

MFT LOCAL59 CONSTITUTION

Preamble

We, the Teachers, Paraprofessionals and School Related Personnel of Minneapolis, in order to establish relationships of mutual assistance and cooperation among members; to insure professional status and compensation; to enhance the quality of work life; to share in the decision-making process; and, to insure recognition of the members and our profession, do establish this Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE 1

Name

This organization shall be known as the Minneapolis Federation of Teachers/Paraprofessionals and School Related Personnel, Local 59, American Federation of Teachers, American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organization.

ARTICLE 2

Affiliation

Section 1. Affiliates. This organization shall affiliate with the AFT, Minnesota Federation of Teachers, Minneapolis Central Labor Union Council, Minnesota AFL-CIO, and with such other organizations as the membership may deem advisable.

Section 2. Delegates. Local No. 59 AFT shall send delegates to meetings of each of the organizations with which it is affiliated.

ARTICLE 3

Membership

Section 1. MFT/PSRP shall be composed of two or more chapters.

Section 2. Eligibility. Local No. 59 AFT shall consist of federations of public and private school teachers, paraprofessionals and school-related personnel, nurses, allied health professionals and other health care employees, state and local public employees and other workers organized in conformity with the provisions of this constitution. Other employees may be members of any local whose constitution so permits.

Section 3. Free Speech. No member shall be restricted or hampered in the expression of free speech and personal views.

Section 4. Anti-discrimination. The MFT/PSRP does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, affectional preference, handicap, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, Vietnam era veteran status and age in its educational programs or activities and complies with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and other applicable statutes and regulations relating to equality of opportunity.

Section 5. Other classifications include:

Subd. 1. Honorary Memberships. Honorary memberships and courtesy memberships without dues consistent with the policy of the American Federation of Teachers may be granted by the membership upon Executive Board recommendation.

Subd. 2. Retirees.

Subd. 3. Laid off and on-leave.

Subd. 4. Student members.

ARTICLE 4

Dues

Every member of Local No. 59 AFT shall pay into its treasury annual dues as provided in this Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE 5

Fiscal and Election Years

Section 1. The "fiscal year" of Local No. 59 AFT shall begin July 1 and end June 30.

Section 2. The "elected officials of this Union except stewards and designated delegates shall serve beginning June 15 in every even-numbered year.

ARTICLE 6

Meetings

Section 1. Each chapter shall hold at least seven chapter meetings in each school year at the time and place determined by the Executive Board and upon notification to the members of the chapters.

Section 2. The May membership meeting shall be termed the "annual fiscal meeting" of Local No. 59 AFT at which the budget and dues are adopted for the following fiscal year.

Section 3. Other membership meetings may be held in each school year at a time and place determined by the Executive Board and notification to the membership.

Section 4. There shall be 9 regularly scheduled monthly Executive Board meetings during the school year.

ARTICLE 7

Conduct of Business

Section 1. All business of Local No. 59 AFT shall be conducted according to **ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER**, Revised Edition.

Section 2. The Chapter President may designate a parliamentarian to assist the President at all chapter meetings. The decision of the parliamentarian shall be final unless an appeal by a member or by the President is sustained by a majority vote of the members present.

Section 3. The Executive Board Chairperson may designate a parliamentarian to assist the Chairperson at all membership meetings. The decision of the parliamentarian shall be final unless an appeal by a member or by the Executive Board Chairperson is sustained by a majority vote of the members present.

ARTICLE 8

Quorum

Section 1. The members present at any chapter meeting held in accordance with procedures for calling the meetings shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. The members present at any membership meeting held in accordance with procedures for calling the meetings shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3. The members present at any Executive Board meeting held in accordance with procedures for calling the meetings shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE 9

Official Publications

Each chapter may have an official publication.

