

# DETROIT IS NOT FLORIDA. THE DFT IS NOT A GEORGE BUSH UNION

## MOTION FOR A NEW ELECTION FOR OFFICERS

I MOVE THAT THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE DETROIT FEDERATION OF TEACHERS SUSTAIN THE FOLLOWING GRIEVANCE, THROW OUT THE RESULTS OF THE RUNOFF ELECTION AND HOLD A NEW ELECTION FOR UNION OFFICERS FOR THE REASONS SET FORTH IN THE LETTER BELOW.

To: Dorothy Burk, Chair, Election Committee  
Executive Board, Detroit Federation of Teachers  
Membership, Detroit Federation of Teachers

Pursuant to Article VI, Section 12 of the By-Laws, I filed a grievance over the conduct of the runoff election. The Election Committee denied my grievance by failing to conduct a proper recount.

I hereby appeal to the Executive Board and the membership to throw out the results of the runoff election and to hold a new election for officers on the following grounds:

1. Failure to conduct a hand recount. Article VI, Section 9 requires the union to use the safeguards on machine voting in use by the City of Detroit in its elections. A recount in Detroit or anywhere else except Florida requires a hand count. The Election Committee failed to conduct a hand-count even though the machine failed to count 440 ballots.
2. Failure to count votes. State law requires that votes be counted according to the intent of the voter. The Election Committee failed to count votes for candidates based on the intent of the voter.
3. Exclusion of challengers for DPE. Article VI, Section 8(b)(6) says candidates and members who wish to act as challengers may observe the count. The Election Committee without warning refused to allow DPE candidates to serve as challengers.
4. Disqualification of dues paying members. The Election Committee refused to count the votes of 181 persons. These include members who are on dues checkoffs, including, in particular, substitutes and add-ons.
5. Missing ballots. At Denby, Cass, Gompers and potentially other schools, there were far more ballots turned in by the Representative than were counted by Scantron.

Because the Election Committee failed to secure the ballots after they excluded the DPE challengers, it is no longer possible to conduct the recount. We demand that there be a new election for union officers.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Conn