

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Kyndra	Luce	Increase Teacher Pay	<p>I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier today and am writing to ask you to do the same.</p> <p>Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act boldly to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for classified employees and teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future.</p>
Patrick	Martin	Teacher Compensation	<p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act boldly to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p>
Julie	Vecchio	Teacher pay	<p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. As a parent of a CCSD student and public-sector worker, I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Relatively modest increases in pay make a huge difference for public sector employees. While we do what we do for the love and because we believe in the work, public sector employees deserve to be able to feed their families. We want the highest quality educators in CCSD, and that means paying people a competitive wage.</p> <p>Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>
George	Younts	<p>I first began teaching @ SOA as Theatre Teacher in CCSD the 1999-2000 school year. Rent back then was 585 a month. Things are different now.</p> <p>However, my innate upbringing that civil servant teachers are to be seen not heard is part of my hard drive even in my 27th year as a happy teacher.</p> <p>But to be honest, why would one want to become a teacher now? It is much harder to make ends meet than when I began. Want to make Charleston a great place to live? Respect, support and pay teachers. They are were the rubber hits the road when it comes to education.</p> <p>Thank you for listening and for all the work you do on the school board.</p>	In support of Teacher Salaries
Julie	Sivell	<p>As a teacher and the daughter of a teacher, I know how critical pay is for educators who work beyond contracted hours eery day. Teachers are the heart and soul of a community and the stewards of our children and consequently, our future. Please demondstrate the respect and regard you have for educators across the board by voting to compensate them fairly.</p>	I would also like to see all teacher assistants and support staff compensated fairly. We have got to invest in schools as the hub of our communities.

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
kimberly Elizabeth	killebrew Davis	Raise teachers salaries salary	<p>Dear Board of Trustees, Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools. Let's do what right so we can continue to do what we love to do and afford to live. Kimberly Killebrew</p>
Kristen	Markham	Teacher Compensation	<p>Teacher salary should be raised. Our job grows increasingly harder each year and we are not paid what we deserve to do out jobs.</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>
Elissa	Manchester	Action Needed: Enhancing Educator Pay	<p>Dear Board of Trustees, Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Elissa Manchester</p>
Sherri	Cavallaro	Teacher and Teacher Assistant Pay Increase	Pay Increase for teachers and teacher assistants
Sherri	Cavallaro	Pay increase	Pay increase

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Christina	Siebert	salary increase for teachers and support staff	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Christina Siebert</p>
Suzanne	Vallez	Teacher Compensation	<p>Subject: Action Needed: Enhancing Educator Pay</p> <p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Suzanne Vallez Sheldon</p>
Jamie	Cook	Enhancing Educator Pay	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>My name is Jamie and I work in the Multilingual Services & Outreach Office. I work as an instructional coach for secondary schools. This is my third year in the district and tenth as a teacher in South Carolina. Educator pay is one of my top concerns as a South Carolina Educator and has been for ten years.</p> <p>First, I would like to thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators (and families) in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a great start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Jamie Cook</p>
Julie	Frye	Teacher pay raise	I fully support and encourage a pay increase for teachers!
brian	goddard	Enhanced Teacher Pay	Enhanced Teacher Pay

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Alison	Wolfgang	Teacher Pay	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Sincerely, An underpaid special education teacher</p>
Elizabeth	Quirin	Teacher Pay	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Warmly, Elizabeth QUIRIN</p>
Anna	Middleton	please vote yes and support teacher pay increase for the 24/25 school year.	<p>please vote yes and support the teacher pay increase.</p>
Tiffany	Paeschke	teacher pay raise	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Tiffany Paeschke</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Rebecca	Brewington	Action Needed: Enhancing Educator Pay	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>
Kirstin	Martin	Teacher Pay Increase	<p>The bonus that teachers have received this year have been essential for teachers to stay afloat this year. It needs to be built into our annual salary so that teachers can afford to live in the wonderful, but expensive, city of Charleston. With the rising costs of Charleston, another raise would be so helpful for teachers.</p>
Mane	Andreasyan	Action Needed: Enhancing Educator Pay	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today. Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. I and many other current teachers are struggling financially to make ends meet. I am confident that if teachers don't see a significant raise, the shortage of teachers will drastically increase.</p> <p>Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Mane Andreasyan</p>
Joseph	Hamilton	This is a bad idea. Raising teachers' salaries is only going to raise taxes for the citizens of the city which will make the cost of living even higher. everyone has to accept the reality that education is not an area in which you will get rich working in. If you want to make good money you will have to go into the STEM field	<p>This is a bad idea. Raising teachers' salary is only going to raise taxes for the citizens of the city which will make the cost of living even higher. everyone has to accept the reality that education is not an area in which you will get rich working in. If you want to make good money you will have to go into the STEM field</p>
Anthony	Montagna	Dear Board of Trustees, Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today. Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county. 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools. Best, Anthony Montagna	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Anthony Montagna</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Torie	Hargis	Teacher Compensation	Teachers should be paid enough to live comfortably single in the area they teach.
		<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>
Katie	Smith	Best, Katie Smith	Best, Katie Smith
			<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>
Daniel	McNamee	Action Needed: Enhancing Educator Pay	Best, Daniel McNamee
			Teachers and support staff must be compensated at a rate that is equivalent to their hard work and dedication to the children of Charleston County. Compensation should allow them to live and work in their community. Salary should incentivize teachers to remain in their field. Retention of highly qualified staff is essential to the growth and development of our future citizens.
margaret	wildermann	Compensation for teachers	
			<p>Action Needed: Enhancing Educator Pay</p> <p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>
Shannon	Pennetti	Action Needed: Enhancing Educator Pay	Best, Shannon P.
Elizabeth	Garabedian	Teacher salary raises / additional help with NES newcomers	General education teachers need more classroom support with regard to NES newcomers

