

Special Resolution
In Support of Organizing Charter School Teachers and Staff

Whereas, charter schools in Ohio are an established part of Ohio's public education system with 324 charter schools enrolling more than 115,000 students statewide in the 2021-2022 school year;

Whereas, every Ohio public school educator and support staff member deserves fair compensation, reasonable working conditions, and a voice at work;

Whereas, every Ohio public school student deserves safe and stable learning conditions and quality, experienced educators;

Whereas, since Ohio law does not provide transparency and accountability for charter schools, union members at charter schools are able to serve as advocates for their students and as a vital check and balance against private, for-profit charter school companies;

Whereas, when charter teachers and staff do not have a union and a fair contract they are often subject to substandard wages, benefits, and working conditions which can pull standards downward for nearby traditional public school teachers and staff;

Whereas, the Ohio Federation of Teachers (OFT) is the only union in Ohio with a track record of successfully organizing charter school teachers and staff, and winning contracts that improve standards for students, teachers, and staff;

Whereas, we are stronger together and we are weaker when divided from other workers in our field;

Therefore, be it resolved, the OFT wholeheartedly supports organizing charter school educators and assisting them in negotiating fair contracts;

Be it further resolved, the OFT will continue to fight for changes in law to enhance transparency and accountability for charter schools and will continue to ensure that funding for charter schools is not deducted from local public school funds;

Be it finally resolved, the OFT rejects the false narrative that pits Ohio's traditional public school educators and staff against their counterparts at Ohio's charter schools.