

## Prioritizing Bargaining for the Common Good

**WHEREAS**, bargaining for the common good is a tangible way to decrease racial, social, and economic inequities. Using union bargaining as a way to meaningfully disrupt the status quo allows for demands that go beyond only wages and benefits. Bargaining for the common good is a way for our unions to expand the scope of power and action within our communities as well as strengthen members' relationships with each other. By fighting for bigger demands, members will gain a sense of unity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Portland Association of Teachers has committed to fight white supremacy and economic injustice and assist affiliates with the same goal; and

**WHEREAS**, racial injustice permeates the stolen land of the Burns Paiute Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, the Coquille Indian Tribe, and the Klamath Tribes that Oregonians live upon today; and

**WHEREAS**, the Portland Association of Teachers engages partners and many community organizations. By teaming up with immigrant rights organizations, housing rights groups, climate and labor-aligned operations, and more, the Portland Association of Teachers strives to actively participate in issues of solidarity throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS**, in the state of Oregon, thousands of our families, staff, and community members cannot afford a home, do not have the funds to pay their bills, and are disadvantaged by their loans and debt. Income inequality is reaching record highs, and thus, thousands of working Oregonians are a paycheck away from homelessness. Meanwhile, three billionaires control twice as much wealth as the bottom fifty percent of Oregonians. The lack of affordable housing in Portland directly impacts the number of families with students in K-12 who enter into Portland Public Schools SD1J ; and

**WHEREAS**, unions across the country have already utilized Bargaining for the Common Good principles and won. One such demand that has been commonly utilized is the ask for a \$15 minimum wage. Another example is AFSCME 3299's winning demands of immigrant protections, increased training opportunities for underrepresented communities including formerly incarcerated people, and a general prohibition of outsourcing. A local example is OFNHP's recent demand for PTO for the purpose of citizenship appointments; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that whenever possible, the Portland Association of Teachers will encourage union partners and other organizations to strive for further reaching contract demands around the common good and support them whenever it may be needed. Through uplifting union partners and organizations' common good demands and assisting in the creation of common good demands, the Portland Association of Teachers will stand with all union partners and organizations in the fight for a more just and equitable society; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that in partnership with organizations and other union partners who are already doing the work, the Portland Association of Teachers will create a shareable toolkit for members and our union partners to use when creating bargaining demands for the common good and winning those demands; and now be it finally

**RESOLVED** that the Portland Association of Teachers will stay up to date with common good bargaining techniques used across the country and bring learnings regarding new tactics including methods of exposing bad actors across Oregon to members and other union partners.