

DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

May 20, 2009

Dear Detroit Public Schools Family:

On May 26, 2009, all Detroit Public School teachers and many other national educators will have a historic opportunity to participate in a day long workshop: "Building Centers of Excellence in Every School for Every Child in Every Neighborhood." The workshop is a result of a joint meeting earlier this month between the leadership of DPS and Detroit Federation of Teachers with Randi Weingarten, national president of the American Federation of Teachers. A commitment was made by Ms. Weingarten to address all Detroit teachers about educational innovations currently being implemented in other large urban districts. Presenters will discuss and answer questions about such topics as peer assistance and review, differentiated pay, site-based management, teacher centers, and school redesign.

We are committed to working together, not only to reform the District but to transform it into one that creates an environment for 21st century teaching and learning, and also reforms the central and administrative functions of the District in the way that supports teachers.

As a result of this workshop, all Detroit Public Schools will be closed on Tuesday, May 26, 2009.

Thank you for your support of Detroit Public Schools and we hope that any inconvenience this schedule change brings is minimal.

Sincerely,



Robert C. Bobb
Emergency Financial Manager
Detroit Public Schools



Keith R. Johnson
President
Detroit Federation of Teachers