



The National Union of Education Workers of Mexico (SNTE) achieved a favorable response to the demands of teachers

With the favorable response to the demands of teachers to rethink the implementation of educational reform, the SNTE proves once again that dialogue is the way to maintain the rights and certainty of teachers.

"We have not just arrived, we have always been here... and here we will continue in the years to come. Our position is not a circumstantial response nor an occurrence; it is effectively defending the rights of teachers and the defense and strengthening of the public school with quality," said the national president of the SNTE, Juan Diaz de la Torre, after receiving the response from the Minister of Public Education, Aurelio Nuño Mayer, to the legitimate and just demands of the teachers, which were delivered to him on the 6th of July.

In the ceremony held at the Secretary of Public Education (SEP) building, Diaz de la Torre pointed out the agreement so that the rights and benefits acquired in the National Program for Teacher Career remain intact: an increase to these benefits equivalent to the increase agreed annually for wages base, and its impact on the calculation of pension, retirement, vacation pay and Christmas bonus.

"We have affirmed and ratify that the educational legislation does not cancel any acquired right; workers of education should be sure that they have their Union to defend their conquests (...) To put it plainly, Carrera Magisterial will be paid as has always been done".

He also said that -with the regularization of payment of wages, incentives, allocation of seats and promotion to outstanding teachers in the first stage of the evaluation of teaching performance-, the certainty of teachers is strengthened.

The national leader of the SNTE assessed the sensitivity of educational authority to recognize that the past process of evaluating teacher performance presented shortcomings and inadequacies; all matters to attend immediately, in a coordinated effort

among the SEP, the National Institute for the Evaluation of Education (INEE) and the union.

He confirmed the confidence of teachers in the INEE as guarantor to validate the instruments and certify evaluators, to attend the constant demand of teachers to ensure a comprehensive evaluation, contextualized and effective for training; the results must have educational uses and not punitive.

Díaz de la Torre stressed the commitment of the SEP to ensure the satisfaction of one of the most pressing demands of teaching: initial, continuous and professional training, regardless of their participation in the evaluation processes.

As for the invitation for the SNTE to participate as a highlighted actor in the review of the proposed educational model for compulsory education, to be presented by the SEP next week, said he accepts it gladly, "because it is unthinkable that, in the debate on the subject, the voice of teachers is absent, and we reiterate our commitment to continue contributing with our knowledge and experience".

In his speech, the Minister Nuño Mayer said that the implementation of education reform can always be improved, and announced that precise responses were given to the proposals of the SNTE, especially in five topics: evaluation, initial and continuing training, educational model, issues on management and on teaching career.

He said the government wants to continue the construction and implementation of education reform, listening to teachers, "knowing what is going well in the implementation, but also with humility accepting what we can fix and what we can improve."

He also invited teachers to build, from the sphere of their responsibility, a better future for Mexico and appreciated the willingness of SNTE for dialogue. "I am delighted because it was an open, honest dialogue, sometimes hard and prickly, but always channeled in the best will. Today it has paid off; today we are demonstrating that under the law, respecting the Constitution and the Education laws, within the legislative framework of the education reform, there is a long way to go".



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With these negotiations and their results, the SNTE shows to the teachers that the union works for the legitimate defense of the rights of education workers and reiterates the society their full professional commitment to students that is the engine of teachers.