A Union of Professionals
AFT Washington
AFL-CIO

625 Andover Park West
Suite 111
Tukwila, WA 98188
T: 206/242-4777
Toll-Free: 1-866/992-3892
F: 206/242-3131
http://wa.aft.org

An affiliate of the
American Federation
of Teachers, AFL-CIO

March 20, 2017

Dear Local President,

I am pleased to announce we are holding our 2017 Biennial Convention on Friday, May 19th, and Saturday, May 20th, at the Silver Reef Casino and Spa in Ferndale, Washington. The participation of your local is important to the strength and success of our union for a number of reasons, which I elaborate below.

Our convention theme is "Standing Together, We Move Forward." What this theme represents for me is the importance of recognizing and *acting* on our shared values and belief in justice and equity to improve the working lives of our members and strengthen the communities in which we all live. We need good wages and working conditions, affordable and high-quality healthcare, and the promise of a secure retirement. We need a hearty *public* education from early learning through higher education, and we need safe drinking water, a sound infrastructure, and reliable and affordable housing and transportation options for our communities. Our union, and the Labor Movement more broadly, has a stake in all of this and we have the potential, in solidarity with community allies, to ensure these aspirations are realized. This is why we come together.

Our keynote convention speaker will be AFT member Kent Wong, who is the director of the UCLA Labor Center, where he teaches courses in labor studies and Asian American studies. He was the founding president of the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA), the founding president of the United Association for Labor Education, and currently is vice president of the California Federation of Teachers.

2017 is an AFT Washington officer-election year. As attacks on collective bargaining come at us through legislation and the courts, an engaged and vibrant Executive Board is essential to effectively guide the work of AFT Washington. We will also consider resolutions and bylaws amendments and we will honor members whose work exemplifies union principles and moves our agenda forward. Your voice, and the voices of your members, are key to ensuring a democratic organization. Please commit to sending as many delegates as possible to cast your local's votes for officers, resolutions, and bylaws amendments, and to celebrate our successes. I would be thrilled to see 50 percent of delegate slots filled! If you have any questions about how to elect your delegates, please contact your AFT Washington Labor Representative and they will assist you.

Finally, convention is a great time to connect with other leaders and activists during our Early Bird Session, our evening program, and other unstructured time. And if you're a gambler, you may even go home with a little extra pocket change! Included in this letter are the details and logistics that will help you plan for full participation. I look forward to seeing you at our Biennial Convention as we work together to tackle the challenges we face, prepare for our fight forward, and celebrate our victories, both current and past.

In solidarity,

Karen Strickland

Karen Strickland, President
AFT Washington, AFL-CIO

KS/efg
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March 20, 2017

Dear Local Treasurer,

I am pleased to announce we are holding our 2017 Biennial Convention on Friday, May 19th, and Saturday, May 20th, at the Silver Reef Casino and Spa in Ferndale, Washington. The participation of your local is important to the strength and success of our union for a number of reasons, which I elaborate below.

Please note that we are sending packets to local presidents and also to treasurers; however, credentials and reply cards are included only in the president's packet to avoid duplication.

Our convention theme is "Standing Together, We Move Forward." What this theme represents for me is the importance of recognizing and *acting* on our shared values and belief in justice and equity to improve the working lives of our members and strengthen the communities in which we all live. We need good wages and working conditions, affordable and high-quality healthcare, and the promise of a secure retirement. We need a hearty *public* education from early learning through higher education, and we need safe drinking water, a sound infrastructure, and reliable and affordable housing and transportation options for our communities. Our union, and the Labor Movement more broadly, has a stake in all of this and we have the potential, in solidarity with community allies, to ensure these aspirations are realized. This is why we come together.

