History

- Voted to affiliate at least twice before, but dissolved at some point
- Current union began in 1970 with President Charles Baretski, after library employees were bypassed for raises by the city
- The most recent Presidents were Jared Ash, Kendell Willis, and Yesenia Lopez.
Our Contract 2023: Positives

By having a union

● We have cold time and heat time (assigned a new workspace)
● We have minimum salaries for each position
● We must get our schedule 2 weeks in advance
● We get a paid meal hour if we work nights
● We generally have gotten a small raise with each new contract
Our contract 2023: Issues

- Cost of living rising, raises not high enough
- More than 50% of our staff do not have a living wage per MIT
- Some titles would need a 50% raise to meet NJLA Recommended Salaries
- Budget of library cut in 2009, still lower than it was before those cuts
Executive Board:

- Vanessa Castaldo (Main Library – NJ Room)
- Reggie Blanding (Main Library – JBAAR)
- Maxine Blackwell (Weequahic)

Trustees:

- Anne Schatz (Main Library – Reference)
- Natalie Guions (Main Library – Cataloging)
- Marsha Davis (Main Library – Youth Services)
Things we’ve done

- Board Meetings
- City Council Meetings
- Button Day
- Happy Hours
Staff Surveys

What are the most important issues to you? *

- Raises
- Promotions
- Titles / Civil Service
- Adequate staffing
- Adequate security
- Scheduling / Hours
- Other...

I can support by:
- Being a shop steward
- Being a department rep
- Being on the negotiations committee
- Talking to my coworkers
- Talking to the community
- Participating in a button / t-shirt day
- Attending union meetings
- Attending board and city council meetings
- Speaking at board and city council meetings
- Participating in a protest/picket
- Researching issues
- Creating graphics
- Posting on social media
- Other...
Website / Social Media
afscmelocal2298.wordpress.com
@newarklibraryworkers
All contracts and documents are available!
Repost other groups!
Petition & Business Cards tinyurl.com/npllivingwage

Support a living wage for Newark Public Library workers and a world class library system for all

We are Newark Public Library workers in AFSCME Local 2298 fighting for a living wage for library workers and a world class public library system for all.

First and last name *
Your answer

Email address *
Your answer

Please check all that apply to you

- [ ] Newark Public Library Staff
- [ ] Resident of Newark
- [ ] Student in Newark
- [ ] Union Member
- [ ] Library worker in another library system
Community Groups

Talking to as many Community groups and people as possible including getting involved in other groups causes! We also passed a Palestine resolution.
T Shirt Day
Next steps:

- Negotiations are continuing
- Meeting with city councilmembers
- Continuing to pressure administration
Why Join a Union?

- Worker power is the only way to really make changes in the workplace!
- As library workers we all deserve a living wage and fair workplace conditions!
- If your library isn’t unionized check out EWOC at https://workerorganizing.org/
Contact Me:

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