

Friday, August 2, 2024

Dear President Pringle:

On behalf of the members of the Field Services Organization (FSO), I write to you in condemnation of the National Education Association's (NEA) actions against its staff, namely locking out members of the National Education Association Staff Organization (NEASO). A lockout is a draconian action that only the worst employers take and for a **union** to take that action is not only disgusting, but it sets back the labor movement, the cause of educators, and the cause of workers everywhere. It minimizes our collective ability to do the work of the union, including preparing for the 2024 election and the numerous local fights sure to happen in the coming school year.

Until NEASO is back to work and significant progress is made towards a successor contract, our members in FSO have pledged to take the following actions:

- Our members will not participate in activities, meetings, or events sponsored, hosted or conducted under the auspices of the NEA. Our members will also not be volunteering for any shared staffing assignments. The members that you have **chosen** to lock out do critical work in all stages of these events and should these meetings go forward they would be conducted with replacement workers, which, as a union we cannot support.
- Call on the elected leadership and Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Teachers Association to join in our boycott and encourage other state affiliates to join us.
- Publicize your actions with the MTA/NEA members with which we directly work and ask them to contact their elected union officials to end the illegal lockout.

We encourage you to reach a speedy settlement that truly embodies the public facing values you claim to uphold.

Sara Bijani
President, Field Services Organization
Massachusetts Teachers Association