AFT ST. LOUIS, LOCAL 420 AFT MO, AFT, AFL-CIO

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS









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CONSTITUTION OF AFT ST. LOUIS, LOCAL 420 AFT MO, AFT, AFL-CIO **ARTICLE I – NAME** This organization shall be known as AFT St. Louis, Local 420, AFT MO, AFT, AFL-CIO, and may be referred to as a union, local, or federation. The membership shall be the highest governance authority of the union. ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES The objectives of the organization shall be: 1. To bring teachers and school-related personnel into a labor organization for mutual assistance and cooperation. 2. To obtain for them the rights and opportunities to which they are entitled. 3. To raise the standards of teachers and school-related personnel by securing conditions essential to the highest professional services. 4. To encourage and promote active participation of teachers and school-related personnel in the formation of educational policies. 5. To promote education as a democratic social agency that will develop the capacities of youth and enable each to take a place in the individual, political and social life of the community, not so much with the idea of personal profit as of service to others. 6. To promote the welfare of the children of the nation by providing progressively better opportunities for all. 7. To encourage teachers and school-related personnel to be truly professional by setting their own ethical and educational standards. 8. To support the principles of organized labor. 9. To act as a representative of teachers and school-related personnel in Collective Bargaining.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

1 2

Section 1.

a) <u>Regular Membership</u>: Any employee included in any bargaining unit represented by the Local or in a unit which is being organized by the Local shall be eligible for regular membership. Regular members shall be entitled to all rights and privileges in this organization.

b) <u>Retired and Associate Memberships</u>: Employees who retire or who leave the bargaining unit for any reason, except supervisory status, or those who are eligible for representation but not yet included in a bargaining unit represented by the Local, shall be eligible to continue membership in an appropriate membership category. Additional membership categories are retired member or associate member.

 <u>Retired members</u> are those who are retired from employment in a unit represented by the Local. <u>Associate members</u> are those who want to continue their membership but have left employment in a unit represented by the Local for reasons other than retirement, and those who are eligible for representation.

Retired and associate members have the same rights and privileges as **regular members**, except that they may not vote in elections on collective bargaining agreements or on questions of dues. They may not run for office.

c) <u>Application</u>: Membership shall be by application. Applicants for membership shall be recommended and voted on at the general membership meeting or at a meeting of the Executive Board or <u>Stewards Building Representatives</u> Council.

d) Resignation: Resignation of membership shall be by certified letter sent between June 1st and June 30th to the Local stating the effective date of such resignation. The written resignation must be postmarked consistent with the above dates. The effective date cannot be retroactive and in case of doubt, the postmark of the letter shall determine the effective date of receipt. An oral resignation shall have no status.

Section 2.

<u>Supervisory Personnel</u> shall not obtain membership. Members promoted to positions with the rank of supervisor automatically are removed from membership on the effective date of promotion.

Section 3.

 <u>Discrimination</u>: No discrimination shall ever be shown toward individual members or applicants for membership because of race, creed, political activities or belief, sex, age, sexual orientation, lifestyle, economic status, or national origin.

1 **Section 4.**

Failure to Pay Dues: Any member who fails to pay dues upon dues expiration or within twenty (20) days of the due date shall be declared inactive and placed in an inactive status in Membership Suites of the American Federation of Teachers National Office. The member may be reinstated upon payment of a fee equal to one-half the monthly dues requirement in addition to all back dues but not exceeding three months back dues. The Executive Board may modify, including waiving completely, the amount of the reinstatement fee and back dues.

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ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

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Section 1.

- Officers: The following officers shall be elected in the odd-numbered years:
- 13 President; First Executive Vice-President; Second Vice-President; Secretary; Treasurer; Vice-
- 14 President for Political Action Vice President for Pre-School Employees; Vice-President for
- 15 Policy Enforcement Vice President for Elementary School Employees; Vice-President for
- 16 Communications Vice President for Middle School Employees; Vice-President Professional
- 17 <u>Issues Vice President for High School Employees</u>; Vice-President Certificated Employees Vice
- 18 President for Special Education Employees; and Vice President for Alternative School
- 19 Employees Vice-President Leadership Vice President for Vocational-Technical Employees
- 20 Vice-President Membership; Vice-President for Paraprofessional Employees; Vice-President for
- 21 Secretarial/Clerical Employees and *Vice President for Charter Schools*. There also shall be the
- office of Retiree Liaison, which shall be designated elected by members of the Retiree Chapter.
- 23 The term of office shall be three years *commencing with July 1, 2014.* Candidates for any office
- shall run for only one office in any election.

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Section 2.

<u>Eligibility</u>: Membership in good standing for at least two years measured from the date of nomination is required to hold office in this Local except for new members from new bargaining units during the first two years after inclusion of an additional bargaining unit.

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Section 3.

Nominations: Nominations for office shall be made at a General Membership meeting in March of the odd-numbered election year. Notification of the nomination process shall be provided to each member at least fifteen (15) days prior to the general membership meeting when nominations will be in order. Notice of the right to make nominations and the election may be combined in one notice. Nominations shall be made from the floor. Nominees must have given their consent.

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Section 4.

Elections:

a) <u>Date of Elections</u>: Election of officers shall be conducted not more than 60 days after the time of nominations. Election shall be conducted by secret ballot vote of members in good standing.

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46 47 **b)** <u>Declaration of Winners</u>: The candidates receiving a plurality of at least forty percent (40%) of the votes cast shall be declared elected. If the plurality of forty (40%) is not obtained, a run-off election of the two candidates receiving the mostvotes shall be held within fifteen (15) days according to the above procedure for notice and scheduling.

- c) <u>Constituency Voting</u>: Election of officers identified by a specific constituency will be by those members from that constituency.
- **d)** Eligible Voters: Candidates for office shall be permitted to review the list of eligible voters at the Local Office within 30 days in advance of the election date.
 - e) <u>Observers</u>: Candidates shall be permitted to have observers present during the counting of ballots in any election. The number of observers permitted by each candidate shall be uniform and determined by the Elections Committee.

