \$219 million. By June of 2012, that deficit had been reduced to \$76 million. At first glance, this look likes a great success. However, the reduction was only accomplished by borrowing \$249 million that has to be repaid. The district's operating expenses have exceeded revenues by over \$136 million during the tenure of our two state appointed emergency managers.

While accounting rules allow governmental entities to record proceeds of bond sales as income, it does not reflect the true financial condition of the district. This is no different than saying you balanced your household budget by getting a higher limit on your credit card. Unless you actually reduce expenditures to a level that is lower than your revenue, you haven't solved the problem; you just kicked the can down the road.

So the citizens of Detroit can expect the city's financial statements to be greeted with thunderous applause by the media, while financial analysts dig deeper and see that any improvement is due to smoke and mirrors.

While the deficit elimination plans show DPs eliminating the deficit within a few years, the ability to do so has been compromised by the liquidation of the district's assets. Every school that we turn over to charter operators or the

EAA reduces the districts future revenues. The result is that the higher debt burden due to new borrowings is being born by a smaller school district. The annual debt service expenditures are over \$1,000 per student. This makes it harder and harder to direct scarce resources to the classroom where they are needed.

So the citizens of Detroit can expect to see their assets sold or given away producing temporary gains that hinder the city's ability to generate future income.

As EM, one of the first things Robert Bobb did was to publicly explore the possibility of bankruptcy. While it is prudent to consider all options, the state does not want a bankruptcy and will not allow their state-appointed agent to file for bankruptcy. The reason is very simple. If Detroit goes bankrupt, the State of Michigan and every municipality in the state will have to pay a higher rate of interest on all future bond sales to compensate for the higher risk. The governor does not want Detroit bondholders to get less than full payment on their bonds, and he does not want to incur higher interest rates on future bond sales.

So Detroit can expect empty threats of bankruptcy as a ploy to force concessions.

Without a shared sacrifice from bondholders, where do the cuts come from? Every DFT member already knows, the employees pay the price. When the EM took away employees' sick banks, it was the fourth largest bank robbery in the history of the United States. DPS had negotiated a sick bank policy that allowed DFT members to reap a portion of the district's savings that resulted from judicious use of sick days. While the district saved money by employing fewer substitute teachers, employees got a portion of the savings in the form of a sick bank cash-out at retirement. Then when it was time to pay up, with the stroke of a pen, sick bank cash-outs were eliminated. Although there has been a partial restoration of the sick bank in the new collective bargaining agreement, the unilateral action taken in July 2011 wiped out millions and millions of dollars in violation of a contractual duty to pay.

So, Detroit can expect bondholders to have the terms of their agreements honored while promises to employees are broken.

By its very nature, a financial emergency implies the need for an austerity budget. As the financial expert, the EM should lead by example, showing how to cut unnecessary expenses. Instead, the leaders of DPS are driven around town by chauffeurs and protected by body guards.

So Detroit can expect a double standard where employees are forced to make significant sacrifices so that the leaders can have luxuries and bonuses that are completely inconsistent with the concept of a financial emergency.

Alvin Ailey Theater Visits Spain

Spain School got a glimpse into the professional dance world when Alvin Ailey came to the Detroit Opera House in March.

Working with the students in Heidi Hebert's dance classes, troupe members immersed the students in the 1960s and 70s, the time Alvin Ailey grew artistically with his renowned Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.

Ailey was born in 1931 and created a dance style that incorporated ballet, modern, jazz and hip hop. He became successful during very turbulent years of segregation and Sputnik.

Spain students wrote essays on Alvin Ailey, learned about national events of the 60s and 70s, and tried dance moves in the dance studio.

"They're very inspiring to these kids," said Hebert of Darius Damazi Williams and Theara Ward. "They've dealt with injustice and a whole life in New York." Williams and Ward visited as part



Darius Damazi Williams of Alvin Ailey Dance Theater works with Spain dance students.

of an arts in education program sponsored by the Opera House and Alvin Ailey.

Alvin Ailey awarded the school 120 tickets to see its show at the Opera House. Members of the troupe also attended the all-city concert at the Detroit School of Arts to see the Spain students perform.

Grants . . .

Math and Science

Raytheon's MathMovesU is accepting nominations for its Math Heroes awards. The awards recognize excellent middle and high school math teachers and those who instill a love of learning about math and help students make great strides in math. Winners receive \$2,500 and a matching grant of \$2,500 for the winner's school. Deadline: May 15, 2013. For info, visit www.mathmovesu.com.

Running Grant

The Saucony Run for Good Foundation is committed to improving children's health and lives and helping prevent and reduce childhood obesity. The foundation provides funds to promote healthy lifestyles and running programs for young people. Grants up to \$10,000 are available. Deadline: June 13, 2013. For info, visit www.sauconyrunforgood.com.

