



DELEGATE ASSEMBLY BULLETIN

DECEMBER 11, 2013

MORECAUCUSNYC.ORG

Dear Delegates and Chapter Leaders,
Please consider the following items for today's meeting.

MORE Calls on the UFT Leadership to Follow the Rules

Dictionary definition of debate:
To discuss a question by considering opposed arguments.

UFT Delegate Assemblies are awash in a sea of undemocratic procedures. One of the most egregious has been the abuse of the rules that govern debate. The leadership and its UNITY Caucus supporters have 100 minutes to present their case plus a 10-minute question period, with the President's report taking up a good chunk of the time. Alternate voices have a 10 minute "new motion" period. But even those 10 minutes are encroached upon when the leadership uses the pretense of presenting its own "new" motions despite the fact they have the power to add them to the regular agenda. But they go even further by restricting or shutting down debate.

President Mulgrew is violating Robert's Rules of Order overtly when he calls exclusively on supporters of motions. His argument that he doesn't know where people stand when he calls on them holds little water given that most of the speakers are members of his own Unity Caucus and are often, in fact, UFT officials on the UFT payroll. His job as president is to alternate between those who are in favor and those who are against a motion. Therefore, after a Unity person motivates a motion, Mulgrew's obligation is to call on someone opposed as long as someone rises and demands the floor at the same time as a friend of a motion. The Rules call, for not just one speaker on the other side, but half of them in every debate.

Delegates have seen this basic principle of democratic debate routinely ignored, often with only a one-sided point of view being aired. There can be no "union" without a democratic union. In the interests of having a democratic union that follows the rule of law and welcomes vigorous, open debate, we urge all union members to support a movement for a more democratic union.

Join us at the next MORE Meeting

Jan. 18th, 2014, 12pm-3pm

New Location!

The Commons, 388 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11217

Question Period

Randi Weingarten recently wrote in an article titled "Time to End Failed Policies of NCLB & RTTT." Will the UFT refuse to sign on to any renewals of RTTT in NYC?

Now that we passed a resolution to end high stakes associated with Common Core tests, what is our political follow up?

Are there plans for childcare at DA meetings?

November Delegate Assembly reports at MORECaucusnyc.org: James Eterno:

UNITY dominated DA votes for minor tweaks in teacher evaluation system while MORE calls for repeal of evaluation law:
<http://tinyurl.com/kjr9x27>

Megan Moskop:

Part 1: Why I Think the UFT Should REALLY Fight "Advance"
<http://tinyurl.com/l4eklfl>

Part 2: Speaking Up at the Delegate Assembly
<http://tinyurl.com/k67pcb3>

Contact Us! more@morecaucusnyc.org • 347-766-7319 • fb.com/morecaucusnyc • twitter.com/morecaucusnyc

Fill out and return to a MORE rep on the way out:

Name _____ School/Borough _____
Email _____ Phone _____

_____ I would like to help distribute the next MORE newsletter (Jan. 2014) in my school.

_____ I agree with MORE's contention that basic democratic rules are being violated at DAs.