ARTICLE 10

Amendments and Bylaws

Section 1. This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended or revised by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at a membership meeting, provided that content thereof in full shall have been published in an official publication of Local 59 and forwarded to the membership not fewer than fifteen days previous to the date of consideration. This Constitution, Bylaws and Procedures may also be amended by referendum. Procedures may be adopted, changed or amended by majority vote at any membership or chapter meeting.

Section 2. Each chapter may have bylaws for the procedures and governance of the chapter to include the election procedure. Such bylaws must be consistent with and not constrict the procedures and governance of Local 59.

Section 3. All chapter bylaws may be adopted, amended or revised by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at a chapter meeting, provided that content thereof in full shall have been published in an official publication of Local 59 and forwarded to the appropriate membership not fewer than fifteen days previous to the date of consideration.

ARTICLE 11

Referendum

A referendum vote on any question may be initiated in the following manner:

a.by recommendation of the Executive Board, or

b.upon motion and two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at a membership meeting, or

c.by petition of ten percent (10%) of Union membership

ARTICLE 12

Recall

Any elected officer or Executive Board member or delegate shall be subject to recall for any infringement of the provisions of this Constitution.

ARTICLE 13

Officers and Executive Board

Section 1. The elective officers of Local No. 59 shall be: Chapter Presidents (one each chapter) , First Vice-Presidents (one each chapter) , Second Vice-Presidents (one each chapter if needed) , recording secretaries (one each chapter) and Local No. 59 Treasurer.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall include some elected officers, the Chairperson of the Central Labor Union Council delegation and elected members of the Board.

ARTICLE 14

Elections

Section 1. The election of officers, Executive Board members and Central Labor Union delegation shall be held prior to the May executive board meeting on even-numbered years, pursuant to Bylaws, Chapter 12, Parts 6 through 11.

Section 2. All officers, Executive Board members, and CLU delegates elected in a regular election shall serve two years, beginning June 15 in even numbered years.

ARTICLE 15

Stewards

Each chapter shall have one steward per work site providing it has one or more members at that site. The steward shall serve until a successor is elected. A work site may have one or more assistant stewards should the chapter members or steward so desire.

ARTICLE 16

Budget

A budget shall be prepared and submitted for adoption to the May membership meeting for each ensuing fiscal year.

ARTICLE 17

Audit

All financial records of Local No. 59 shall be audited annually.

ARTICLE 18

Strike Vote

Any chapter except a Retirees Chapter at any regular or special meeting, by majority vote, may authorize the taking of a strike vote.

BYLAWS

CHAPTER 1

Membership

Part 1. A member whose dues account, assessment or pledge account, or any other financial account is not current thirty days after due date shall be deemed delinquent.

Part 2. Membership may be terminated or forfeited by expulsion from Local No. 59 AFT at the discretion of the Executive Board for arrearage on dues, or assessment, or pledge, or other financial obligation for three months.

Part 3. Good financial standing may be regained by paying in full all outstanding financial obligations.

Part 4. An application for reinstatement to membership by one who has resigned or one who is not in good standing and has forfeited membership must be accompanied by:

a.a remittance in full payment of any and all past financial obligations unless such dues are cancelled by the Executive Board, and

b. by acceptance of dues check-off, if permitted by the employer.

Part 5. Satisfaction of a members' accounts shall always be in the following order: 1) assessments or pledges; 2) other financial obligations; 3) past dues; and lastly 4) current dues. Provision may be made to maintain current liability insurance coverage by signed agreement to combine payments of past dues with payments of current dues.

Part 6. The Executive Board shall review and act on overdue accounts. It shall, in presented cases of individual emergency, review and act in matters of dues. It may authorize legal action.

Withdrawals and Resignations

Part 1. A member may resign from Local No. 59, but only by notice in writing to the Union stating the effective date of such resignation and provided all dues are paid to the date of resignation. The effective date cannot be retroactive, and in case of doubt the postmark of the letter or the steward's notation shall determine the effective date. An "oral" resignation made to a steward or an officer has no legal status and no legal effect.