11 Section 5.

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- Election Records: The ballots and all other records pertaining to the election shall be kept by the Secretary for a period not less than one year.
- 15 Section 6.
- **Taking Office:** Officers shall take office on July 1, following their election.

Section 7.

- **Filling Vacancies:** The Executive Board shall have authority to fill vacancies in any office for the balance of the term.
- 22 Section 8.
- Executive Board Vacancy: An officer who is absent without good cause from three consecutive meetings of the Executive Board shall have his/her position declared vacant. The position may be filled according to Section 7 of this article.

Section 9.

Recall of Officers and Stewards Building Representatives:

- a) Recall: Any officer or steward may be recalled for the following reasons:
 - 1. Failing to fulfill the duties of office.
 - 2. Committing acts contrary to the Constitution and/or Bylaws of the Local.

- **b) Procedure:** The procedure for recall shall be as follows:
 - 1. Written charges shall be presented in person to the Executive Board.
 - 2. The accused shall be notified in writing by certified mail within fourteen (14) days of the date of the submission of the charge(s).
 - 3. The charges and rebuttal shall be presented at a special meeting of the Executive Board called for the purpose of considering the charges.
 - 4. Upon three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Executive Board affirming the charges, the decision of the Executive Board shall automatically be referred to a Special Membership meeting called for the purpose of considering the findings of the Executive Board.
 - 5. The recall shall be decided by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Membership present at the meeting. The meeting shall be convened within thirty (30) days of the findings of the Executive Board.

c) <u>Accused Rights</u>: The accused shall have the right to present a case for consideration, including the right to counsel in the meeting.

d) Legal Fees: The membership may determine whether to reimburse any 1 2 person for their costs incurred in defense against the charges. 3 4 e) Appeal: A decision of the membership to sustain the charges may be 5 appealed to the American Federation of Teachers. 6 7 **ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES** 8 9 Section 1. 10 **Establishing Committees:** The Executive Board or the Membership may establish such 11 committees as from time to time as may be needed. 12 13 Section 2. 14 **Standing Committees:** Creation, composition, duties and responsibilities of any standing 15 committee shall be through Bylaws adopted by the Union. 16 17 ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE BOARD 18 19 Section 1. 20 **Scope of Authority:** The Executive Board shall administer the policy of this federation as set by 21 the membership at regular meetings. The Executive Board shall have the power to act for the 22 good of the federation between meetings of the Stewards Council or General Membership 23 meeting. 24 25 Section 3. 26 **Chairperson:** The chairperson of the Executive Board shall be the President of the Local. 27 28 Section 4. 29 **Establishing Meetings:** The time and place of Executive Board meetings shall be set by the 30 Executive Board and announced in advance to the general membership. 31 32 Section 5. 33 **Authorization for Action:** The Executive Board is authorized and empowered to take such 34 actions and to render such decisions as may be necessary to carry out full the decisions and 35 instructions of the membership and the Stewards Council, and as may be necessary and 36 appropriate to safeguard and to promote the best interest of this Local. 37 38 a) The Executive Board may sue and be sued, complain and defend on behalf of 39 and for the use of the Local; purchase, take, receive, lease, take any gift, 40 devise or bequest, or otherwise acquire, and to own, hold use, deal in or with any

real or personal property or any interest therein on behalf of the Local.

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- b) The Executive Board may sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease
 and otherwise dispose of all or any part of its property and assets; purchase,
 take, receive, or to other acquire, own, hold, vote, and use shares or other
 interest in or obligations of domestic or foreign corporations, associations, or
 partnerships or individuals on behalf of the Local sell, mortgage, loan, pledge,
 or otherwise dispose of such shares, interest, or obligations on behalf of the Local.
 - c) The Executive Board may make contracts and incur liabilities which may be appropriate to enable it to accomplish any or all of its purposes.
 - **d)** The Executive Board may borrow money for federation purposes at such rates of interest and terms and conditions as they may deem appropriate.
 - e) <u>The Executive Board may</u> issue notes, bonds and other obligations, secure any of its obligations by mortgage, pledge, or deed of trust of all or any of its property and income.

Section 6.

 Reporting Activity: The Executive Board shall report its activities at each regular Membership and Stewards Building Representatives Council meeting.

ARTICLE VII – AFFILIATIONS

Section 1.

This Local shall maintain affiliation with and whenever possible send delegates to the following organizations:

- a) The American Federation of Teachers: Officers are delegates to the AFT national convention as a duty of their office. Additional delegates and alternates to the national convention shall be elected biennially by majority vote according to the same procedures for election of officers described in Article IV. The election will be scheduled after the Call-to-Convention is given by the American Federation of Teachers. Delegates shall serve for a term of one-year from the time of their election. The President and the Secretary shall certify the election and forward the credentials of all delegates and alternates to the National Office as soon as possible but not later than the time required by the National Office before the convening of the national convention. The delegates shall confer with the Treasurer to make sure the National per capita through the required month has been sent to the National Office at least fifteen (15) days before the convening of the national convention.
- **b**): **AFT Missouri:** Delegates and alternates, except those designated as a duty of their office, shall be elected biennially by majority vote of those voting according to the same procedures for election of officers described in Article IV. The number to be sent to the convention, notwithstanding the number to which the Local is entitled, is subject to determination in advance by the Executive Board.

