United Federation of Teachers Election Committee
December 9, 2021
52 Broadway, 19th Floor

Present: Carl Cambria (Chair); Patti Crispino; Marcus Escobar; Robert Greenberg; Ira Munet; Kathy Perez; Sean Rotkowitz; Howard Sandau; Norm Scott; Michael Shulman; Servia Silva; James Vasquez; Amanda Vender; Aqeel Williams

(Non-voting) Yasmin Colon, David Hickey, Beth Norton

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:36 P.M. There was a request from Norm Scott that the chair seek accommodation for school-based staff who may have difficulty getting to the meeting by the scheduled start time of 4:00 P.M. The Chair indicated he will follow up on this request.

The Chair reviewed the ground rules and time limits for debate. (Two minutes per speaker; automatic close of debate after 15 minutes.)

• Motion: To approve the ground rules made by James Vasquez; seconded by Robert Greenberg; Carried unanimously.

Distribution of Materials:
Agenda; Draft Calendar, Draft Election Notice, Draft Individual and Joint Nominating Petitions, Draft Candidate Statement; Draft Petition Confirmation Sheet.

Approval of the Agenda:

• Motion to Approve the agenda made by James Vasquez; seconded by Patti Crispino; Carried unanimously.

Discussion: The Chair reviewed the election calendar. There was a request from Norm Scott that petitions be available in borough offices prior to distribution at the January 19, 2022 delegate assembly. The Chair noted current practice is to make petitions available at borough offices on the day of the delegate assembly and this will not change.

The Chair reviewed the draft election notice. The draft reflects new dates for balloting and campaign activities as well as the new election committee membership. The Chair noted, that, based on the November 15 payroll, elementary school representation on the executive board will increase from 11 to 12 and middle school representation will decrease from five to four. The total executive board membership remains at 90.

The Chair reviewed the Board of Education memorandum (January 18, 2001) Campaigns for Union Offices. Norm Scott reported the Principal’s Digest (11/30 - 12/03) reiterates the language in the January 18, 2001 memorandum regarding retiree access to schools to disseminate election materials and requested this item be shared with members of the committee. The Chair will send this Principal’s Digest item to members of the election committee.

The Chair reviewed the draft petitions. He noted the UFT ID# has been added to file #, EIS# or SS# as an identifier. In response to a concern by Norm Scott regarding the use of a SS#, Yasmin Colon clarified only the last four digits of the SS# are necessary. Both petitions are updated to indicate the location and date of return. The Chair also noted candidate statements are due with joint petitions. (Contact Yasmin Colon for additional petitions.)
•Motion: To approve the election calendar made by Ira Munet; seconded by Robert Greenberg; Carried unanimously.

•Motion: To approve the petitions made by Ira Munet; seconded by Kathy Perez; Carried unanimously.

•Motion: To amend the petitions by adding a note that electronic signatures are not acceptable made by Howard Sandau; seconded by Ira Munet; Carried unanimously.

•Motion: To accept the remaining items made by Ira Munet; seconded by Patti Crispino; Carried unanimously.

•Motion: To reopen debate on the election notice for the purpose of amending the balloting section by adding an option for electronic balloting made by Ira Munet; seconded by Patti Crispino; Carried unanimously.

(Debate of electronic voting option.)

•Motion: To add an option for electronic balloting and to so indicate in the *balloting* section of the election notice made by Norm Scott; seconded by Kathy Perez; Defeated eight nays, five ayes.

•Motion: To adjourn made by Howard Sandau; seconded by Patti Crispino; Carried unanimously.

Adjournment: 5:56 P.M.

Next meeting of the UFT Election Committee: Wednesday, February 2, 2022, 4:00 P.M.

Submitted by Joseph Colletti, Special Representative for Educational Programs