

FORWARD

The Official Newsletter of The Dearborn Federation of School Employees

1107 Washington Street, Dearborn, Michigan 48124 313-274-5900

January 2024

Happy New Year! We are already one month into this new year and are heading into February. At the January General Membership Meeting, we installed our new union officers for a two-year term. Our new Executive Board is a mix of people, some with a lot of seniority and experience, and some newer employees eager to learn the business of union representation. The various classifications on the board are from the Trades, Secretarial, Technical, Maintenance, Grounds and Paraprofessional, which will give us a rounded perspective of the issues related to those jobs. With a five-year contract in our pocket, we can focus on the teaching and training of a new, younger generation of leaders who can continue the work of this union into the future. As we all know, it takes a great deal of work to make our union successful which is why educating oneself in the administration and business of our union is necessary.

MILLAGE! MILLAGE! MILLAGE!

February 27, 2024 is the date for the vote on the millage renewal by the residents of Dearborn. There is nothing more important than the passage of this renewal as it will impact all of us. **This millage is not a new tax and is not a bond for infrastructure. It is for the operation of our district which means it is used for the wages and salaries of employees. If this millage passes, homeowners will see their tax cap drop from 6.17 mills to a maximum of 4 mills because the district only collected 2.04 mills this year.** Absentee ballots have already been mailed to those who are eligible. The DFSE, is urging its members, who are residents of Dearborn, to approve this renewal, whether you vote absentee or in-person, it is important that you vote. As stated, this renewal is for money that pays our wages and salaries and is critical to the continued operation of the district with the current staffing levels. The union will host a phone bank as we

get near February 27th. If you would like to participate in calling fellow employees to remind them to vote and to support the millage, please contact the union office for more details.

If you would like to learn more about voting, visit the [Michigan Voter Information Center](#). The site provides information on registering to vote, requesting an absentee ballot, and many other useful facts for voters or would-be voters.

You can also visit the district website to learn more about the [district's Operating Milage Renewal](#).

WELCOME HYAT!

Hyat Nagy is our new DFSE Treasurer. She is currently a Special Ed Parapro at Edsel and has been employed by the district since 2019. She is excited to learn the role of Treasurer and we are excited to have her with us.

If you wish to contact us, please see below:

Laurie Kurth: kurthl@dearbornschools.org phone: 313-758-9337

Kathy Rabadi: rabadik@dearbornschools.org phone: 313-682-4272

Kyle West: westk1@dearbornschools.org

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Angie Lorenzetti: lorenza@dearbornschools.org

Justin Miller: millerj1@dearbornschools.org

Hyat Nagy: nagyh@dearbornschools.org

Our next *General Membership Meeting* will be on February 8th, in room #12 at the ASC building, located at 18700 Audette Street in Dearborn. This meeting will begin at approximately 6:30 p.m.

If you are interested in joining our union, please contact Kathy Rabadi

or Al Lerini through their contacts listed above or call our office at: 313-274-5900.

They are our go-to board members for enrollment and will help you through the process. If you are already a registered member and know others that may be interested, please encourage them to contact us.

Check out our website! The website address is dfse4750.mi.aft.org