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Patricia	Tomsic	Action Needed: Enhancing Educator Pay	<p>Dear Board of Trustees, I am writing this after working until after midnight last night at a second job because teacher pay is not enough to live on in Charleston County. Exhaustion and burnout aren't enough to describe what it is like to be a teacher here. I participate on multiple committees during my planning periods, do required lunch duties, and cover classes during my planning period for other teachers that are absent because there aren't enough substitute teachers. Luckily, my school pays me to cover the classes. (Does this count as a 3rd job?) This leaves no time to plan for classes and rarely do I get to eat. You want the best education for the students, but don't offer a living wage, so teachers have to work additional jobs. Because teachers are so tired, students most likely aren't getting the top notch education they deserve. Teacher retention will be a problem, if it already isn't a problem. I already have my exit strategy planned and I am a 26 year veteran teacher. This is no way to live. This has taken a toll on my health and many other teachers' health. I believe this is just one of the reasons teacher absenteeism is so high. I would never suggest to my high school students to go into the teaching profession. They see it on their teacher's faces daily. I appreciate what you have done, but there is more to do. You really need to talk to your teachers.</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Patricia Tomsic</p>
Patty	Dennis - Gallagher	Today's Post and Courier article. 2/29/24	<p>After reading today's Post and Courier article I would like to extend my support to Mr. Briggman and his team for understanding the effect that teacher pay and retention has on our community. Many in the community think that teachers are already paid enough and state that they have summers off and still get paid. We in the educational system know that this is untrue. But I would like to share my day yesterday and ask the community how many of them have had a day like this. We had a lockdown drill where my class of 8 and 9 year olds were asked to hide in a dark room and remain quiet for approximately 20 minutes. After the drill I was faced with students who spent the time wondering if this would actually keep them safe. Emotions ran high all day. Recently we did actually have an active shooter. While he never came onto our campus, with students present, we were in lockdown for a lengthy amount of time. The students were then held in the classrooms until dismissal. My class is in a learning cottage and they were escorted to the building by armed officers for dismissal. After the students left the shooter came onto our campus and a teacher was still in the cottages. She had to hide in a dark bathroom alone and afraid until she was escorted to her vehicle. On that day we had to ask ourselves if we would actually give our lives for our students. The threat was real and it was terrifying. We were not allowed to have school the next day because the shooter was still on the loose. This person shot a passenger in a car as it passed him. Shot a police officer, and a killed a K-9 before he was killed. As my students hid in the dark yesterday this is what they thought of. This is what I thought of. My job is real, it is dangerous, it is important, it does not end when the students get on the bus to go home, and I do not get the summer off. I have post planning and pre planning and PD that I do in the summer. Please take these things into consideration when deciding if I am worth being able to pay rent without having to have another job to work here. I am worth more than you pay me if for no other reason than when faced with the difficult question, I answered yes. Yes I would give my life for my students.</p>
Anthony	Galavotti	Fair pay for teachers and school based staff	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, [Your Name]</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
			<p>Subject: Action Needed: Enhancing Educator Pay</p> <p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Nadine Schwartz</p>
Nadine	Schwartz	Subject: Action Needed: Enhancing Educator Pay	
Meg	Reilly	Teacher Compensation	<p>Our work is not done. A starting salary of 58,000 is necessary for teachers to be able to afford the cost of living in the tri-state area. If we don't want to lose highly qualified educators- we have to pay them what they are worth and it starts with a \$58,000 starting salary and appropriate step increases for each year of experience.</p> <p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Elaine Dorsey</p>
Elaine	Dorsey	Need for Pay increase and Support for our Educators	
Benjamin	Bertolet	CCSD Educator Compensation	<p>As a 20 year educator in the state of South Carolina, it is inspiring to finally see some momentum with efforts to recruit and retain teachers. Being that I was single for the first 15 years of my career, I had to moonlight bartending just to be able to save enough money to live in a humble 1200 square foot home. I am hoping that the efforts of the Charleston County Teacher Compensation Task Force are well received by all those parties who have the power to approve or deny their requests. When you invest in teachers, you are investing in the future of our youth. No one should have to sacrifice their weekends for 10+ years just to have the right to purchase an affordable home.</p>
Angelica	D'Antonio	<p>Enhancing Educator Pay to Support Teacher Retention</p> <p>I have been a teacher in CCSD County for 3 years now. I absolutely love what I do, the students that I teach, and the staff at my school. Unfortunately, due to the rapidly increasing cost of living in Charleston County I won't be able to remain a CCSD Teacher much longer unless compensation is increased significantly. With rent increasing hundreds of dollars each year on top of the general cost of living, I will soon be forced to either switch professions and say goodbye to my students, or leave Charleston County altogether. I am not the only educator in this position. Unless there is a drastic change in teacher compensation to accommodate the rapidly increasing cost of living here in Charleston, we will continue to see amazing teachers leave the profession.</p>	<p>Enhancing Educator Pay to Support Teacher Retention</p> <p>I have been a teacher in CCSD County for 3 years now. I absolutely love what I do, the students that I teach, and the staff at my school. Unfortunately, due to the rapidly increasing cost of living in Charleston County I won't be able to remain a CCSD Teacher much longer unless compensation is increased significantly. With rent increasing hundreds of dollars each year on top of the general cost of living, I will soon be forced to either switch professions and say goodbye to my students, or leave Charleston County altogether. I am not the only educator in this position. Unless there is a drastic change in teacher compensation to accommodate the rapidly increasing cost of living here in Charleston, we will continue to see amazing teachers leave the profession.</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Chris	Molino	A pay increase to help retention is necessary because living in the community you teach in is difficult in Mount Pleasant! Teaching has also become a more difficult job as teachers are asked to teach, instill discipline, report to parents, stay on top of emerging technology & methods and work extra hours at home. Many teachers I work with don't get home until after 5 PM daily due to the increased traffic problem as well.	Teacher salaries
Brandy	Cox	Teacher Pay	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>
Hannah	Jeffries	<p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p>	<p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p>
Tiffany	Semerano	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article recently, fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Tiffany Semerano</p>	Action Needed: Enhancing Educator Pay