Part 2. Until a letter of withdrawal or resignation is received by Local No. 59, the member shall be subject to and liable for the payment of all dues, assessments and pledges and other financial obligations of the Union in the interim. No refunds of excess dues shall be made to a withdrawing or a resigning member except upon a written request.

Part 3. A letter of withdrawal or resignation, after processing and having been reported to the Executive Board, shall be used to strike such name from the membership list and to cancel all Local No. 59 and affiliate publications and services.

Part 4. A member retiring from service shall so notify Local No. 59. A refund of excess dues may be secured by a retiree upon written request.

CHAPTER 2

Dues Part 1. The annual dues shall be approved and adopted by the membership at the annual fiscal meeting, based on the budget report submitted by the

Budget Committee Chairperson with approval of the Executive Board. Such action in the meeting shall be final, except that the Executive Board with the approval of the membership may waive this provision for special membership drives.

Part 2. Annual dues shall be paid by dues check-off. All who join Local No. 59 must pay their dues through dues check-off if that option is open to them.

Part 3. The Executive Board may define or change the procedures outlined in Part 2 subject to the approval of the membership at the annual fiscal meeting.

Part 4. Leaves of absence. Adjustments for leaves of absence may be made on a pro-rata basis.

Part 5. Foreign exchange teachers to the Minneapolis Public Schools shall be issued courtesy memberships, without dues, for the school year.

CHAPTER 3

Meetings

Part 1. Special meetings of the chapters of Local No. 59 may be called at the discretion of the chapter President or of the Executive Board. Notification to the membership shall be seven days prior to the meeting, if possible.

Part 2. Special membership meetings may be called at the discretion of the Executive Board. Notification to the membership shall be seven days prior to the meeting, if possible.

Part 3. Special meetings of the Executive Board shall be at the call of the Executive Board Chairperson or by a chapter President with due notice informing the Chairperson of the time, place and purpose of the meeting.

Part 4. Meetings of stewards shall be called at the discretion of the chapter officer whose duties include the calling of such meetings, or of the chapter President with due notice to the chapter Vice-President(s) .

Part 5. The chapter President shall be empowered to change the date, location or time of any chapter meeting because of emergency.

Part 6. The Executive Board shall be empowered to change the date, location or time of any membership meeting because of emergency.

Part 7. Official minutes of all membership and Executive Board meetings shall be recorded by the Executive Board recording secretary. Official minutes of all chapter meetings shall be recorded by the appropriate chapter recording secretary.

CHAPTER 4

Duties of Officers

Part 1. Chapter President. It shall be the duty of the President to include: to serve as a regular or ex-officio member of Local No. 59 Executive Board; to serve as a member of Local 59 Budget Committee; to preside at chapter meetings; to be automatically a delegate to affiliated bodies wherein "election" is legally required except AFT and MCLUC; to be a member ex-officio on all other committees and delegations except the Nominations Committee; to perform duties set forth in this Constitution and Bylaws; to sign necessary papers and documents; to transact such other business as normally pertains to the office; to be generally responsible for the functioning of this Union; to be the exclusive spokesperson for that chapter of Local No. 59 and, when possible, shall have the single authority to delegate such responsibility.

Part 2. Chapter First Vice-President. It shall be the duty of the First Vice-President to include: to serve as a member of the Local 59 Budget, and Publications Committees; a member of the Chapter Organization Committee; to assume the responsibilities of president in the event of the President's absence, death, or disability until a successor is elected; to assist the President. It may be the duty of the First Vice-President to serve on the Local No. 59 Executive Board.