- c) The Missouri AFL-CIO: Delegates and alternates, except those designated as a duty of their office, shall be elected biennially triennially by majority vote of those voting according to the same procedure for election of officers described in Article IV. The election will be scheduled after the Call-to-Convention is given by the Missouri State AFL-CIO. The number to be sent to the convention, notwithstanding the number to which the Local is entitled, is subject to determination in advance by the Executive Board.
- d) <u>The St. Louis Labor Council</u>: Delegates and alternates, except those designated as a duty of their office shall be elected <u>biennially</u> triennially by majority vote of those voting according to the same procedures for election of officers described in Article IV.
- **Section 2.**

- Reports: All delegates shall make written reports regarding meetings attended to the Executive Board.
- 16 Section 3.
- Expenses: Every reasonable effort shall be made by this Local to pay the legitimate expenses of delegates to meetings and conventions of affiliated organizations.
- 20 Section 4.
- 21 <u>Affiliated Organizations</u>: The Local to the best of its ability shall be active in the affairs of affiliated organizations. Delegates to affiliate organizations shall meet the same requirement as officers of this Local.

ARTICLE VIII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1.

President: The President shall be the chief executive officer and spokesperson for the Local and shall preside at all meetings of the Local, the Stewards Building Representatives Council and the Executive Board. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, shall sign all necessary papers and documents, shall be authorized to co-sign checks and payment by the Local and represent the Local when and where necessary, and shall carry out the policies and directives of the membership, Stewards Council and Executive Board. The President shall employ, supervise, direct, promote, discipline and discharge staff and retain counsel, accountants, and other professional personnel. Initial employment to the extent that such is determined pursuant to collective bargaining agreement, shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Board. The President shall be the chief delegate to all conventions of the American Federation of Teachers, AFT Missouri, AFL-CIO, MO AFL-CIO and St. Louis Labor Council. The President shall make a report to the membership at least once each year summarizing the accomplishments of the Local and outlining plans for the next year.

Section 2.

2 <u>First Vice-President</u>: This officer shall perform all the duties of President in the absence of that officer. The First-Vice-President shall be next in line of succession in the case of a vacancy in

4 the office of President. The First Vice-President shall be a delegate to the St. Louis Labor

Council. The First Vice-President shall perform all other duties assigned by the Executive Board
 or the membership.

DELETE: Section 3.

<u>Second Vice-President</u>: This officer shall perform all the duties of First Vice President in the absence of that officer. The second Vice-President shall be next in line of succession in the case of a vacancy in the office of first Vice-President. The Second Vice-President shall be a delegate to the St. Louis Labor Council. The Second Vice-President shall perform all other duties assigned by the Executive Board or the membership.

Section 4 Section 3.

<u>Secretary</u>: The Secretary shall be the custodian of the records of the Local and shall issue all notices, answer correspondence at the direction of the President and report outside correspondence to the President and the Executive Board, be the custodian of the seal and charter of the Local, record and distribute minutes of the Executive Board, Stewards Council, and general membership meetings.

Section 5 Section 4

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall:

a) Receive, record, and deposit in the name of the Local all monies from dues and other sources.

b) Keep the membership roll and issue any delinquent notices.

 c) Forward all per capita dues and current membership lists to the National Office of the American Federation of Teachers and to other affiliated organizations to keep this Local in good standing at all times. Special care shall be taken to see that per capita tax through June 30th is sent to the National Office no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the opening date of the National Convention to make sure delegates from this Local may be seated. Also, care shall be taken to see that **AFT Missouri** per capita tax is paid fifteen (15) days prior to the opening date of the state convention.

c) Chair the Finance Committee and present a written report to the general membership once a year.

d) Keep adequate records available at all times for the Executive Board and other Local **Union** committees which may have need for such records.

f) Pay all bills authorized by the adopted budget, retaining vouchers or invoices for the bills. Expenses not authorized in the budget must be presented to the Executive Board for authorization. All checks and payments of the Local Union must be signed by the Treasurer.

- 1 **DELETE: Section 6.**
- 2 <u>Vice-President for Political Action</u>: This officer shall be responsible for political education of
- 3 the membership in legislative and governmental election matters.

- 5 **DELETE:** Section 7.
- 6 <u>Vice-President for Policy Enforcement</u>: This officer shall be the Chief Steward of the Local.
- 7 The duties shall include coordinating resources and material for stewards, bargaining
- 8 committees, and chair the Negotiations Committee.

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- 10 **DELETE:** Section 8.
- 11 <u>Vice-President for Communications</u>: This officer shall be responsible for the communications
- 12 program of the Local including regular and periodic publications and public relations activities.

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- 14 **DELETE:** Section 9.
- 15 <u>Vice-President for Membership</u>: This officer shall be responsible for membership recruitment,
- 16 membership service and benefit programs of the Local.

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- 18 **DELETE: Section 10.**
- 19 <u>Vice-President for Leadership Development</u>: This officer shall be responsible for the
- 20 leadership education and training program of the Local with attention to skill and knowledge
- 21 needs for effective union leadership.

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- 23 **DELETE: Section 11.**
- 24 <u>Vice-President of Professional Issues</u>: This officer shall be responsible for the education and
- 25 information program of the Local in matters related to the occupations and practice of members.

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- 27 Section 12 Section 5.
- 28 <u>Constituency Vice-Presidents</u>: These officers shall be responsible for information and advice
- 29 to the Executive Board on issues and matters of interest to their constituencies. **The**
- 30 Constituency Vice Presidents shall consist of the following:
 - a. Vice-President for Early Childhood Employees (PreK-2)
 - b. Vice-President for Elementary School Employees (3-5)
 - c. Vice-President for Middle School Employees (6-8)
 - d. Vice-President for High School Employees (9-12)
 - e. Vice-President for Special Education Employees
 - f. Vice-President for Career & Technical Education Employees
 - g. Vice-President for Paraprofessional Employees
 - h. Vice-President for Secretarial/Clerical Employees
 - i. Vice-President for Charter School Employees
- 40 j. Retiree Liaison

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- 42 Section 13 Section 6.
- Delegates to Conventions: As a duty of their office, officers shall serve as delegates to
- conventions or affiliates in the order of their listing in Article IV, Section 1, up to the number of
- delegates authorized by the affiliate. The number acting as delegates shall be subject to any
- 46 limitations of the affiliates and Article VII.

