CONSTITUTION OF THE
ABC FEDERATION OF TEACHERS
AFT LOCAL 2317
Revised 2/3/2011

Article I Name
The name of this organization shall be the ABC Federation of Teachers of the American
Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO.

Article II Jurisdiction
This organization, hereinafter called the Federation, shall represent the American Federation
of Teachers and have jurisdiction of the American Federation of Teachers in the ABC Unified
School District.

Article III Affiliation
The Federation shall affiliate with the American Federation of Teachers, the California
Federation of Teachers, the California Labor Federation AFL-CIO, and the Los Angeles
County Federation of Labor AFL-CIO. These affiliations shall constitute allegiance to the
constitutions of these bodies and oblige prompt payment of their per capitas.

Article IV Purpose
The purpose of this organization shall be to advance the status of teachers and other
educational employees, and of education in general, in ABCUSD, in the state, and in the
nation; to promote the growth of the American Federation of Teachers, California Federation
of Teachers, organized labor in general and public employees; to raise the standards of the
educational profession and to secure the conditions essential to the best professional service;
to promote such democratization of the educational institution as will enable it to equip
students to take their places in the economic, social and political life of the community; to
strive for equal opportunities for all; and to initiate and support state legislation to benefit the
students and educational employees of the ABC Unified School District.

Article V Membership
A. Eligibility
Membership in this organization shall be open to all teachers, librarians,
school nurses, speech therapists, specialists, members-at-large,
unrepresented and those certificated employees listed in the contract who are not
managers, supervisors, or confidential employees.

B. Retirees
An officially chartered AFT retiree chapter shall represent retirees.
If no retiree chapter exists, retirees may be a member of the
ABCFT.

C. Non-Discrimination
No qualifications for membership shall be established which limits membership to
anyone or grants membership to anyone on the basis of racial or ethnic background,
color, creed, national origin, sex, age, physical intellectual or developmental
disability, medical condition, height, weight, physical characteristics, organizational
affiliation, disabled veteran status, political affiliation, religion, sexual orientation,
gender identity, or marital or domestic partner status.

Article VI  Governance

A. Representative Council

1. The Representative Council shall consist of all elected officers of the Local and one
elected representative or alternate for each 25 members or fraction thereof within each
site or district-based program.

2. The Representative Council shall have legislative and judicial
powers in all matters affecting this organization, subject to
limitations in this Constitution and shall make the policy of the
Federation.

3. The Representative Council shall have the power to propose amendments to this
Constitution; determine election procedures and duties of officers; establish dues
subject to membership ratification, and establish necessary committees and agencies
to carry out the intent of this Federation.

4. Regular monthly meetings of the Representative Council shall be
held in a place and time as determined by the Council. Special
meetings shall be called according to need.

5. The chairpersons of all Standing Committees and shall be
appointed annually and shall be ex-officio members of the
Representative Council.

6. The Representative Council shall act as the steering committee for
the ABC Federation of Teachers Committee on Political Education
(ABCFT C.O.P.E.)

B. Officers

1. Officers of the Federation shall be a president, an executive vice-
   president, nine vice-presidents, a recording secretary, and a
treasurer.

2. There shall be an Executive Board consisting of the elected
   officers. The Executive Board may suggest policy and execute
   policy but may not formulate official policy.
3. The term of office shall be for two years from June to June. Installation of officers shall be in June at the fourth quarter regularly scheduled Representative Council meeting.

4. Duties of the officers shall be consistent with their titles and as specified by the Representative Council.

5. Local officer vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term by action of the Representative Council.

6. The elected officers of the Executive Board shall have the authority to appoint and remove non-elected, voting or non-voting members to the Executive Board or grant or remove observer status to chairs or designees of selected standing or ad-hoc committees with a 2/3 majority vote. The term shall not exceed that of the current Executive Board.

7. Recall of officers shall be accomplished by a majority of votes cast by the entire membership. The recall election may be instigated by petition of twenty percent (20%) of the total membership, and shall be conducted by procedures determined by the Representative Council.

Article VII Elections

A. All officers and representatives shall be elected by a secret ballot election. All nominations shall be submitted at a general membership meeting in April or May. The ballots shall be distributed to all members no later than May 20th. All nominations and elections shall be conducted according to the Landrum-Griffin Act, other applicable federal and state laws, as well as any applicable portions of the constitutions, by-laws, and officially adopted written policies of the AFT, CFT or ABCFT.

B. Members in good standing are eligible to vote in elections if they were members in good standing two (2) months before the date of the election.

Article VIII Amendments

A. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by 2/3 of the votes cast at a regular meeting of the Representative Council, provided the proposed amendment was read at a previous meeting.

B. Amendments may be proposed by petition to the Representative council by 15% of the membership.

C. Ratification of the proposed amendment shall be by 2/3 majority of all votes cast by the membership in an election conducted for that purpose by the Representative Council.
Article IX Rules of Procedure

Unless otherwise specified in the by-laws, Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings.

Article X By-Laws

All matters not covered or clearly delineated by this Constitution shall be addressed in the by-laws. By-laws can be proposed, changed, and amended by any Representative Council meeting provided notice of that council meeting has been sent at least one week in advance to all members and providing 2/3 of those members of the Representative Council present and voting, vote affirmatively.