ARTICLE I - NAME

This organization shall be known as the Retired Teachers Council, a Council of the Lake County Federation of Teachers (LCFT), Local 504, IFT-AFT/AFL-CIO, hereinafter referred to as the “Union.”

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Eligibility for membership shall conform to the Constitutions of the Lake County Federation of Teachers, Local 504; the Illinois Federation of Teachers; and the American Federation of Teachers.

Section 2

Eligibility for membership shall be extended to all retired teaching and school support personnel. Additionally, anyone on approved leave of absence from a Lake County school district, anyone no longer actively engaged as an employee of a Lake County school district, or anyone desiring membership that is not otherwise eligible for membership in any other existing LCFT council or as an at-large member shall be eligible.

ARTICLE III - MEETINGS

Section 1

The general membership of the Union shall meet as the occasion arises or at the call of the President.
Section 2

A quorum for conducting business of the Union or committee thereof shall consist of the Chairperson and five percent (5%) of the Union or committee.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Section 1

The officers of this organization shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and LCFT Executive Board Delegate(s).

Section 2

The President shall preside over all meetings of the officers and the general membership and shall perform such other duties as devolve upon the President. Should the President be unable to complete the full term of office, his/her duties and responsibilities shall be assumed by the Vice-President.

Section 3

The Vice-President shall coordinate activities for members as determined by the officers. The Vice-President shall discharge all duties of the office of President in the President’s absence.

Section 4

The Secretary-Treasurer shall attend to correspondence of the Union and maintain on file a record of said correspondence. He/she shall record and publish minutes of the meetings of the general membership. The Secretary-Treasurer shall receive all vouchers regarding payment of obligations, monthly reports, and membership lists issued by the LCFT Treasurer.

Section 5

The number of LCFT Executive Board Delegate(s) shall be equal to the number as prescribed for in the LCFT Constitution. One of these delegates shall be the President or his/her designee. The LCFT Executive Board Delegate(s) shall perform such duties as outlined in the Local 504 Constitution and make timely reports of their activities to the membership.
Section 6

Should a vacancy occur in the office of Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, or LCFT Executive Board Delegate, the President shall appoint a member to fill such vacancy, upon approval by the officers.

ARTICLE V - ELECTIONS

Section 1

All members of the Union are eligible to run for office. Nominations may be made in writing by the member or by another member, with the approval of the nominee. Nominations shall be made between September 1st and October 1st of even numbered years.

Section 2

The election of officers shall be by secret ballot. Ballots shall be mailed with the October Newsletter and shall be returned no later than November 10th. Results shall be published in the December Newsletter.

Section 3

The officers shall serve for two (2) years, beginning January 1 in odd numbered years.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

Section 1

All committees shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the officers.

Section 2

The following shall be considered as Standing Committees: Social, Legislation, Membership Services, Newsletter, By-Laws.

Section 3

Any other committees shall be considered Special Committees.
ARTICLE VII - RULES OF ORDER

The rule of parliamentary practice comprised in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of this organization, subject to the specific and special rules which have been or may be adopted.

ARTICLE VIII - AFFILIATIONS

Section 1

The Union shall maintain affiliation with the American Federation of Teachers, Illinois Federation of Teachers, and the Lake County Federation of Teachers, Local 504.

Section 2

Any member sent as a Union Delegate to an affiliate meeting or convention shall submit a written report on such meeting attended to the Secretary-Treasurer. This report shall include an expense report itemizing expenses for reimbursement if funding has been approved by the officers of the Retirees' Council.

ARTICLE IX - DUES

Section 1

Each member of the Union shall pay dues as determined in Section 4 of this Article. The dues are to maintain affiliations of this organization, under the conditions that these affiliations are acceptable to the general membership, and to support various activities in support of the purposes of the Union.

Section 2

The fiscal year of this organization shall begin July 1 and end June 30 of each year.

Section 3

Dues shall be collected by the Treasurer of the LCFT and maintained in one (1) treasury. Said funds shall be disbursed by the LCFT Treasurer at the direction of the council officers.
Section 4

Council dues shall be fixed at three dollars and fifty cents ($3.50) above the then current affiliate dues: AFT - $0, IFT - $12, LCFT - $4.50.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

Proposed amendments to these By-Laws shall be submitted to the membership in writing along with a ballot. Ballots shall be returned no later than thirty (30) days after the mailing. Amendment approval shall require a majority vote of the ballots returned.

ARTICLE XI - AVAILABILITY OF BY-LAWS

Section 1

Three (3) copies of these By-Laws and all future amendments shall be submitted to the LCFT office.

Section 2

A copy of these By-Laws shall be made available to each active member of the Union.