Part 3. Chapter Second Vice-President. It shall be the duty of the Second Vice-President to serve: as a member of the Local No. 59 Budget Committee; as chairperson of the Chapter Organization Committee, to initiate, advance, coordinate, and supervise all membership and organizing efforts of this local; to promote intensive campaigns during strategic periods of the year; to conduct follow-up drives throughout the year; to serve as chairperson of the stewards' general meetings. The Chapter Organization Committee shall include the First Vice-President, the Recording Secretary, aided by building stewards and members of the Union. It may be the duty of the Second Vice-President to serve on the Local No. 59 Executive Board.

Part 4. Chapter Recording Secretary. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to include: to make and to keep a permanent record of the proceedings of all chapter meetings, and to furnish copies thereof to the Chapter President and to the Chapter First Vice-President; and to serve as a member of the Local No. 59 Budget Committee and Chapter Organization Committees. It may be the duty of the recording secretary to serve on the Local No. 59 Executive Board.

Part 5. Treasurer. It shall be the duty of the Local No. 59 Treasurer to deposit all monies received in a bank approved by the Executive Board; to serve on the Local No. 59 Executive Board; to pay, by check only,

with voucher countersigned by the appropriate chapter President, all approved bills against Local No. 59; to maintain an adequate and satisfactory single set of accounting records of receipts and disbursements covering all regular, special, assessed and voluntary funds; to make reports on finances at Executive Board, chapter and membership meetings; to furnish written annual financial statements to the membership by the November meeting for the preceding fiscal year; to inform, upon request, the status of budget accounts; to serve on the Local No. 59 Budget Committee. In case of inability of the Treasurer to perform duties, the Executive Board may authorize another officer to sign checks.

Part 6. Bonding of Officers. Any officer or staff member requiring it may have adequate and reliable bonding and theft insurance coverage at the expense of the Union.

CHAPTER 5

ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

Part 1. The composition of the executive board shall be determined prior to each regular election by dividing the number of Local No. 59 members, as of the January executive board meeting by 15 to establish a board unit. Chapters shall be allotted executive board members according to the number of members in their chapter, at the rate of one executive board member for each board unit and major fraction thereof. Each chapter's executive board members shall be named in the following order: CLU chair, Local No. 59 treasurer, chapter president, 1st vice-president, 2nd vice-president, recording secretary. Any additional executive board members from any chapter shall be elected from their membership.

Part 2. Chapter presidents who are not seated on the executive board as a result of the process of allocating board membership in part 1 shall be ex-officio (non-voting) members of the executive board.

Part 3. At any time a chapter is eligible for an additional member according to the unit established prior to the last election, that member shall be named to the board. It is recognized that the size of the board may exceed the number of members of the board established at the previous election.

CHAPTER 6

Duties of the Executive Board

Part 1. The Executive Board shall execute the decisions of the chapters and Local 59 membership.

Part 2. The Executive Board shall formulate policy and recommend to the chapters and Local 59 membership.

Part 3. The Executive Board at its first meeting on or after June 15 on years following an election, shall elect an Executive Board Chairperson Vice Chairperson and Recording Secretary to serve for two years. In the event of a vacancy, the Executive Board shall announce a vacancy at a regular meeting, and shall elect the appropriate officer to complete the term of the board office at its next regular meeting.

Part 4. The Executive Board shall establish a calendar of monthly Executive Board meetings and properly notify the Local No. 59 membership of said meetings according to Article 6, Section 4.

Part 5. The Executive Board shall be responsible for the conduct of all referenda in the following manner:

- a. Determine the language to appear on referenda ballots after consulting with the representative/individuals submitting the petition.
 - b. Establish a time schedule to assure that all views on the question be communicated to the membership of Local 59.
 - c. Establish the procedure for the conduct of balloting.
 - d. Establish a fair and equitable procedure for tallying ballots.
- Part 6. The Executive Board shall act for the membership of Local 59 in the interim between the regular and/or special meetings, including the summer.
- Part 7. The Executive Board shall authorize other than routine items of budget expenditures.
- Part 8. The Executive Board shall approve transfers of funds between budget accounts.
- Part 9. The Executive Board shall exercise jurisdiction over the Executive Board Authorization Fund.
- Part 10. The Executive Board of Local No. 59 shall establish committees of the Executive Board which must include chapter presidents and local treasurer for the administration of all special reserves.
- Part 11. The Executive Board shall elect delegates to the Minnesota AFL-CIO Convention and Metropolitan Union Teachers Council.
- Part 12. The Executive Board shall recommend to the chapters and membership, committees to function in the interests of Local 59, to receive and review their reports, and to recommend discharge to the chapters and membership such committees upon completion of the activity or function.