ARTICLE IX – STEWARDS BUILDING REPRESENTATIVES COUNCIL

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Section 1.

Role: Subject to the final authority of the membership, the general governing body of the Local shall be a Stewards Building Representatives Council, the members of which shall be members of the Local Union in good standing, elected by vote of the members from their work site.

Section 2.

Duties of the Stewards Building Representatives Council:

a) The Stewards Building Representatives Council shall formulate the policies of the Local
 Union; it shall consider and act upon any matter which it regards as pertinent to the purposes
 and activities of the local; and it shall have the power to adopt, amend, or rescind actions of
 the Executive Board and the President.

b) At each regular meeting of the Stewards Building Representatives Council, it shall hear and at its discretion, act upon reports from officers of the Local Union, from the Executive Board, from the Local Union committees, except committees of the Executive Board, and from any other sources whose presentation is duly authorized. It shall so hear and may act upon pertinent matters brought before it by any Stewards Building Representatives Council member.

e) The Stewards Building Representatives Council shall have authority to fill vacancies in the Council.

f) The Stewards Building Representatives Council may establish committees as it deems necessary in addition to those standing committees specified in the Bylaws.

Section 3.

Meetings of the Stewards Building Representatives Council:

a) The Stewards Building Representatives Council shall meet monthly. A regular meeting of the Stewards Building Representatives Council may be canceled by the Executive Board when there is no business for consideration by the Stewards Building Representatives Council.

b) The meetings of the Stewards Building Representatives Council shall be presided over by the President of the Local Union. The members of the Executive Board shall be *ex-officio* voting members of the Council and shall attend its meetings. Staff employed by this Local Union may attend meetings of the Council, but shall speak only at the discretion of the President.

c) Meetings of the Stewards Building Representatives Council shall include the following items:

- 1. Treasurer's Report
- 2. Report of the Executive Board by the President
 - 3. Other officers' Reports
 - 4. Reports of any Standing Committees
 - 5. Reports of any Special Committees
 - 6. Unfinished Business

7. New Business

d) Any member at any regular meeting of the Stewards Building Representatives Council may bring to the floor any matter which is relevant to the purposes of the Local Union. If the Council so desires, it may immediately refer the matter to the appropriate committee, which shall bring a report to the next regular meeting of the Stewards Building Representatives Council.

e) With the consent of the Executive Board, the President may call a special meeting of the Stewards Building Representatives Council. A special meeting may be called upon written petition of not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the members of the Council, provided that such petition shall specify the purpose of the meeting. Every call for a special meeting of the Council shall specify the purpose of the meeting, and no business other than that specified in the call may be transacted at that meeting except by unanimous consent.

f) A quorum for a meeting of the Council shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of the members of the Stewards Building Representatives Council.

g) A Steward who is absent without good cause from three consecutive meetings of the Stewards Building Representatives Council shall have their position declared vacant. The position may be filled according to Section 2c of this Article.

ARTICLE X – STEWARDS BUILDING REPRESENTATIVES

Section 1.

<u>Number</u>: Stewards Building Representatives shall be apportioned on the basis of one for every twenty (20) members, or a major fraction thereof, in good standing of each work site provided that no work site shall have less than one Stewards Building Representative. Work sites shall be informed of the number of Stewards Building Representatives to which they are entitled by the President no later than March 31 of the year of an election based on the membership as of January 31.

- 34 Section 2.
- Work Sites: Work sites shall be defined in the Bylaws.

- 37 Section 3.
- Elections: Stewards Building Representatives shall be elected according to the procedures and eligibility for election of officers in Article IV, in August or September, and for the same term as officers, three (3)years.

- **Section 4.**
- 43 <u>Plurality</u>: All Stewards Building Representatives shall be elected by a plurality of votes cast.
- In the event of a tie, a run-off election shall be held immediately.

- 1 Section 5.
- 2 <u>Contested Elections</u>: Disputes in such elections shall be referred to the Executive Board for
- determination, provided that any aggrieved person may appeal to the Stewards Building
- 4 **Representatives** Council.

- 6 Section 6.
- 7 <u>Taking Office</u>: Stewards Building Representatives shall take office July 1 upon certification of the results of this election.

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- 10 Section 7.
- 11 **Publishing Attendance:** The names of Stewards Building Representatives in attendance at all
- meetings of the Stewards Building Representatives Council shall be published regularly in the
- 13 local's regular periodic publication. Stewards Building Representatives who are absent from
- three consecutive meetings of the Council, without adequate excuse made to the Council, shall
- be considered to have vacated their office.

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- 17 Section 8.
- 18 Lead Stewards Building Representatives: At work sites with multiple Stewards Building
- 19 **Representatives**, the Stewards Building Representatives may organize themselves into a
- 20 committee to facilitate their role in the work site and may designate one of their numbers as the
- 21 Lead Stewards Building Representatives.

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ARTICLE XI – DUTIES OF STEWARDS BUILDING REPRESENTATIVES

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- 25 Section 1.
- 26 **Meetings:** Stewards Building Representatives shall attend all regular and special meetings of
- 27 the Stewards Building Representatives Council and any other meetings they are requested to
- attend.

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- 30 **Section 2.**
- 31 **Relationship of Work Site:** Stewards **Building Representatives** must periodically report to
- and receive information from the members at their work site.

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- 34 Section 3.
- 35 **Responsibilities:** Stewards **Building Representatives** shall hold regular meetings of Local
- 36 Union members at their work site in order to consider local matters and for social purposes.

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- **Section 4.**
- 39 Communication: Stewards Building Representatives shall hold regular meetings of Local
- 40 **Union** members at their work site in order to consider local matters and for social purposes.

