



# RESOLUTION

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## **Resolution: Opposition to Youth Police Recruitment Plan**

*MINNEAPOLIS, December 16, 2022*

Whereas the Minneapolis Youth Police Recruitment Plan runs counter to the needs and safety of our youth and community for the following reasons,

Whereas the Minneapolis police department has eroded trust with the public through repeated, racist killings of unarmed and often non-threatening black men, and

Whereas the Minneapolis Federation of Teachers has stood for values that prioritize public spending on social needs over repressive governmental institutions, and

Whereas the police department has been shown to not take real steps towards accountability in the communities they work in, and

Whereas the police has a history of racism, sexism, and sexual harassment when working with youth on the job and through the Minneapolis Explorers program already in existence which recruits young people to explore careers in law enforcement, and

Whereas our union voted to support MPS discontinuing its contract with law enforcement in our schools and this initiative runs counter to those ends, and

Whereas our students' futures should be rife with opportunities for fulfilling, living wage jobs that do not require them to put themselves and fellow community members in harm's way, and

Whereas this \$740K to recruit High school students to become MPD is a significant investment that Mayor Jacob Frey could propose to address issues such as immediate opioid addiction treatment services, ongoing funding for youth healthcare services climate preparedness, and housing services, and

Whereas the city of Minneapolis should be investing funds into the aforementioned social programs that get at the root of disrupting the school to prison pipeline, and

Whereas the city of Minneapolis should be funding programs that encourage our youth to become educators due in no small part to the shortage of interested, qualified educators, and

Whereas the Minneapolis Foundation, the same organization behind school privatization and charter schools' agenda are part of restoring trust in law enforcement despite a lack of accountability, thus showing the intersectional nature of these oppressive measures and reveals the need for solidarity between the movement for public education and the movement against police violence and corruption,

Therefore be it resolved that the MFT will take a position against the city's initiative to recruit Minneapolis youth to intern with law enforcement and assimilate into this oppressive and unaccountable institution.

Be it further resolved that MFT direct its MRLF delegates to advocate opposition to the aforementioned initiative in the MRLF as well.

Be it further resolved that the leadership of MFT will draft and distribute a press release to local media.