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In solidarity,

Karen Strickland

Karen Strickland, President
AFT Washington, AFL-CIO

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encl

A Union of Professionals

AFT Washington

AFL-CIO

March 20, 2017

TO: AFT Washington Local Presidents and Treasurers
FROM: Sylvia Watson, Convention Coordinator
RE: AFT Washington Annual Convention

Please find enclosed the Convention Call for the 2017 AFT Washington Convention, the 80th convention of this organization, to be held at the **Silver Reef Casino and Spa** in Ferndale on **Friday, May 19, and Saturday, May 20, 2017**. A tentative agenda, delegate credentials, and reply forms are also enclosed. Please refer to the Convention Call documents, including the convention calendar, for additional details and important deadlines. As with each biennial convention, we are electing Executive Board officers to serve us during the 2017-2019 biennium, so please be sure your local is represented.

Our 2017 convention theme is "Standing Together, We Move Forward," and with this mailing President Karen Strickland sends a personal letter to local presidents urging maximum representation at the convention.

Here are some important dates to remember:

- **AMENDMENTS** to the AFT Washington Bylaws and Standing Rules that will be presented at the 2017 Convention **must be postmarked by Wednesday, April 19, 2017.**

- **REGISTRATION** for the convention must be **postmarked by Saturday, April 29, 2017**. Your local's **YELLOW** delegate credential form, **BLUE** delegate reply forms (one for each delegate), and **early registration fees** must be postmarked by this date.

- **RESOLUTIONS** that will be presented at the 2017 Convention **must be postmarked no later than Saturday, April 29, 2017**. If your local is considering submitting a resolution to the 2017 AFT Washington Convention, please contact President Karen Strickland as soon as possible so that she may be aware of your issues and assist you in meeting the requirements for submission.

- **NOMINATIONS BY PETITION** for AFT Washington Executive Board members from locals **must be postmarked no later than Saturday, April 29, 2017.** Please refer to the enclosed election guideline and nomination form for more election information.

- **RESERVATIONS** for hotel sleeping rooms must be made by **no later than Thursday, May 4, 2017**. Delegates must call the hotel directly at (866) 383-0777 ext. 4254 to make hotel reservations. Use the code **AFT WASHINGTON** to receive the group rate. The Silver Reef Casino and Spa is located at 4876 Haxton Way in Ferndale, Washington (near Bellingham).

AFT Washington again asks locals to contribute to the AFT Washington/Schwerin Campbell Barnard Iglitzin & Lavitt Scholarship Fund. For the 2017-18 academic year, the program will provide up to four educational scholarships to eligible AFT Washington members or to children, spouses, or partners of eligible members. Please refer to the enclosed basket raffle flyer and let us know if your local is willing to donate a theme basket, donate directly by check, or donate online.

A packet of convention materials, including resolutions and Bylaws and Standing Rules amendments, will be mailed to all registered delegates and alternates prior to the opening of convention. If you have any questions regarding this year's convention or the materials in this Convention Call, please contact **Elizabeth Ferrell** at the AFT Washington office (206-432-8088 or eferrell-gray@aftwa.org). See you in Ferndale!

AFT WASHINGTON CONVENTION CALL

Silver Reef Casino and Spa, Ferndale

May 19 – 20, 2017

REPRESENTATION: Based on AFT Washington Bylaws Article IX - Convention, Section 3, Voting Body, the following is a list of the allowed voting and delegate strengths of all AFT Washington locals:

LOCAL	VOTING STRENGTH	DELEGATE STRENGTH
AFT Everett Higher Education Local 1873	269	18
AFT Everett Professional Staff Local 6485	18	2
AFT Kent Classified Local 6344	142	12
AFT Professional Staff at Clover Park Local 6431	33	4
AFT Renton Local 6367	151	12
AFT RTC Classified Local 6421	30	3
AFT Seattle Community Colleges Local 1789	628	27
AFT Seattle Professional Staff Union Local 6550	112	11
AFT University of Washington English Language Faculty Local 6486	42	5
AFT Washington Retiree Chapter Local 8045R	1	1
AFT Yakima Local 1485	179	14
AFT Yakima Professional Staff Local 6390	4	2
Bates Technical College Local 4184	167	13
Cascadia Community College Federation of Teachers Local 6191	121	11
Centralia College Federation of Teachers Local 4469	83	9
Clover Park Technical College Federation of Classified Local 4789	142	12
Clover Park Vocational Federation Local 3913	165	13
Cornish Federation of Teachers Local 4169	39	4
Edmonds Community College Federation of Teachers Local 4254	225	16
Everett Federation of Teachers Local 772	10	2
Faculty Prof Union of Western Washington State Local 2084	374	21
Federation of Head Start Employees Local 6153	103	10
Grays Harbor College Federation of Teachers Local 4984	87	9
Green River Community College Federation of Teachers Local 2195	177	13
Lake Washington Institute of Technology Local 3533	43	5
Lake Washington Federation of College Classified Local 4787	68	7
Peninsula Community College Federation of Teachers Local 3439	20	2
Pierce College Federation of Teachers Local 4821	198	15
Renton Federation of Teachers Local 3914	94	10
Shoreline College Federation of Teachers Local 1950	233	17
Skagit Valley College Federation of Teachers Local 4985	121	11
Sno-Isle Vocational Skills Center Federation Local 4087	20	2
South Puget Sound Federation of Teachers Local 4603	103	10
Tacoma Community College Federation Local 2196	207	15
Tacoma Federation of ParaEducators Local 461	463	23
United Classified Workers of Washington Local 4795	168	13
United Faculty of Central Washington University Local 3231	163	13
United Faculty of Eastern Washington University Local 4904	146	12
United Faculty of Evergreen State College Local 6392	135	12
Whatcom Community College Federation of Teachers Local 3591	88	9

DELEGATE REGISTRATION: Two credential forms are enclosed.

- Return the **YELLOW** credential to the AFT Washington office, along with a blue reply card for each delegate, **on or before Saturday, April 29, 2017.**
- A check of **$125 per delegate** must be enclosed with the **YELLOW** credential form to take advantage of the lower pre-registration fee.
- The names of your local's delegates and its chief delegate **must** be sent to the AFT Washington office on or before **April 29, 2017,** using the **YELLOW** credential regardless of when registration fees are paid in order in order for a local's delegate to attend convention without special seating.
- The **GREEN** (official) credential is required for registration and must be presented in person on May 19th by your local's **Chief Delegate**. Please be sure that the chief delegate has the **GREEN** credential to present to the Credentials Committee at the Convention registration table.

REGISTRATION COSTS:

- Locals may pre-register their delegates for $125 per delegate if **PAYMENT and YELLOW** credential are postmarked on or before **April 29, 2017**. Registration fees cover Friday night dinner and program, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, the Early Bird event, and convention materials.
- The cost of late registration (postmarked after April 29, 2017) and on-site registration is $150 per delegate.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Hotel reservations must be made **by THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017**. Delegates must call the Silver Reef Casino and Spa directly at **(866) 383-0777 ext. 4254** to make reservations. Use the group code **AFT WASHINGTON** to receive the group rate. You may choose a room with one king bed or a room with two queen beds for $109 per night for up to two people and $124 per night for three or four people. There is a $15 per night charge for cribs or rollaways. Room tax is 8% per night. Hotel amenities include complimentary parking, wireless Internet, and access to the hotel's pool and exercise room. Check-in time is 4:00 PM and check-out time is noon.

ROOM GUARANTEE: Please note that when you reserve a sleeping room, a credit card is required to guarantee your reservation. After **May 4,** the block of rooms reserved for our convention may be released and late reservations will be accepted on a space-available and market-rate basis.

