

**BYLAWS FOR THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS
WASHINGTON RETIREE CHAPTER**

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the American Federation of Teachers Washington Retiree Chapter.

ARTICLE II – AFFILIATION

This organization shall be affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers and the American Federation of Teachers Washington, as Local 8045R.

ARTICLE III – OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Chapter shall be

1. To maintain, restore, or create camaraderie and communities of interest with retired members of the American Federation of Teachers in the State of Washington.
2. To foster social, political, cultural, educational, and civic pursuits of retirees.
3. To maintain association with the American Federation of Teachers Washington by
 - a. participating in the governance of AFT Washington as provided in the AFT Washington constitution as now written or hereafter amended;
 - b. assisting AFT Washington in providing information to retirees about social and political issues that affect retired and active members and their families;
 - c. assisting AFT Washington in providing information on retirement to current AFT Washington members who may be nearing retirement;
 - d. assisting AFT Washington in serving as resources for local union leaders; and
 - e. providing AFT Washington with retiree perspectives on such matters as educational issues and possible improvements in retirement benefits for public employees, both nationally and in the State of Washington.
4. To provide a united voice for AFT retirees living in the State of Washington on issues related to retirees.
5. To support the aims, goals, and objectives of the AFT Washington and AFT.
6. To promote mutual assistance and cooperation with other organizations with which the Chapter may be associated.
7. To gather and disseminate information of interest to our members.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Retired members of the American Federation of Teachers who reside in the State of Washington and whose locals have reported to the AFT that their membership status has been changed from “working” to “retired, active” shall be members of this Chapter, as shall retired members who otherwise appear on an AFT Washington local’s retiree list and who

have been reported as such to AFT Washington. Retirees who have become members through the reporting processes set forth herein shall continue to be members whether or not the local continues to report them as “retired, active” or as members on the local’s retiree list. Upon application, retirees who once belonged to an AFT Washington local or a WFT local or a WSFT local shall be members of the chapter, as shall be retirees who have been employed by AFT Washington /WFT/WSFT and retirees residing in the state of Washington who can demonstrate having had some association with an AFT local outside of this state or with the national American Federation of Teachers. Upon application, the spouses, partners, and/or family members of chapter members shall also belong to the chapter.

Section 2. Application. An applicant for membership shall submit a completed application form to the AFT Washington office.

Section 3. Affiliation Fees and Chapter Dues. The payment of both affiliation fees and chapter dues shall be a requirement of membership.

- a. Affiliation fees shall be as specified by the AFT Washington Bylaws, as now or hereafter amended.
- b. Chapter dues may be established by the Executive Board with majority approval of the membership present and voting at the annual meeting.
- c. A member whose fees and dues are in default for two (2) months shall be notified to that effect. If fees and dues remain unpaid for six (6) months after such notice, the member will be dropped from the membership rolls.
- d. Payment of fees and dues shall be in accordance with a schedule established by the Executive Board and consistent with the AFT Washington Bylaws, as now or hereafter amended.

Section 4. Resignation. A member in good standing may resign from the Chapter by sending a written resignation to the Chapter secretary, who shall notify the Washington office of the resignation. The resignation shall be effective upon receipt unless specified otherwise.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers. There shall be the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and five (5) Directors. If the chapter so desires, the same person may hold both offices of Secretary and Treasurer. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Chapter.

Section 2. Eligibility and Term. Any member in good standing shall be eligible to be nominated for office. The officers shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected, whichever is later. The term shall begin upon adjournment of the biennial meeting. Officers may run for re-election.

Section 3. Nominations. Nominations for office shall be made at the biennial meeting. Prior to any such biennial meeting at which the election of officers is to occur, all members in good standing shall receive written notice by mail or by e-mail that they are eligible to nominate and to be nominated for office and to be elected for office of the Chapter. Such written notice shall be provided at least thirty (30) days prior to the biennial meeting.

Section 4. Method for Filling Vacancies. A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the Vice President. The resulting vacancy and any other vacancies shall be filled by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings. A chapter meeting shall be held biennially in the spring of odd-numbered years. Additional meetings may be held as well. Meetings shall be called by the President, the Executive Board, or upon the written request of ten (10) members in good standing.

Section 2. Meeting Notice. Notice of a chapter meeting shall be made by mail, e-mail, or telephone and shall state the place, date, and hour of the meeting. Notice shall be provided at least thirty (30) days prior to the convening of any such meeting except when a bona fide emergency requires shorter notice. Whenever officer elections, supplementary dues, or proposed amendments to these bylaws are to be considered at a chapter meeting, the notice shall not be made by telephone but shall be in writing.

Section 3. Quorum. A quorum at any chapter meeting shall be ten (10) members in good standing and shall include at least two (2) officers.

ARTICLE VII – EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. Composition. The Executive Board shall be the officers of the Chapter.

Section 2. Board Duties and Powers. The Executive Board shall be charged with the general supervision of the affairs of the Chapter between chapter meetings, shall make recommendations to the Chapter when necessary, and perform such other duties as may be specified in these bylaws. The Board on behalf of the Chapter membership may submit proposed action items in a timely manner to the AFT Washington convention for consideration, provided, however, that any such action shall require a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Board. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the Chapter, and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Chapter.

Section 3. Meetings. The Executive Board shall meet as necessary at a time and place determined by the Board. The Board shall convene upon the call of the President or of at least two (2) members of the Board.

Section 4. Meeting Form. Meetings may be face to face or through the use of a conference telephone or other communications equipment by means of which all participating in the meeting may communicate with each other at the same time.

Section 5. Voting between regular meetings. The President may conduct a vote of the Executive Board through mail, email, telephone or other electronic means provided that:

- a. The motion to be voted on is clearly stated by the president with whatever supporting information is needed so that the Board members can make an informed vote.
- b. All Board members are given an opportunity to participate.

- c. Conditions of a quorum are met by the responses.
- d. The motion passes with a majority vote, or two-thirds vote if required.
- e. The president tallies the votes and informs the Board of the outcome. The action is recorded in the next Board minutes.
- f. The time frame for returning votes is four (4) days.
- g. The process is used only for straightforward votes under time pressure, not for votes that require deliberation or debate.

ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES

Committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President as the Chapter or the Executive Board from time to time deem necessary to carry on the work of the Chapter.

ARTICLE IX – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Chapter in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Chapter may adopt.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended at any chapter meeting by a two-thirds vote, provided, however, that the amendment has been mailed to the members in good standing at least thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting and provided further that meeting-notice requirements as specified in Article VI, Section 2, of these bylaws have been met.