



A Union of Professionals

Texas AFT
AFL-CIO

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Zeph Capo
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Dear Member,

On behalf of the 65,000 members of the Texas American Federation of Teachers (AFT), we are excited to have you safely return as we begin the 2020-2021 school year. Public schools are the cornerstone of our neighborhoods, towns, cities and of our democracy. Through Texas AFT, we build our collective power to make a difference in the lives of our students and our members. Our members work hard every day educating our schoolchildren, advocating for better working conditions and better learning environments, and mobilizing to elect pro-public school candidates. Our work is powerful, and together our union makes a difference. **#OurWorkisPowerful**

Enclosed you will find information about member benefits and material related to important topics and issues we will be working on together over the next year such as a continued safe re-opening and meeting the needs of our students via multiple formats. It is our activism that will keep the “public” in public education, help our schools remain the centers of our communities, and ensure that the voices of who we work directly with are heard in the halls of power. We will be building on our success in the 2018 election where Texas AFT members worked to flip 12 House and 2 Senate seats in the Texas Legislature to become “pro-public education.” This resulted in changing the agenda in the last legislative session and winning new funding our public schools. There is much more work to do politically, and we will need your help in the election this fall to win a “pro-public education” super-majority in the Texas House. **#TexasAFTvotes**

As a Texas AFT member, you have access to an array of benefits and programs that will help you be successful. For example, visit www.sharemylesson.com/TexasAFT to utilize over 420,000 prepared lesson plans made for educators by educators from across the country. Access a myriad of Covid-19 resources on our web page at www.texasaft.org/covid-resources. In addition, we have a new partnership with Summer, which allows members to save money and reduce their student loans. Learn more at www.aft.org/benefits/summer. **#UnionBenefits**

I ask you to share what Texas AFT is doing with your colleagues and invite them to become members of our union. Now, more than ever it will be absolutely necessary for our members to engage their colleagues and ask them to join the Texas AFT. The uncertainty of our new environment will test the will of our members to grow a stronger more inclusive union as we will not be able to rely on staff to do this work. Please download our member organizer tool kit and mark the page to return for frequent updates as they are posted.

#UnionPower

Together, Texas public school educators working with parents, students and the community will ensure that quality public education remains the birthright of every child who sets foot in a Texas public school. By uniting our voices, we are ensuring that the promise of public education reaches every child. Please enjoy the enclosed information, and we look forward to working with you throughout the school year.

#UnionStrong

In Unity,

Zeph Capo
Texas AFT President