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- 42 **Section 5.**
- 43 **Bulletin Board:** Stewards Building Representatives shall be responsible for the Local Union
- bulletin board at the work site.

- 1 **Section 6.**
- 2 **Recruitment:** Stewards Building Representatives shall be responsible for recruitment of new
- 3 members at their work sites and for maintaining all members in good standing. Each month they
- 4 shall transmit to the Local Union office a list of all members no longer employed or who have
- 5 been transferred to another work site.

- 7 Section 7.
- 8 Grievances: Stewards Building Representatives shall be responsible for assisting members in
- 9 processing grievances and representing them if requested in any grievance meetings. They shall
- 10 forward copies of grievances to the Local Union office.

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ARTICLE XII – MEETINGS

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- 14 Section 1.
- 15 <u>Number of Meetings</u>: Except in emergencies, the General Membership shall meet four (4)
- times a year in the months of September, January, March, and May.

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- 18 **Section 2.**
- 19 **Quorum:** A quorum shall consist of two and one-half **percent** (2.5%) percent of the total
- 20 membership and/**or** one-half (1/2) of the officers.

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ARTICLE XIII – FINANCE

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- 24 Section 1.
- 25 <u>Dues</u>: Regular dues shall be fixed by a majority vote of members present at any regular meeting
- providing notice of the contemplated dues increase has been announced at least one month in
- advance.

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- 29 Section 2.
- 30 Additional Resources: The Local Union may obtain additional finances through grants,
- 31 donations, contributions, or other funding activities.

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- 33 ARTICLE XIV RULES OF ORDER
- 34 The Revised Roberts Rules of Order shall govern in all cases not covered by this Constitution or
- by the Bylaws of this Local **Union**.

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- 37 ARTICLE XV AMENDMENT
- 38 This Constitution may be amended by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of those voting at a Regular or
- 39 Special Membership meeting. The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the members at
- least one month in advance of the meeting at which the vote is scheduled.

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ARTICLE XVI – AVAILABILITY OF CONSTITUTION

- 44 **Section 1.**
- 45 **Headquarters:** Three copies of this Constitution and any Bylaws and all future amendments
- shall be submitted to the National Office of the American Federation of Teachers. One copy of
- 47 this Constitution and all future amendments shall be submitted to the State Office of AFT
- 48 Missouri.

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2	Section 2.
3	To Other Affiliates: Copies of this Constitution shall be made available to other affiliated
4	organizations upon request to the Secretary.
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6	Section 3.
7	To Members: A copy of this Constitution and Bylaws shall be made available upon request.
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BYLAWS OF THE 1 2 **AFT ST.LOUIS LOCAL 420** 3 AFT, AFL-CIO 4 5 6 **ARTICLE I – DUES** 7 8 Section 1. 9 **Dues:** Dues for certificated members of the bargaining unit shall be one percent (1%) percent 10 of the average BA salary plus affiliates per capita. Dues for the non-certificated members shall 11 be tiered based on their salary plus affiliates per capita. Dues shall be increased at the beginning 12 of the Local 420 fiscal year or any time an increase in the St. Louis Board of Education salary 13 structure becomes effective. Dues shall be payable by payroll deduction in equal installments. 14 Cash-paying members on June 1, 1986, shall have the option of continuing as cash-paying 15 members providing the annual dues is paid in full by September 30 each succeeding year. Beginning September 1980, dues shall automatically rise in the amount of any national or state 16 17 dues increase. Beginning September 1, 1986, dues shall automatically rise in the amount of any 18 stated increase. Dues shall be increased only once during a Local 420 fiscal year. 19 20 Section 2. 21 **Sabbatical leave:** Dues for members on sabbatical leave will be one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) the dues of a 22 regular member in that job classification. 23 24 Section 3. 25 **12-Month Employees:** Dues for members who are employed on a twelve-month schedule shall 26 be paid in equal installments on a twelve-month basis. 27 28 Section 4. 29 **Retired Members:** Dues for retired chapter members shall be set by the Local 420 Executive 30 Board and ratified at Local 420 regular membership meetings. 31 32 **ARTICLE II – FINANCES** 33 Section 1. 34 35 **President:** The Office of President shall be a full-time employed position in the Local. The 36 base annual salary for the President shall be set at one hundred thirty percent (130%) of the 37 salary offered to the highest step teacher with a Ph.D. employed by the St. Louis School System. 38 The President shall receive not less than the kind and level of benefits enjoyed as an employee of 39 the St. Louis School System. 40 41 Section 2. 42 Other Employees: Other employees of the Local not covered by a collective bargaining 43 agreement shall be employed by not less than yearly individual contracts with provision for 44 orderly dismissal with the right of a hearing. Such employment will not be considered political 45 positions nor will the occupants engage in the internal politics of the Local. 46

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS

- **Section 1.**
- 4 <u>General Membership Meetings</u>: Number of Meetings: Except in emergencies, the General
- 5 Membership shall meet four (4) times a year in the months of September, January, March, and
- 6 May. The Executive Board may schedule other regular meetings at other times as may be
- 7 needed. Regular meetings will be at a time and place scheduled by the Executive Board. The
- 8 Executive Board by majority vote or the membership by petition of twenty-five percent (25%)
- 9 may call a special meeting with one week notice to the membership. The agenda for a special
- meeting will be limited to subject or purpose for which the meeting was called.

- 12 Section 2.
- Executive Board Meetings: The Executive Board shall meet at least once each month. It may also meet at such other times as it may determine.

