September 25, 2008

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT STRIKING BCTGM LOCAL 50 WORKERS AT STELLA D'ORO

Whereas, Stella D'Oro Biscuit Co. is a historic New York baked goods company, whose Bronx factory employs over 135 members of the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union Local 50; and

Whereas, when the union contract for the Stella D'Oro workers in BCTGW Local 50 expired this summer, the new owners, private equity company Brynwood Partners, demanded huge concessions, including eliminating holidays, vacation and sick pay, requiring large healthcare premiums, and reducing wages each year throughout the contact period; and

Whereas, on August 13, 2008, the members of BCTGM Local 50 went on strike in response to the unreasonable demands of Brynwood Partners and their refusal to engage in good faith bargaining; and

Whereas, Brynwood Partners and its managing partner Henk Hartong III, chairman of Stella D'Oro, are attempting to bust the union that has represented Stella D'Oro workers for more than forty years; and

Whereas, the PSC supports the right of all workers to organize and bargain collectively with their employers;

Resolved, that the PSC support, through organizing, publicity and monetary support, the strike of BCTGM Local 50 workers at Stella D'Oro; and

Resolved, that the PSC call for Stella D'Oro management to return to the table and bargain with BCTGM Local 50 in good faith; and

Resolved, that the PSC encourage its members and CUNY students to attend a rally that BCTGM Local 50 will soon be calling.