



American Federation  
of Teachers, AFL-CIO

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AFT Teachers  
AFT PSRP  
AFT Higher Education  
AFT Public Employees  
AFT Nurses and Health  
Professionals

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May 5, 2015

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President  
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Dear Marlis,

On behalf of the 1.6 million members of the American Federation of Teachers, I am writing to stand in strong solidarity beside the membership and leadership of the GEW in your fight for the rights of early childhood educators.

We all know that high-quality early learning programs help children achieve school readiness, help ensure that disadvantaged children are not left behind, and aid in reducing the achievement gap.

In both our countries, our local governments' commitment to early childhood educators -- in paying fair wages and improving working conditions -- is a critical investment in the future, with an important impact on the quality of learning, the future achievements of young people, and the success of our communities.

As you move forward, we will continue to stand with you in your demand for what is right for early childhood educators and what is best for children and their families.

In unity,

Dr. Loretta Johnson  
Secretary-Treasurer

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The **American Federation of Teachers** is a union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through the work our members do.