ARTICLE IV – STEWARDS BUILDING REPRESENTATIVES

- **Section 1.**
- **Appointments**:

a) <u>Standing Committees</u>: shall be composed of members of the <u>Local Union</u> and shall be appointed by the President with the approval from the Executive Board unless otherwise specified in the constitution or Bylaws.

b) <u>Chairperson of Standing Committees</u>: shall be designated at the time of committee appointments by the President with the approval from the Executive Board unless otherwise specified in the Constitution or Bylaws.

c) New Committees: Whenever a new committee is added in these Bylaws, initial appointments to the new committee shall be made within thirty (30) days from the effective date of the amendment even though the description of the committee may say the regular appointments are to be made at another time. The appointees shall serve a term through the end of what otherwise would be a normal term, and the regular appointment cycle will take place.

- Section 2.
- **Duties:**

a) Standing Committees: shall assume duties assigned by the Executive Board.

b) Standing Committees: shall annually submit a written report and other reports as directed by the Executive Board.

c) Standing Committees: may form subcommittees as needed.

1 **Section 3.**

- 2 **Finance Committee:** shall consist of three members, one of whom shall be the Treasurer who
- 3 shall be the Chair. Appointments shall be by the President with the approval of the Executive
- 4 Board. Duties of the committee shall include, but not be limited to, recommendations to the
- 5 Executive Board regarding an annual budget, auditors for the annual audit, and of other items
- referred for recommendation. The committee shall be appointed in September for a term of three
- 7 years (3) beginning in October.

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Section 4.

- 10 <u>Constitution and Bylaws Committee</u>: The committee shall consist of three (3) officers
- appointed by the Executive Board. Duties of the committee shall be to review proposed
- amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws to assure their conformity with requirements of
- affiliates or applicable labor laws. The committee may initiate proposed amendments. Its
- review of proposed amendments will be reported to the Executive Board. The committee shall
- 15 be appointed in September of odd-numbered years beginning in October as deemed necessary by
- 16 the committee after July 1 of the election year.

17 18

Section 5.

- 19 <u>Local Negotiation Committee</u>: This committee shall consist of, but is not limited to, up to
- 20 nine (9) members appointed by the President with the approval from the Executive Board and
- selected from among the members covered by the contract. One (1) of the members shall be the
- 22 President and one (1) member shall be the Vice-President Chairperson for Policy Enforcement
- 23 Committee. The President or the Chairperson for Policy Enforcement who shall be the
- 24 Chair**person**. The duties of the Negotiating Committee shall be to solicit membership views and
- 25 interests in issues relating to their employment through surveys, questionnaires or other tools.
- 26 Information shall be presented to the Executive Board with recommendations, which shall form
- 27 the basis for negotiations with the St. Louis Public Schools. The committee shall be appointed
- 28 September of odd-numbered years after July 1 of the election year for a term of three (3) years
- 29 beginning in October.

30 31

Section 6.

- 32 Communications Committee: This committee shall consist of, but is not limited to, three (3)
- members. One of the three shall be the Vice-President Chairperson for the Communications
- 34 who shall be the Chair Committee. Appointments will be made by the President with the
- approval of the Executive Board. Duties of the committee shall include design**ing**, production,
- and distribution of also include the Union's local newsletter on a regular and/or periodic
- 37 schedule. The committee is also responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the Union's
- website and electronic messaging. The committee may increase the number of committee
- members as needed to meet its goals. The committee will also oversee preparation and
- distribution of news/**press** releases and other media relations as needed to promote the activities
- and interests of the Local Union. The committee shall be appointed after July 1 of the election
- 42 **year** in September for a term of three (3) years beginning in October.

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Section 7.

- 45 **Leadership Development Committee:** The committee shall consist of, but is not limited to,
- 46 **five** (5) members. One of the five shall be the Vice President Chairperson for Leadership
- 47 Development Committee who shall be the Chair. Appointments will be made by the President

- Section 7.
- 2 **Leadership Development Committee (cont.):**
- 3 with the approval from the Executive Board. Duties of the committee shall include assessments
- 4 of Union leadership development; and membership educational needs in understanding and
- 5 **knowing** the functions of the Union; gaining knowledge of skill training needs for officers and
- leaders; and developing an annual education and training program for the Local Union. The 6
- 7 committee shall be appointed after July 1 of the election year in September for a term of three
- 8 (3) years beginning in October.

1

- 10 Section 8.
- 11 Membership Services Committee: This committee shall consist of, but is not limited to, three
- (3) members. One (1) of the three (3) shall be the vice-President Chairperson for the 12
- 13 Membership Services Committee who shall be the Chair. Appointments shall be made by the
- 14 President with approval from the Executive Board. Duties of the committee shall include review
- 15 and promotion of membership benefits available through affiliated organizations; evaluation and
- recommendation to the Executive Board of services and benefit programs; and activities to 16
- 17 consider for inclusion in the Local Union membership services program. The committee shall
- 18 also be responsible for planning and coordinating the annual and other membership recruitment
- 19 programs and activities. The committee shall be appointed in September after July 1 of the
- 20 election year for a term of three (3) years beginning in October.

21

- Section 9. 22
- 23 **Political Education Committee:** The committee shall consist of, but is not limited to, five (5)
- 24 members. One (1) shall be the Vice President Chairperson of the Political Education
- 25 Committee who shall be the Chair. Appointments shall be made by the President with approval
- from the Executive Board. Duties of the committee shall include reviewing and recommending 26
- 27 the position of the Local with respect to legislative issues and with respect to candidates and
- ballot measures. The committee will also plan and maintain an ongoing voluntary political 28
- 29 action contribution program in coordination with the Missouri Federation of Teachers and
- 30 School-Related Personnel. The committee shall be appointed in September after July 1 of the 31 election year for a term of three (3) years beginning in October.

32 33

- 34 **Professional Issues Committee:** The committee shall consist of, but is not limited to, five (5)
- 35 members. One (1) shall be the Vice President Chairperson for Professional Issues Committee
- 36 who shall be the Chair. Appointments shall be made by the President with approval from the
- 37 Executive Board. Duties of the committee shall include reviewing and recommending the
- 38 position of the Local Union with respect to issues relating to professions and occupations of the
- 39 members; planning and coordinating the annual QuEST program. The committee shall be
- 40 appointed in September of odd numbered years after July 1 of the election year for a term of
- 41 two three (3) years beginning in October.