Part 13. The Executive Board shall act, hear, and sit in a judicial capacity in cases of discipline, of forfeiture of membership, or of expulsion in the following manner:

- 1) There shall be a formulation of charges.
- 2) The charges are to be forwarded to the accused in letter form by registered United States mail, with a return-receipt request; the letter to be signed under Local No. 59 seal by the appropriate Recording Secretary and countersigned by the appropriate President.
- 3) The date, time, and the place of hearing is to be set forth very definitely in the letter.
- 4) Advice shall be included in the letter to the accused that the accused:
 - a) may appear at the meeting alone to answer the charges; or
 - b) may appear with another member or counsel; or
 - c) may have legal counsel represent or appear with the individual; or
 - d) may choose not to appear.
- 5) Notice of a verdict shall be sent as in "2" herein.
- 6) The member affected shall have the right of appeal to the chapter membership from the decision of the Executive Board within two months thereafter.
- 7) Decisions, either by the Executive Board or by the chapter membership, shall be by ballot with a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of those present necessary for a verdict in the appropriate chapter.

Part 14. The Executive Board shall have the authority to employ and contract with such staff as necessary.

Part 15. All Executive Board meetings shall be open to all Local No. 59 members.

CHAPTER 7

Duties of the Executive Board Chairperson

Part 1. Executive Board Chairperson. It shall be the duty of the Chairperson to preside at Executive Board meetings and membership meetings; to call meetings of the Executive Board in accordance with this Constitution and Bylaws; to call special membership meetings; to be a member of the Local 59 Budget Committee; to be responsible for polling the Executive Board when necessary; to be responsible for the functioning of the Executive Board; and to work closely with, and assist the chapter Presidents.

Part 2. Executive Board Vice-Chairperson. It shall be the duty of the Vice-Chairperson to assist the Chairperson in the duties of the office of Chairperson; to assume the responsibilities of the Chairperson in the event of the Chairperson's absence, death, disability, resignation or removal until a successor is elected.

CHAPTER 8

Affiliation Delegations

Part 1. All affiliate delegations shall be constituted to include proportional representation from each chapter, as determined by the Constitution and Bylaws of the body to which the delegates are sent.

Part 2. Delegates to the AFT Convention must be elected pursuant to the Landrum-Griffin Act.

Part 3. Minneapolis Central Labor Union Council (MCLUC) delegates, proportionately representing each chapter, one of whom shall be chair, shall be elected and designated in accordance with the representation as

set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union Council.

Part 4. CLU delegates, including the chairperson of the delegation, shall file and/or be nominated and elected in the manner prescribed in the Bylaws, Chapter 12, Parts 1 through 11.

Part 5. Unsuccessful candidates shall be designated alternate delegates in rank order, so that there shall be as many alternate delegates as MCLUC delegates. The Executive Board shall fill all alternate delegate vacancies by appointment.

Part 6. The chairperson of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union Council delegation shall be a member of the Executive Board of Local No. 59, and shall be delegate to the convention of the Minnesota AFL-CIO.

Part 7. The seat of any duly-elected delegate who is absent from two consecutive meetings of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union Council without acceptable excuse to the Chairperson and without securing an alternate to serve in their absence shall be declared vacant and so reported to the Executive Board by the Chairperson of the delegation.

