

NEW JERSEY STATE AFL-CIO

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Resolution No. 2

URGING THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO RESOLVE CONTRACT STALEMATE FOR FOOD SERVICE WORKERS IN THE NEWARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, unionized, public food service workers of the Newark Public schools, members of the Laundry, Distribution and Food Service Joint Board of Workers United, SEIU have been without a salary increase for five years and are working without a Collective Bargaining Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Newark School Administration and the State Department of Education have made no meaningful effort to negotiate with the affected bargaining representatives; and

WHEREAS, these vital employees continue to perform difficult and important duties in a challenging environment, with a high percent of them earning below \$10 p/h; and

WHEREAS, despite the lack of a new contract, the food service workers have had to pay higher pension and benefit costs resulting in a direct reduction in their pay; and

WHEREAS, the penury to which these workers are being subjected is particularly galling in light of the substantial salary increases given recently by Governor Christie to his staff, and by state-appointed Newark Schools Superintendent Cami Anderson to high level staff in the school district; and

WHEREAS, the food service workers in Newark Public Schools deserve jobs and wages that allow them to support their families and be treated with dignity and respect; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the members of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO and its affiliates stand in solidarity with our union brothers and sisters, members of Local 3-Laundry, Distribution and Food Service Joint Board, Workers United, SEIU; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the New Jersey State AFL-CIO urges the New Jersey Department of Education to direct the Newark School Administration to return to the bargaining table and engage in meaningful negotiations with Workers United, SEIU to conclude a new labor agreement within ninety (90) days of the approval of this Resolution.

Submitted by: Laundry, Distribution & Food Service Joint Board, Workers United

Adopted by: New Jersey State AFL-CIO Conference Delegates

Date: Tuesday, June 10, 2014