

On May 2, 2019, Peralta Federation of Teachers, AFT 1603 met and voted to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas: The voting delegates of Peralta Federation of Teachers are committed to building a strong, democratic local union and a strong, democratic American Federation of Teachers national union, and

Whereas: The 2020 presidential election is a contest of historic importance for our country as a whole, for the institution of public education, for the labor movement, and for the American Federation of Teachers in particular, and

Whereas: The teacher strikes of the past year show the immense power of educators to change politics in our communities when we are organized and engaged in our unions, and

Whereas: The campaigns have started, but it will take a while for most busy educators to educate ourselves about the candidates, their records, and their visions for the country, and

Whereas: Once we have had time to research, discuss, and deliberate, nobody knows better what is best for our union than the members ourselves, and

Whereas: The leadership of the American Federation of Teachers has acknowledged that in 2016, our union's endorsement process was rushed and excluded the voices of most members, and resulted in a premature decision and membership discontent,

*Therefore be it resolved
that:*

We call on the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) to wait to endorse a presidential candidate until after AFT members have had a chance to learn about the candidates through the first six DNC debates (held June 2019 through December 2019), and at that point, to decide which candidate to endorse through a national, binding, one-member/ one-vote poll of our members.

Adopted on May 2, 2019 and respectfully submitted for consideration to the American Federation of Teachers.