RESOLUTIONS: Resolutions to the convention may be submitted by locals, the AFT Washington Retiree Chapter, AFT Washington Councils, or the AFT Washington Executive Board. No resolution shall be submitted later than **twenty (20) days** prior to the opening of the convention unless two-thirds (2/3) of the convention votes to suspend this rule and consider a given resolution as a special order of business. This year, the cut-off date to submit resolutions not requiring a special order of business is **April 29, 2017**. Resolutions submitted by locals shall bear the signature of at least two elected officials of the local submitting the resolution. Resolutions submitted by the AFT Retiree Chapter, an AFT Washington Council, or the AFT Washington Executive Board shall bear the signature of the appropriate officer. Each resolution shall have a title and be submitted electronically and in printed format with signatures.

BYLAWS AMENDMENTS: AFT Washington Bylaws may be amended at any convention by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of delegates provided that the amendment is received by the AFT Washington office and referred to the Bylaws Committee at least **thirty (30) days** prior to the convention at which it is to be considered. This year, the cut-off date is **April 19, 2017.** Bylaws amendments may be proposed by one of the following: a Local; the AFT Washington Retiree Chapter; an AFT Washington Council; the AFT Washington Executive Board; or by written petition signed by no fewer than fifty (50) members from no fewer than four (4) locals in good standing.

Bylaws amendments must be: (a) published in an official publication of AFT Washington at least twenty (20) days prior to the convention; (b) mailed from the AFT Washington office to the elected convention delegates and alternates at least seven (7) days prior to the opening of the convention; and (c) made available to all delegates and alternates attending the convention at the time they sign in to the convention itself.

ANNUAL BASKET RAFFLE: AFT Washington will be holding a basket raffle during convention. The proceeds from raffle sales and contributions will be deposited into the scholarship fund. Locals or individuals willing to contribute may choose to either donate a basket or contribute by check payable to the **AFT Washington/SCBIL Scholarship Fund.** Please see the enclosed flyer for AFT Washington contact information.

ELECTIONS: AFT Washington officer elections will take place at the 2017 convention. The AFT Washington Nominations and Elections Committee shall accept nominations for the office of president, secretary, treasurer, and the vice presidents. Nominations may also be made from the Convention floor or by petition. A nomination made by petition must be mailed to the Nominations and Elections Committee in care of AFT Washington and postmarked **no later than Saturday, April 29, 2017.** Please refer to the enclosed Nominations and Elections Guidelines for petition requirements and other nomination and elections information.

AFT Washington

AFT WASHINGTON 2017 CONVENTION REPLY FORM

Return a reply form for <u>EACH</u> delegate with check and yellow credential to AFT Washington before April 29, 2017

Delegate Name _____ Local Name/Number _____

Home Address, City, Zip Code _____

Home/Cell Phone _____ Home E-Mail Address _____

If you are willing to accept presidential nomination to a convention committee, select the committee below:

☐ Credentials ☐ Bylaws Amendments ☐ Resolutions

NEW TO CONVENTION?

☐ Please check here to join us Saturday morning at the new delegate orientation/parliamentary procedures workshop.

PLEASE INDICATE DIETARY RESTRICTIONS FOR YOURSELF AND ANY GUESTS BELOW

Delegate		Delegate Guest ($40 per dinner guest)	
☐ Vegetarian	☐ Vegan	☐ Vegetarian	☐ Vegan
☐ Gluten-free	☐ Lactose Intolerant	☐ Gluten-free	☐ Lactose Intolerant
		☐ Name of guest(s)	

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		☐ Name of guest(s)	

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A Union of Professionals
AFT Washington
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Tentative 2017 Convention Agenda
Silver Reef Casino and Spa
Ferndale, Washington

Friday, May 19, 2017

11:30 AM	Retiree Chapter meeting and lunch	Legacy Room
2:00 PM	Early Bird event	Theatre East
4:30 PM	Executive Board meeting	Legacy Room
5:30 PM	Registration	Director's Room
	No-host reception	Event Center North
6:30 PM	Program	
6:50 PM	Invocation and dinner	
7:20 PM	Greetings and Human Rights award	
7:45 PM	Keynote speaker, Kent Wong	
8:30 PM	Entertainment	