42

Section 11. 43

Section 10.

- 44 Elections Committee: The committee shall consist of, but is not limited to, five (5) members
- 45 who shall be elected by the Stewards Building Representatives Council at a meeting in the year
- 46 prior to the elections for a one (1) year term to begin in October. Any member of the Local
- 47 Union shall be eligible to serve on the committee, except that none of them shall be a candidate
- 48 for any office in the election for which the committee will be responsible. The committee shall

1 Section 11.

Elections Committee (cont.):

designate one (1) member as the Chair. The committee shall be responsible for the organization and conduct of the election of officers, building representatives, and delegates of the Local **Union**.

ARTICLE V – CHAPTERS

The Local Union may create local chapters upon recommendation from the Executive Board with approval from the General Membership. Chapters shall represent special jurisdictions or constituencies. Chapters shall organize themselves with due care to standards for governance and participation not inconsistent with the requirements of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Local Union.

ARTICLE VI – RATIFICATION OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS

Tentative agreements reached between the <u>Local Union</u> and the employer shall be subject to vote for ratification by the membership covered by that agreement. Ratification shall be by secret ballot by majority vote of those voting at a special meeting called for consideration of the tentative agreement. Consideration and vote may be taken at a regular meeting whenever a tentative agreement is reached not more than five (5) days before a scheduled regular meeting.

ARTICLE VII – JOB ACTIONS

The membership, on the request and recommendation of the Negotiations Committee or the Executive Board, may authorize the Local Union to call a job action. Authorization shall be granted upon vote by three-fourths (3/4) of the membership as of the end of the month preceding the vote at a meeting called for such a purpose. The meeting shall be scheduled in more than one (1) session to provide maximum opportunity for participation. The vote of each member voting will be recorded.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of those voting at a regular membership meeting. The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the members at least one (1) month in advance of the meeting at which the vote is scheduled.

1 2 3	AFT ST. LOUIS, LOCAL 420 SECRETARIAL AND CLERICAL CHAPTER BYLAWS
4 5	ARTICLE I – NAME
6 7 8 9	The name of this organization shall be the Secretarial and Clerical Chapter of AFT St. Louis, Local 420, AFT/AFT MO/AFL-CIO.
10	ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES
11 12 13 14	The objectives of the Secretarial and Clerical Chapter of AFT St. Louis, Local 420, AFT/AFT MO/AFL-CIO, shall be:
15 16 17	1. To advance the economic and professional interests of secretarial and clerical employees.
18 19	2. To work for defined and fair supervision and administration.
20 21 22 23	3. To keep alert to changes in job classifications as they relate to working conditions, economic improvements, and professional advancement of secretarial and clerical employees.
24 25 26	4. To keep abreast of changes that will motivate and improve the professional growth of the secretarial and clerical employees (such as workshops, seminars, etc.).
27 28 29 30	5. To cooperate to the fullest extent with the labor movement and to work for a progressive labor philosophy to promote a labor consciousness and sense of solidarity with labor in all secretarial and clerical employees.
31 32	6. To make secretarial and clerical employees aware of their political responsibilities.
33 34 35	7. To protect economic, political, health, and safety interests of secretarial and clerical employees.
36 37	ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP
38 39 40 41 42	Section 1. Membership in the Secretarial and Clerical Chapter of AFT St. Louis, Local 420, AFT/AFT MO/AFL CIO, shall be open to the following: Persons employed by the St. Louis Board of Education in the categories known as secretarial and clerical.
43 44 45 46	Section 2. No discrimination shall ever be shown toward individual members of applicants for membership because of race, creed, sexual orientation, social, political or economic status, or national origin.

1	ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS
2	Section 1.
3	The officers of this Secretarial and Clerical Chapter shall be:
4	a) Chairperson
5	b) Vice-Chairperson
6	c) Secretary
7	
8	Section 2.
9	The terms of all officers shall be concurrent with the terms of the officers under the Constitution
10	and Bylaws of AFT St. Louis, Local 420Local 420.
11	
12	ARTICLE V – ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
13	$G : A^{\bullet} \rightarrow A$
14	Section 1.
15	There shall be an Administrative Committee composed of the following:
16	a) Officers of the Secretarial and Clerical chapter
17	b) One member from each of the following areas:
18	1. Early Childhood Centers (ECC)
19	2. Elementary Schools
20	3. Middle Schools
21	4. High Schools5. Non-School Offices
22	5. Non-School Offices
23	Section 2.
24	The function of the Administrative Committee shall be:
25 26	
	a) To implement the decisions of the Executive Board b) To formulate plans for the growth and proper functioning of the Chapter
27	b) To formulate plans for the growth and proper functioning of the Chapter
28 29	c) To take actions deemed necessary between the Secretarial/Clerical Membership meetings. Such actions shall be subject to review by the
30	Executive Board of AFT St. Louis , Local 420.
31	Executive Board of AFT St. Louis, Local 420.
32	Section 3.
33	A quorum for the Administrative Committee shall be four (4). No official business shall be
34	conducted without a quorum present.
35	conducted without a quorum present.
36	Section 4.
37	There shall be one (1) regular Administrative Committee meeting. This meeting shall be called
38	by the Chairperson or by the Vice-Chairperson at the request of a quorum of the Chapter
39	Administrative Committee. The Chairperson shall initiate notice of such meeting no later than
40	by the end of three (3) working days following the date of the request. Administrative
41	Committee members (under regular circumstances) shall be given notice a minimum of twenty-
42	four (24) hours prior to convening a special meeting.
43	10al (21) hours prior to convening a special incomig.
44	ARTICLE VI – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS
45	

Nominations and elections of all officers and other members of the Administrative Committee shall be in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of **AFT St. Louis**, Local 420.

