

2009 CONVENTION CALL



The 78th Annual Convention of AFT-Wisconsin will be held on Wednesday evening, Thursday, and Friday, October 28-30, 2009, at The Plaza Hotel & Suites, 201 No. 17th Avenue, Wausau, WI 54401, (715) 845-4341 or (800) 754-9728.

Representation

As per AFT-Wisconsin Constitution — ARTICLE VIII - CONVENTIONS:

Section 2 – Five delegates to the Annual Convention may be elected by each affiliated local. For each 100 members or major fraction thereof, 5 additional delegates may be elected.

Section 3 – The AFT-Wisconsin Retiree Chapter may elect five delegates to the AFT-Wisconsin Convention and shall be entitled to five votes at the Convention.

Section 4 – For the purpose of this Article, membership shall mean the average number on which the per capita dues have been paid for the first 12 months of the 15-month period immediately preceding the month in which the Convention meets, provided:

- (a) That no local in arrears for two months at the time of the Convention shall be entitled to representation.
- (b) That, in the case of locals which have been chartered during the year preceding the Convention, the average shall be computed on the basis of the number of months affiliation, the minimum for such computation to be two.
- (c) Those locals that have agency shop clauses in their contracts and are paying per capita dues on all members of their bargaining unit may include them in determining their delegate strength.

Delegate and Alternate Credentials

Refer to the cover letter enclosed with this mailing for this year's options for submitting your delegate and alternate lists, as well as your committee picks.

Only credentialed delegates may vote in committee meetings and delegate sessions.

Membership

Locals not submitting current membership lists in Membership Suite or via another form as approved by the Executive Board shall not be entitled to representation.

Committees

The following committees will be convened at the 2009 Convention:

- Constitution
- Credentials
- Education — K-12 & Early Childhood
- Education — University
- Education — WTCS
- Elections
- Fiscal Policy & Auditing

- Social Issues
- Retirement
- Sergeant at Arms
- State Employment

Delegates are expected to indicate their first, second, and third choices of committee assignment when registering online. Each delegate will be assigned to a Convention committee and is expected to attend the meetings of his/her committee.

At the beginning of each committee session, the chairperson will verify (by roll call) the membership of his/her committee as assigned by the Credentials Committee.

Attendance at committee meetings is open to all members of AFT-Wisconsin, but only delegates assigned to the committee may vote.

Chairpersons may open discussion to persons other than committee members at the end of committee discussion on any resolution and before the committee vote is taken. This open discussion period shall be limited to a total of 10 minutes unless the time is extended by consent of the committee.

Amendments

As per AFT-Wisconsin Constitution — ARTICLE XII - REFERENDA and AMENDMENTS:

Section 6 – Proposed amendments to this constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Board through the Secretary at least 60 days prior to the Annual Convention and may be initiated by members, locals, the Retiree Chapter, or the Executive Board. Proposed amendments shall be circulated to all affiliated locals at least 30 days prior to the Annual Convention.

Section 7 – The Executive Board shall submit each constitutional amendment to the Annual Convention with its recommendations.

Section 8 – A roll call vote shall be held on each of the proposed constitutional amendments.

Resolutions

Locals, councils, and individuals are requested to present resolutions which will promote the interests of AFT-Wisconsin. All resolutions must be signed by the person submitting them.

Resolutions are recommended to be submitted electronically to the Secretary at dausman@cvtc.edu and should be stated and typed in resolution form. The Secretary will send a confirmation of receipt. If confirmation is not received within five (5) days, please contact the Secretary. Complex resolutions may be accompanied by an explanation of intent so that Convention committees can best understand the action which the resolution requires. Past Convention resolutions are available at the AFT-Wisconsin office.

The AFT-Wisconsin Executive Board will meet on Saturday, September 19, 2009, at the AFT-Wisconsin office, 6602 Normandy Lane, Madison, WI 53719.

Functions of the Executive Board regarding resolutions shall be to:

1. Correct errors in submitted resolutions (misrepresentations and grammatical corrections).
2. Combine similar resolutions if appropriate. (If such combining occurs, all resolutions on the topic, in their original form, will be printed along with the suggested change.)
3. Obtain background information pertaining to resolutions for the benefit of Convention committees and delegates.

4. Write resolutions involving areas of critical concern not addressed by submitted resolutions.

All Executive Board actions and recommendations are subject to approval by a majority of the Convention Committee if challenged by an individual committee member.

