



February
2022

ATF Action Agenda

3 Rs Update: Respecting, Recruiting, Retaining NM Educators

With the Legislative Session well underway, it's obvious that many of the legislators are listening to our union's call to take action to respect, recruit and retain educators to keep our public schools functioning well. We have a lot of momentum going. By late January, over 1/3 of state senators and representatives had signed our proclamation/petition. [Read and sign the proclamation here.](#)

But we can't let down now. We must continue to advocate for the working conditions our educators deserve and the learning conditions our students need. Stay focused. Take collective actions to lift our voices. Tune in to atfunion.org and help us push as much of this great legislation across the finish line as possible.

ATF Bill Tracker Makes It Easy to Keep Up With Bills That Impact Your Career

30 days fly by like a whirlwind during a busy Legislative Session. It can be difficult to keep up with bills that are important to our careers. Thankfully, your union makes it easy to stay up to date on the progress of key legislation by sending regular email updates during the session.

The Albuquerque Teachers Federation takes stances on bills that deal with pedagogy, workers' rights, funding for public education, and social justice. Now, you can follow up on updates and see all the bills ATF is monitoring at a glance.

[Click this link to read about and see our regularly updated bill tracker.](#)

There are some very important bills moving through the legislature designed to help recruit and retain educators. It's imperative that ATF members take action to contact your legislators and ask them for their support of these bills. You can read bills in their entirety and find your legislator at <https://nmlegis.gov>.

Where There's COPE There's Hope!

As we watch events unfold in the Legislative Session, it's very important that we stay involved and take opportunities to advocate for quality bills that will improve our working conditions and students' learning conditions. Members recently received a mailer from your union asking you to join the COPE committee or increase your dues. COPE is the unified committee on political education. ATF members band together with classified members of AFCP and AFT NM Retirees to get the political work of our unions done. Voluntary contributions from members fund our get out the vote efforts and our commitment to keeping members informed.

Face it: our jobs as public educators are political. Every decision about funding and working conditions are legislated at a state level and/or decreed by the APS Board of Education. One of our missions as a union is to help elect policymakers who support public education, workers' rights, and social justice. We do not use ATF members' dues to fund our political endeavors.

Members, please join COPE by any amount or increase your current dues at atfunion.org/cope/. When we all give a little, it amounts to a lot.

ATF 2022 At-Large Officer Elections to Take Place In May

Article IV Section 2 of the ATF Constitution states: "The At-Large officers shall be elected for a two (2) year term every even numbered year by secret ballot on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May." These officers include the ATF's President, Executive Vice-president, Membership and Involvement Vice-president, Treasurer and Secretary.

The ATF By-Laws state: "All candidates for office shall declare their candidacy by certified letter to the Secretary of the ATF no later than thirty (30) days prior to the election."

Any member in good standing is eligible to run for any office, except for the office of president which requires candidates to have been an ATF member for at least one year.

Members who wish to vote must be in "good standing" which means they have paid dues by March 1st. The ATF Election Committee, composed of member volunteers, will manage the election. We will have an online voting option for the convenience of all members.

You can read the full ATF Constitution & Bylaws at atfunion.org. If you have questions about candidacy or the election, please email: act@atfunion.org.

PED Waives Fees for Licensure Renewal & Background Checks

The Professional Licensure Bureau is waiving all application and background fees for the months of February and March. This includes all initial and renewal applications, and submissions of dossiers and OPALs.

This will help educators during these difficult times with a savings between \$35 and \$320 for submissions.

Waiving of the payment happens automatically in the system. To have the background check fee waived, enter this information below for payment when you register:

- Payment type: Select: AGENCY
- Agency Billing ID (ABID): NMNSP0000
- Agency Password: A138EB4827

This offer will help keep some cash in the pockets of educators submitting new applications as well as people renewing so the system won't be overwhelmed in June.

AFT Shanker Institute Civics Fellows

A group of ATF members is currently participating in AFT [Shanker Institute's](#) Civics Fellows program, developing lessons and units to educate students on the cornerstones of civics and democracy.

ATF wants to thank the following members for their participation in this timely and beneficial program.

Sean Thomas, NBCT, Eldorado HS, ATF Executive VP
 Andreaon (Andre) Williams, Manzano HS
 Celeste Escoto, New Futures HS
 Rachael Sonia, Garfield MS
 Cristina Rincon, Adobe Acres ES
 Megan Sisty, Kennedy MS

In February, the National Association of Bilingual Educators (NABE) is holding their conference in New York City: Empowering ELLs & Communities Through Civics & Democracy Lessons. The Shanker Institute Fellows will share their civics and democracy work as it could be applied to classes that include English language learners.

Garfield MS teacher Rachael Sonia will attend the conference to represent our Union!

ATF – Your Professional, Progressive Union

**Stand in solidarity with your friends & colleagues!
 Join your Union Today!!**

Ask your Fed Rep to sign you up!
 or
 Join online at: <https://atfunion.org/join/>
 or
 Call the ATF office: (505)262-2657

Spring 2022 Teacher Evaluation Timelines

The NMPED recommends the following deadlines for teacher evaluation components this spring:

- December 17, 2021 or 30 days after hire-Teachers complete the Self-Reflection and BOY PDP Goal Setting.
- January 14, 2022 or 40 days after hire- evaluators complete BOY PDP - Scoring/Feedback
- April 22, 2022- teachers complete the End of Year PDP Reflection
- April 29, 2022- Evaluators complete One Formal Observation - Domains 2 & 3 for all Level I teachers *(Level II and Level III complete these observations by request in support of licensure renewal, advancement, and general support)
- May 6, 2022- evaluators complete the End of Year PDP Scoring/Feedback

*NOTE: Our advice is to make sure to look ahead to think about your dossier. It is in each teacher's self-interest to get observed if a dossier is in your new future (meaning within the next 3 years).

The rule to level up is 3 years of evaluations but they do not have to be consecutive. APS does want at least one year to be recent.

Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	TIME
2/5	National Board Writer's Workshop	9:00-11:00am
2/8	ATF Unified COPE Committee	4:30-5:30pm
2/8	Students in the Center: Grief, Anxiety, and Depression	4:30-5:30pm
2/10	Dossier Overview	4:30-7:00pm
2/15	ATF Legislative Update	4:15-5:15pm
2/17	Legislative Session Ends	12:00pm
2/19	NM PBS and UNM: Finding Your Roots	8:00am-12:00pm
2/19	Dossier Writer's Workshop	1:00-3:00pm
2/21	Presidents' Day (No classes)	All Day
2/22	ATF Unified COPE Committee	4:30-5:30pm
3/1	Fed Rep Council	4:15-6:30pm

Sign up for classes and check the venue of the meetings at atfunion.org/professional-learning/.