ARTICLE VII – GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

1 2

- 3 **Section 1.**
- 4 There shall be one regular general membership meeting each month during the school year,
- 5 excluding December.

6

- 7 Section 2.
- 8 A special meeting of the general membership shall be called by the Chairperson or by the Vice-
- 9 Chairperson at the request of ten (10) chapter members in good standing. The Chairperson shall
- initiate notice of such meeting no later than by the end of three (3) working days following the
- date of the request. General members (under regular circumstances) shall be given notice a
- minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to convening such special meeting.

13 14

ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES

15

- 16 **Section 1.**
- 17 Standing Committees of the Secretarial and Clerical unit Chapter shall be Membership, Social,
- and Negotiation. These committees shall be appointed by the Chairperson.

19

- 20 Section 2.
- 21 Special Committees: The Chairperson shall appoint special committees when necessary or
- desirable.

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Article IX – NEGOTIATIONS

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- Local Negotiation Committee: This committee shall consist of, but is not limited to, up to
- 27 nine (9) members appointed by the President with the approval from the Executive Board and
- selected from among the members covered by the contract. One (1) of the members shall be the President and one (1) member shall be the Vice President Chairperson for Policy Enforcement
- 30 Committee. The President or the Chapter Chairperson who shall be the Chairperson. The
- duties of the Negotiating Committee shall be to solicit membership views and interest in issues
- relating to their employment through surveys, questionnaires, or other tools. Information shall
- be presented to the Executive Board with recommendations, which shall form the basis for
- 34 negotiations with the St. Louis Public Schools. The committee shall be appointed in September
- 35 **after July 1 of the election year** for a term of two three (3) years beginning in October.

36 37

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

38 39

Amending of these Bylaws shall be accomplished in the same manner as amending the Bylaws of the Constitution of **AFT St. Louis**, Local 420.

AFT ST. LOUIS, LOCAL 420, **AFT/AFT MO/AFL-CIO** PARAPROFESSIONAL CHAPTER BYLAWS ARTICLE I – NAME The name of this organization shall be the Paraprofessional Chapter of AFT St. Louis, Local 420, AFT/AFT MO/AFL-CIO. **ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES** 1. To cooperate to the fullest extent with the labor movement and to work for a progressive labor philosophy to promote a labor consciousness and sense of solidarity with labor in all paraprofessionals. 2. To protect the schools against unsound economy and against political, economic, religious and military groups. 3. To promote education as a social agency for developing the capacities of the young for enlightening adults, and for working toward a society motivated by the ideal of service and democratic participation. 4. To promote paraprofessionals' political responsibility awareness. 5. To advance the economic and professional interests of paraprofessionals. 6. To establish the active participation of paraprofessionals in the formulation of education policies. 7. To protect economic, political, health and safety interests of paraprofessionals. 8. To work for democratic supervision and administration. ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP Section 1. Membership in the Paraprofessional Chapter of AFT St. Louis, Local 420, AFT-AFL-CIO, shall be open to the following: All persons employed by the St. Louis Board of Education in a position designated as paraprofessional shall be eligible for membership in this Chapter. Section 2. No discrimination shall ever be shown toward individual members of applicants for membership because of race, creed, sex, sexual orientation, social, political or economic status, or national origin.

1	ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS
2	
3	Section 1.
4	The officers of this Paraprofessional Chapter shall be:
5	a) Chairperson
6	b) Vice-Chairperson
7	c) Secretary
8	
9	Section 2.
10	The terms of all officers shall be concurrent with the terms of the officers under the Constitution
11	and Bylaws of AFT St. Louis, Local 420.
12	
13	ARTICLE V – ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
14	
15	Section 1.
16	There shall be an Administrative Committee composed of the following:
17	a) Officers of the Paraprofessional Chapter
18	b) One (1) member from each category of employees or elected at large
19	
20	Section 2.
21	The function of the Administrative Committee shall be:
22	a) To implement the decisions of the Executive Board
23	b) To formulate plans for the proper functioning of the Chapter
24	c) To take actions as may be necessary between the Paraprofessionals
25	Membership meetings. Such actions shall be subject to review by the Executive
26	Board of AFT St. Louis, Local 420.
27	
28	ARTICLE VI – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS
29	
30	Nominations and elections of all officers and other members of the Administrative Committee
31	shall be in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of AFT St. Louis, Local 420.
32	
33	ARTICLE VII – MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS
34	
35	Section 1.
36	There shall be one (1) regular general membership meeting each month during the school year
37	excluding December.
38	
39	Section 2.
40	A special meeting of the membership shall be called by the chairperson at the request of a
41	quorum of the Executive Board of Local 420 or the Administrative Committee or upon written
42	request of ten percent (10%) of the members of this chapter. The request shall state the purpose
43	and time.
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3	Local Negotiation Committee: This committee shall consist of, but is not limited to, up to
1	nine (9) members appointed by the President with the approval from the Executive Board and
5	selected from among the members covered by the contract. One (1) of the members shall be the
5	President and one (1) member shall be the Vice-President Chairperson for Policy Enforcement
7	Committee. The President or the Chapter Chairperson who shall be the Chairperson. The
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duties of the Negotiating Committee shall be to solicit membership views and interest in issues relating to their employment through surveys, questionnaires or other tools. Information shall be presented to the Executive Board with recommendations, which shall form the basis for

presented to the Executive Board with recommendations, which shall form the basis for negotiations with the St. Louis Public Schools. The committee shall be appointed in September

for a term of three years beginning in October

ARTICLE VIII – NEGOTIATIONS

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ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

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Amending of these Bylaws shall be accomplished in the same manner as amending the Bylaws of the Constitution of Local 420.