Saturday, May 20, 2017

7:30 AM	Registration	Director's Room
	Breakfast and caucuses	Event Center North
8:00 AM	New Delegate orientation	Event Center North
	Bylaws Amendments committee	Theatre East
	Resolutions committee	Chairman's Room
9:00 AM	Convene and welcome	Event Center South
	State of the Union	
	State of the Treasury	
	Credentials initial report and adoptions	
	Nominations & Elections Committee report	
	Call for nominations from the floor	
10:15 AM	Break and hotel check-out	
10:45 AM	Bylaws Amendments and Resolutions	
	Second call for officer nominations from the floor	
	Executive Board award presentations	
	Resolutions	
	Special Order of Business	
	Candidate forum	
	Legislative report	
	Staff recognition and basket raffle	
12:30 PM	Lunch, speakers, and remainder of awards	Event Center North
1:30 PM	Reconvene and final credentials report	Event Center South
	Nominations and Elections	
	Installation of officers	
3:00 PM	Adjourn, pending final election results	
	Solidarity action	

TENTATIVE

AFT Washington
AFL-CIO

2017 AFT WASHINGTON BIENNIAL CONVENTION
IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

April 19, 2017

- Proposed Bylaws and/or Standing Rules amendments due in the AFT Washington office*

April 29, 2017

- Proposed resolutions to AFT Washington must be postmarked by this date*
- Credentials and early registration fees must be postmarked by this date
- Bylaws amendments must be published in an official publication of AFT Washington*
- Last day for candidates to send in their candidacy information sheet to be mailed by AFT Washington to all convention delegates
- Nominations by petition due for council officers*

May 4, 2017

- Hotel room reservation cutoff date

May 9, 2017

- Per capita must be paid through the month of March to AFT Washington and current to AFT (national)*

May 12, 2017

- Copies of all bylaws amendments and resolutions must be mailed to locals, delegates, and alternates*

May 19 – May 20, 2017

- AFT Washington 2017 Convention
  - Silver Reef Casino and Spa, 4876 Haxton Way, Ferndale, WA 98248

*Mandated by AFT Washington Constitution & Bylaws

AFT WASHINGTON CONVENTION
EARLY BIRD WORKSHOP
FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2-5 PM

LABOR IN THE TIME OF TRUMP

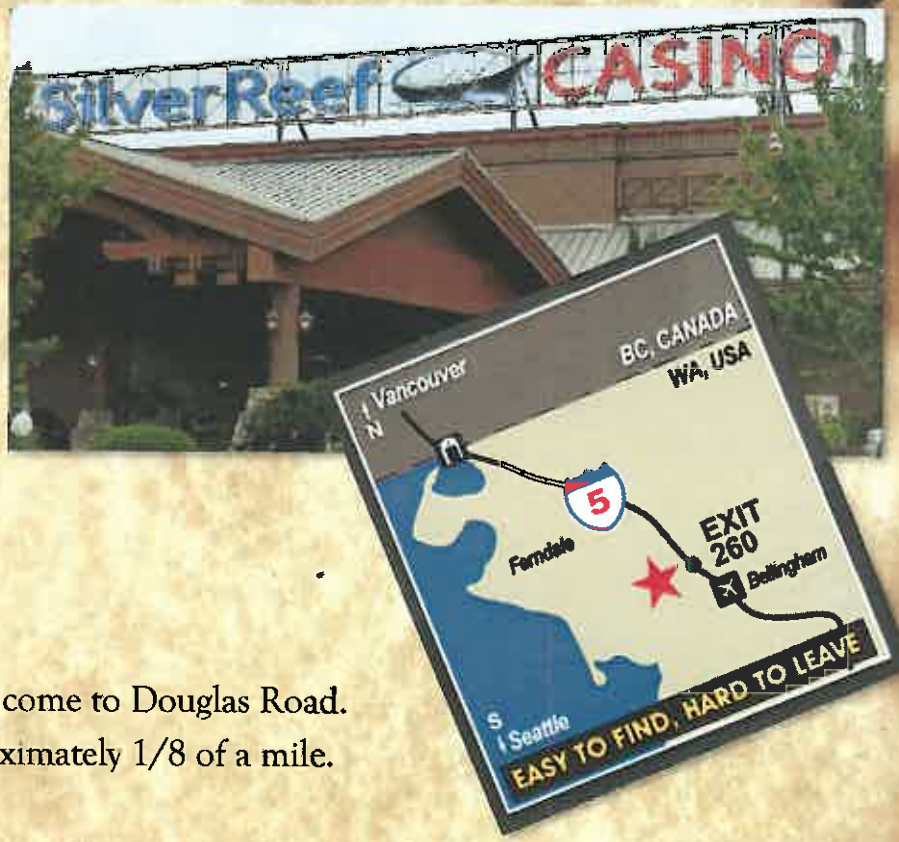
- Address what holds people back and how to get around those hurdles.
- Discuss issues that directly interest members.
- Connect the intersection of the personal, our union, and politics.
- Build flexible plans to address hurdles in your local.
- Discuss challenges and opportunities under this administration.
- Methods for better conversations with fellow members to get them involved (*after* addressing what holds them back).