Resolutions must reach the AFT-Wisconsin office at 6602 Normandy Lane, Madison, WI 53719, by September 16, 2009, in order to appear in printed form.

The Convention shall first consider those resolutions which were received by the September deadline and then any resolutions which the Executive Board recommends as timely. As in the past, resolutions may not originate from the floor of the Annual Convention.

Elections

Election of president, executive vice president, secretary, treasurer, six (6) at large vice presidents, and one (1) vice president for each council will take place at the 2009 AFT-Wisconsin Convention.

Nomination blanks are enclosed. Additional blanks may be obtained from the AFT-Wisconsin office or website (www.aft-wisconsin.org). Nominations must be sent to AFT-Wisconsin, ATTN: Nominations Committee.

Each candidate is encouraged to submit, no later than September 21, 2009, a position paper (300 words maximum) and a recent color photo for use in the Convention issue of *The Professional*.

Each at-large candidate will have an opportunity to speak for three minutes at the opening session on Thursday, October 29. Each council candidate will be provided an opportunity to speak before the council he/she wishes to represent. The election of officers will be held on Friday, October 30.

Special Interest Councils:

1. K-12 — for locals representing employees of local education agencies;
2. WTCS — for locals representing employees of the Wisconsin Technical College System;
3. University — for locals representing employees primarily from the university system;
4. State Employees — for locals representing employees of State agencies;
5. PSRP — for locals representing paraprofessionals and school related personnel; and
6. Graduate Employees — for locals representing assistants employed by a university.

As per AFT-Wisconsin Constitution — Article IV - Special Interest Councils, Section 3

- (a) Each council will be represented on the AFT-Wisconsin Executive Board by one (1) Vice President elected by the councils at the Convention in odd numbered years.
- (b) In addition to the Vice Presidents elected under subsection (a), six (6) Vice Presidents shall be elected at large.

As per AFT-Wisconsin Constitution — Article V - Officers

Section 2 – Representation on the Executive Board shall be limited to one Vice President per local except that a local representing more than one bargaining unit may have one Vice President from each bargaining unit and that a local having more than 20 percent of AFT-Wisconsin membership may have a maximum of

two Vice Presidents, and locals having over 40 percent of AFT-Wisconsin membership may have a maximum of three Vice Presidents. For purposes of this section, the term bargaining unit includes potential bargaining units for nonbargaining locals.

As per AFT-Wisconsin Constitution — Article VI - Elections

Section 1 – A call for nomination of officers shall be made six months prior to Convention by notice to all locals and members at large. Nomination may be made as follows:

- (a) Up to 30 days prior to Convention, nomination may be made by any local or by petition of any 10 members of the Federation. The word “days” shall be construed to mean calendar days throughout the AFT-Wisconsin Constitution unless otherwise noted.
- (b) If fewer than two nominations are received for any position by 30 days prior to the Convention, nominations may be made by any local or by any 10 accredited delegates to the Convention until 15 days prior to the opening general session.
- (c) If an elected position is uncontested at any time within 14 days of the Convention, nominations shall be made as in subsection (b) above up until 9:00pm on the opening evening of the Convention. If no candidate files for an office, the incoming elected president will appoint the position with the advice and consent of the newly elected Executive Board. This situation applies when fewer than six (6) individuals run to fill the At Large Vice President positions.
- (d) A candidate may only be nominated or appear on the ballot for one Executive Board position during the same election year.

In each case, the Convention shall be informed of who the nominators are.

Section 2 – Persons nominated before 30 days prior to Convention may submit to the Executive Board before 30 days prior to the Convention statements of position, and the Executive Board, subject to such rules as they shall from time to time enact, shall circulate these to all members of the Federation or to all locals before 15 days prior to Convention.

General Information

The Executive Board wishes to affirm the fact that all meetings of the Annual Convention are open to all members. However, only duly elected delegates may vote on resolutions and constitutional amendments put before the Annual Convention.

Important Dates to Remember

- August 29 DEADLINE for constitutional amendments
- September 17 DEADLINE for resolutions to be included in printed form
- September 19 AFT-Wisconsin Executive Board meeting in Madison
- October 1 DEADLINE for registration
- October 2 Delegate list mailed to local president
- October 10 DEADLINE for signed delegate lists
- October 13 DEADLINE for hotel reservations
- October 14 Mailing to delegates including resolutions, committee assignments, and other pertinent information
- October 28-30 AFT-Wisconsin Convention