

xxx xx, 2008

Yuzuru NAKAMURA

President, Japan Teachers' Union

Nihon Kyoiku Kaikan Bldg., 2-6-2 Hitotsubashi, Chiyoda-Ward

101-0003 Tokyo, Japan

Dear Mr. Nakamura,

As a teacher in Los Angeles, California, USA, I want to alert you to the situation of schoolteachers Sister Nezu Kimiko, Sister Kawarai Junko and the 410 other Japanese teachers organizing for peace and justice in Japanese schools. Nezu's and Kawarai's refusal to obey the Hiromaru and Kimigayo directives express a strong dedication to their children to live in a world free from craven nationalism and endless war.

Nezu Kimiko, Kawarai Junko, and all of these teachers, have my support as a teacher and an educational union member (UTLA-United Teachers Los Angeles.) Unions need to protect workers when they are being unfairly attacked. My own union, UTLA, will do that for me, and so I implore you: "Stand up with Nezu Kimiko, Kawarai Junko, and all teachers who fight for these basic issues of organizing and collective bargaining."

We also implore and urge you to take immediate and strong action to protect and support Nezu Kimiko, Kawarai Junko, their 410 colleagues, and all union member teachers in regards to the unjust and humiliating '*Guidelines to deal with school personnel who might deserve undesirable discharge or suspension*' from the Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education (TMBE). An injury to one is an injury to all.

Thank you.

Sincerely,