Part 8. Delegates to the American Federation of Teachers and Minnesota Federation of Teachers shall be elected at chapter meetings following an announcement for candidates the two preceding monthly meetings and by two notices in an official publication of Local No. 59 for candidates. Members who present themselves, or who are presented, as candidates shall possess the qualifications required for Union office.

Part 9. The Executive Board, otherwise, shall be charged for delegate representation for Local No. 59.

CHAPTER 9

Editors of Official Publications

Part 1. The editors of official publications shall be appointed by the incoming Chapter Presidents at the first Executive Board meeting following the election and subject to the approval of the Executive Board. Editors shall be members of the Local No. 59 Publications Committee.

Part 2. The Local No. 59 Publications Committee shall include all editors of official publications, all First Vice-Presidents and one member appointed from each chapter. The committee shall elect a chairperson and hold at least two meetings yearly.

CHAPTER 10

Committees

Part 1. Local No. 59 shall have standing committees with such functions as herein described. Standing committees shall have continuous active status; but all members thereof shall serve on a year to year basis.

Part 2. Other committees, committee chairpersons and committee members may be constituted and authorized by the Local No. 59 membership or appropriate chapter.

Part 3. The chairpersons of Local No. 59 standing committees shall be recommended to the membership, by the Executive Board as soon as possible after election. No member shall chair more than one Local No. 59 standing committee.

Part 4. The chairperson of chapter standing committees shall be recommended to the chapter by the Chapter President as soon as possible after election.

Part 5. Standing committees of Local No. 59 shall be:

- a. Budget, as per Chapter 13, Part 1
- b. Legislative
- c. Human Rights/Women's Rights
- d. Publications as per Chapter 9, Part 2

Part 6. Standing committees for each chapter may be:

- a. Negotiating Committee
- b. Pension
- c. Professional Issues
- d. Organization, as per Chapter 4, Part 3

Part 7. Standing committees shall be activated at the discretion of the Executive Board, membership, or appropriate chapter.

Part 8. The duties of each standing committee shall be that which its name indicates. The Executive Board shall recommend to the membership or appropriate chapter, matters of jurisdiction and implementation.

CHAPTER 11

Vacancies

Part 1. In the case of death, disability, resignation, or removal of the MCLUC delegation chairperson or Local No. 59 treasurer, the Executive Board shall elect from the proper chapter a replacement to fill the uncompleted term of office.

Part 2. Any Executive Board member who is absent from two consecutive regular membership or chapter meetings or two consecutive regular Executive Board meetings without prior excuse to the Executive Board shall be considered to have vacated the office. Chapters shall fill vacancies on the Executive Board in accordance with Chapter 5, Part 1.

Part 3. Any elected officer who is absent from two consecutive regular membership or chapter meetings without prior excuse to the chapter recording secretary shall be considered to have vacated the office.

Part 4. Special meetings called pursuant to this Constitution shall be considered in the determination of positions to be vacated.

CHAPTER 12

Nominations and Elections

Part 1. The Executive Board shall, in even numbered years, recommend a chairperson of the Nominating Committee to the February membership or chapter meetings for election. This chairperson shall possess qualifications set forth for elective Local No. 59 office, and shall name with the assistance of the chapter officers, a vice chairperson from each chapter of Local 59.

Part 2. Any qualified member may file as a candidate for any elective office or position of Local No. 59 during the period of time between the February and March membership or chapter meetings. Forms for such filing shall be available at the March meeting as well as through the Federation office.

Part 3. Any candidate for any elective office or position must be a member in good standing with dues fully paid or checked off to date, and other financial obligations and pledges satisfied.

Part 4. A report of all filings shall be made at the March membership or chapter meetings by the Nominations Committee chairperson or vice chairperson. Following this report, the chairperson shall call for any further nominations from the floor for each office or position. Any member nominated from the floor shall be

present or shall have indicated such consent in writing to the individual making the nomination.

