

DETROIT FEDERATION OF TEACHERS
RETIREES CHAPTER

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I – Name and Headquarters:

The name of this Chapter shall be the Retirees Chapter of the Detroit Federation of Teachers. It shall be the officially designated unit representing retirees. The headquarters shall be at the headquarters of the Detroit Federation of Teachers.

ARTICLE II – Purposes:

Mission Statement: Our mission is to enhance the lives of Detroit Federation of Teachers retirees, both socially and politically. It is also to help facilitate and support programs/activities which promote union solidarity and educational excellence within the Detroit Public Schools Community District (DPSCD).

The purposes of this Chapter shall be:

1. To promote the status of its retired school employees and that of all retired school employees.
2. To work in harmony with all retired teachers.
3. To work with the Detroit Federation of Teachers.

ARTICLE III – Membership:

1. Membership shall be open to all retired members of Detroit Federation of Teachers and all those retired from Detroit Public Schools who have been approved for membership by the Detroit Federation of Teachers.
2. Only former members of Detroit Federation of Teachers are eligible to hold office, but any member in good standing may vote.
3. Each member of the Retiree Chapter shall pay annual dues of thirty dollars (\$30) each September. A member is in good standing if his/her dues are paid to date.

ARTICLE IV – Directors and Officers:

All terms of office shall be for one year.

Officers shall consist of President, Executive Vice-President, Social Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Approved by the DFT Executive Board February 5,1987. Amended and approved September, 2018; amended and approved September, 2019.

The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers and shall act in an advisory capacity to the President, either individually upon the request of the President, or at special meetings called by the President as necessary.

ARTICLE V – Duties of Officers:

President: The President shall call all regular and special meetings, shall appoint all standing, special, and ad hoc committees, shall be an ex-officio non-voting member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

He/she shall have general responsibility for the Chapter's affairs between, as well as at, meetings.

He/she shall be custodian of all Chapter records and papers.

Executive Vice-President: The Executive Vice-President shall chair the meetings in the absence of the President.

In case a vacancy arises in the Presidency, he/she shall serve as Acting President until the next regular election.

He/she shall be the non-voting chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Social Vice-President: The social Vice-President shall chair the meetings in the absence of both President and Vice-President. He/she shall oversee the work of the membership and program committee.

Secretary: The Secretary shall keep minutes of all Chapter meetings.

He/she shall keep a record of attendance at meetings.

Treasurer: The Treasurer coordinates with the DFT office to keep an accurate accounting of all current dues paying retirees and reports on how our dues and any other monies collected are spent.

All Officers, Committee Chairpersons, and members making written reports of meetings shall promptly turn copies over to the Secretary.

All Officers and Committee Chairpersons shall turn over all records to the President or to their successor upon relinquishing their positions.

All Officers shall have such powers and duties as are usual under parliamentary rules.

Resignation of Officers: Two (2) absences without acceptable explanation shall be equivalent to a resignation after being duly notified by the Chapter.

ARTICLE VI: Committees:

Committees other than the Nominating Committee shall be established as needed. Each committee shall elect its own Chairperson and Secretary.

Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee shall be a standing committee for one (1) year and consist of five (5) members, in good standing, appointed by the President each year, upon his/her election.

No officer may serve on the Nominating Committee except the Executive Vice-President.

The agenda of the March meeting shall include a request for suggestions for nominations.

The Committee shall prepare a slate of nominees for each office, each of whom has agreed to accept the nomination. The Secretary shall enter the slate in the agenda of the April meeting. Additional nominations of eligible members may be made from the floor with the nominees' consent.

Election shall take place at the May meeting. Voting shall be by secret ballot. If there is only one nominee for an office, his/her election may be by acclamation. The newly elected officers shall assume office at the close of the May meeting.

Elections shall follow the regular rules of parliamentary procedure.

In case of a vacancy where there is no automatic provision for filling the office, the Nominating Committee shall present nominations at the first membership meeting after the vacancy becomes known and proceed as for regular elections. New elected officers shall assume their duties at once.

ARTICLE VII – Membership Meetings:

Membership meeting shall be held the third Tuesday of each month, except July and August, at a time and place convenient for members. The President may announce a different day of the month whenever necessary.

Twenty (20) members shall constitute a quorum, in case any measure comes to a vote.

Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be the authority for procedure at all meetings except where otherwise provided in these By-Laws.

ARTICLE VIII – Adoption and Amendment of By-Laws:

These By-Laws shall be accepted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present at the meeting previously announced as the one at which such voting will take place.

Any members may propose amendments to these By-Laws. Such proposal shall be submitted in writing to the President. The President shall present them at the first membership meeting following their submission. They shall be voted on at the regular meeting following their presentation. They will be adopted and become effective if they receive two-thirds (2/3) of the votes of the members present and are approved by the Detroit Federation of Teachers Executive Board.