TURNING FEAR AND APATHY INTO ACTION

AFT WASHINGTON, AFL-CIO
625 ANDOVER PARK W., STE. 111, TUKWILA WA 98188
206-242-4777 | AFTWASHINGTON@AFTWA.ORG
#AFTWACONVENTION

AFT Washington Convention

May 19 – 20, 2017
Ferndale, Washington



DIRECTIONS TO THE SILVER REEF HOTEL CASINO SPA

1. Travel North on I-5 and take Exit 262.
2. From there you will take a RIGHT onto Main Street.
3. Continue on Main Street for approx 1 mile until you come to Douglas Road.
4. Turn LEFT on Douglas Road and continue for approximately 1/8 of a mile.
5. Veer LEFT onto Imhof Road.
6. Continue on Imhof Road for approximately 1.5 miles until you reach Slater Road.
7. Turn RIGHT onto Slater Road and continue on Slater Road for approximately 2 miles.
8. Turn LEFT on Haxton Way, and turn left into the Silver Reef Casino parking lot.

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SEE YOU THERE!

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Convention Basket Raffle

Support the AFT Washington/Schwerin Campbell Barnard Iglitzin & Lavitt Scholarship Fund

Are you a sports fan? Thinking about summer time and backyard BBQs? Want to relax with a day at the spa? Put your imagination to work and support a wonderful cause at the same time!

One of the highlights of every convention is the gift basket raffle. All proceeds from the raffle, and donations from locals, go directly to the scholarship fund to award at least $1,000 scholarship toward the higher education costs of an AFT Washington member, dependent, or spouse or domestic partner of an AFT Washington member.

We are now accepting baskets for this conventions raffle. You may also donate monetary contributions online at: https://actionnetwork.org/fundraising/aft-washingtonscbil-education-scholarship.

Standing Together, We Move Forward!

With the cost of education on the rise, our goal this year is to award three scholarships of $1,500. Combined with the $1,500 donated by the law firm, we should be able to do this, but we need your help. Please contribute a basket, write a check, or donate online to help us move forward.

Contact Cris at crice@aftwa.org or 206-432-8090 no later than May 9, 2017, to let us know which form of contribution your local will send.

If you have questions regarding the scholarship itself, please contact Christine at clandon@aftwa.org or 206-432-8075.

A Union of Professionals
AFT Washington
AFL-CIO

Date: _____

Nominations and Elections Committee
c/o AFT Washington
625 Andover Park W, Ste 111
Tukwila, WA 98188

To the 2017 Nominations and Elections Committee:

We, the undersigned members in good standing of _____

Local #_____ hereby nominate _____

for the office of AFT Washington _____.

	PLEASE PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____