Part 5. In the event that the filings and nominations do not provide at least one candidate for each office or position, the Nominations Committee shall be responsible for securing candidates for any remaining, unfilled ballot slots and shall report such nominees to the Executive Board at its March meeting. In no event shall further nominees be sought for any position or office for which members have filed or been nominated at the March membership or chapter meetings unless a nominee has withdrawn and thereby created a vacancy on the ballot.

Elections

Part 6. Elections are to be held by each chapter in even numbered years some time during the three weeks preceding the May membership meeting. In all chapters, the ballots must be collected for counting no later than the day after the May membership meeting.

Part 7. Each chapter shall, as part of the election process, provide a ballot to include chairperson of the Central Labor Union Council and Local No. 59 Treasurer who are to be elected at large.

Part 8. All voters must be members in good standing, with dues fully paid or checked off to date and all other financial obligations and pledges satisfied prior to presentation for official ballot.

Part 9. All ballots and tally sheets shall be securely packaged and sealed upon completion of all election tallying and kept intact for a period of one year in the offices of Local No. 59.

Part 10. Each Chairperson of the Chapter Elections Committee shall, at the May Executive Board meeting, announce the results of the elections based on the

official tally sheet. This sheet shall be dated, signed and presented to the Recording Secretary for inclusion in Local 59 records. The chairperson shall indicate the number of votes cast for every candidate for an office or position. All duly-elected officers, Executive Board members, and Central Labor Union delegates of Local 59 shall begin service to the Federation the following June 15. The Executive Board shall be responsible for informing the membership of the results of the elections.

Part 11. Any contestant of an election result must notify the Executive Board to that effect not later than its June meeting. The Executive Board, in its judicial capacity, in consultation with the appropriate Elections Committee, shall resolve the issue. Its decision shall be final.

CHAPTER 13

Budget

Part 1. The Budget Committee shall consist of a chairperson who shall be neither an officer nor a chairperson of any other committee, the Executive Board Chairperson, the Executive Board Vice-Chairperson, the Treasurer, the Presidents, all Vice-Presidents, and the Recording Secretaries. Other members may attend budget sessions, but merely as observers and without vote.

Part 2. Assessments. A referendum for an assessment of the membership may be considered at any regular or special meeting of Local No. 59, provided prior notice of such action is given in two issues of the official publications of Local 59 or special bulletin. A majority vote shall be required for approval of the referendum.

Part 3. Each Local 59 member shall be accorded the opportunity to a secret ballot on a proposed assessment.

Part 4. Any assessment proposal to become effective and binding upon every active member of Local 59 must receive a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the membership voting on the assessment.

Part 5. Funds raised by any assessment shall be expended only as directed in the purpose and object of the assessment and shall conform to the usual collection and disbursement procedures of the Local No. 59 AFT.

Part 6. Property Insurance. The annual reports of the financial officers shall include a full listing of the property of Local 59. The entire property may be adequately insured.

CHAPTER 14

Services

Part 1. Credit Union. Participation in Teacher Federal Credit Union by and for the members, their dependents, relatives, is authorized as a voluntary activity and service of this Union.

Part 2. Insurance Services. Local No. 59 AFT may provide various insurance services for its members at the discretion of the Executive Board and with the approval of the membership, and may set up from among the insured members an Insurance Committee which shall be responsible for the effective and efficient functioning of such services.

Part 3. Subscriptions. By recommendation of the Executive Board and approval of the membership, each member of Local No. 59 may become a subscriber to Union newspapers and magazines, with payment thereof to be made from the Union treasury through a

specific budget account. Termination of such general subscriptions may be made at any time upon recommendation of the Executive Board with approval by the membership.

Part 4. Blood Bank. Participation in a Local No. 59 Blood Bank by and for members and their dependents is authorized as a voluntary activity and service of this Union.

Part 5. Auxiliaries. The establishment and promotion of voluntary auxiliaries of spouses of members is hereby authorized.

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