Environment

The Alternative Fuel Foundation provides free cooking oil collection to convert it into clean-burning biofuel. The foundation's goal is to use cooking oil for forward-thinking companies as clean-burning fuel rather than having it

used for animal feed. The foundation funds grants up to \$500 for projects that promote awareness of sustainability. Deadline: ongoing. For info, visit www.alternativefuelfoundation.org.

Student Achievement

The National Education Association Foundation is offering grants to teachers for projects that engage students in critical thinking and problem solving to deepen their understanding of standards-based content. Grants from \$2,000 to \$5,000 are available. Deadline: June 1. For info, visit www.neafoundation.org.

Groundbreaking Instruction

The McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation supports proposals for projects that boost student learning and proficiency and gives grants to develop and implement groundbreaking K-12 instruction. Grants up to \$10,000 for three years are available. Deadline: April 15, 2013. For info, visit <http://mccarthy-dressman.org>.

Lego Grants

The LEGO Children's Fund provides grants for projects that help children from birth to 14 develop creativity and

learning skills through constructive play. Grants range from \$500 to \$5,000. Deadline: April 15. For info, visit www.legochildrensfund.org

Outstanding Teaching

The Turnaround Management Association's Butler-Cooley Excellence in Teaching Awards honors outstanding teachers. Grants up to \$5,000 are available. Deadline: May 1, 2013. For info, visit cbrooks@turnaround.org.

New Projects

The Sparkplug Foundation makes small one-time grants for programs that make a difference. Programs of interest for the foundation address disparities between students and teaching basic skills such as reading and math. Deadline: April 8, 2013. For info, visit <http://sparkplugfoundation.org>.

Young Heroes

The Barron Prize recognizes the significant efforts of young people helping the environment or their communities. Nominees must be ages 8 to 18 and must be the prime movers of a service project. A \$2,500 grant is available. Deadline: April 30, 2013. For info, visit www.barronprize.org.

Retirement Alert

Payment for Sick Days

DFT members who are planning on retiring either July 1, 2013 or Aug. 1, 2013 must notify the District no later than May 1, 2013 if they wish to be paid for their sick days upon retiring. Notifying the District means you need to:

- Go to HR on the 10th floor of the Fisher Building no later than May 1, 2013. (Use the elevators closest to Grand Blvd.)



Patrick Falcusan

- Ask for two Separation from Service (SFS) forms.
- Fill out both SFS forms checking the box that says "retiring".
- Put your retirement date as either July 1, 2013 or Aug. 1, 2013. (The Aug. 1 date should be used by those folks teaching summer school or the extended school year.)
- Turn both SFS forms back in and get both forms date-stamped.

- Take one date-stamped SFS form with you for your records.
- Put the copy of your date-stamped SFS form in a safe place.

The next opportunity to be paid for sick days will be for members who retire July 1, 2014 or Aug. 1, 2014 and notify the District no later than May 1, 2014. Payments for sick days in subsequent years of the contract (2015 and 2016) will only be made for members with retirement dates of July 1 or Aug. 1, 2015 or 2016 and who notify the District no later than May 1 of 2015 or 2016.

PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOU WISH TO BE PAID FOR YOUR SICK DAYS, THE FORMER INSTRUCTIONS TO TURN IN YOUR SEPARATION FROM SERVICE FORM IN JUNE NO LONGER APPLY. NO LATER THAN MAY 1 IS THE NEW DEADLINE.

Patrick Falcusan,
DFT Retirement Counselor
313.875.6783
pfalcusan@dft231.com



DFT Retiree Round Up

More than 300 retired DFT members attended the DFT Retiree Round Up March 19 at the DFT hall. The special luncheon was a huge success for the DFT Retiree Chapter. The Retiree Chapter meets every third Tuesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. at the DFT hall for free donuts and coffee, socializing, information about retiree benefits, and current news in the Detroit Public Schools. The next meeting is April 16 at 11:30 a.m. at the DFT hall. All retired DFT members are welcome to attend.

Calendar

All meetings will be held at 2875 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, unless otherwise noted. All Meetings start at 4:30 p.m. Dates and times are subject to change.

April

- 1-5 Schools closed, Spring Break**
- 8 Schools reopen**
- 11 Executive Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m.**
- 16 Retirees Chapter, 11:30 a.m.**
- 18 General Membership Meeting, 4:30 p.m.**

May

- 2 Executive Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m.**
- 9 General Membership Meeting, 4:30 p.m.**
- 21 Retirees Chapter, 11:30 a.m.**
- 27 Memorial Day, schools closed**
- 30 Executive Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m.**

June

- 6 General Membership Meeting, 4:30 p.m.**
- 13 Last day for students**
- 14 Last day for teachers**
- 18 Retiree Chapter, 11:30 a.m.**

We're on
Facebook!

Check us out at

www.facebook.com/DFT231