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Mary	Kenny	Enhancing Educator Pay	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Mary Kenny</p>
Aaron	Stahl	I am in support of the recommended teacher Salary Increase. A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment.	I am in support of the recommended teacher Salary Increase. A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment.
Natalie	I	Teacher Compensation	I support increase teacher compensation in the form of salary raises for all certificated faculty AND miscellaneous staff members. Compensation for educational staff has not been equal to cost of living and inflation which has had a detrimental effect on quality of life for these individuals. It is nearly impossible for a teacher to live in the area of their work and support themselves on their salary alone, never mind if they have dependents for which they are responsible. If compensatory changes equal to the growth of the area are not made soon, CCSD will be facing an incredibly and insurmountable shortage of teachers which will impact the function of schools and level of education students will receive.
Erik	Hilden	Teachers in SC have been under compensated for decades. Let's get this right.	Improving compensation for teachers will attract good candidates and keep experienced teachers in the classroom. It's way past time we do this.
Patti	Travis	Teacher Compensation	Teachers, assistants, office staff and other other school employees consistently show up to work, they work hard in the difficult times taking care of and educating the children that attend Charleston County Schools. A continued substantial pay increase, across-the-board for all school employees would go far in showing them that they are respected and valued. As I know, many teachers are exhausted and contemplating daily leaving the teaching profession, as they are not paid for their expertise experience or time. The stress and exhaustion are real factors. Show the teachers and employees in Charleston County school districts that you value and respect them and pass a substantial salary. Increase across-the-board. Thank you.
Leea	Power	Teacher Salaries	Please increase the teacher's base salary. It is impossible to get an apartment as a 1st-year teacher, let alone purchase a home. When I moved here 2 years ago, it took both of my monthly checks to pay my rent. I had no room left for a car note, food - basic necessities! I currently work 2 jobs. Last year, I worked 2 jobs and drove Uber. We should also consider the fact that landlords can raise their rents as much as they like because there aren't any caps on how much they can increase the rent year per year. Last year my rent went up by \$80. This year, we have a new rental agency and they are raising my rent by \$200. PLEASE - Our salaries should take into consideration the cost of living for Charleston.
Robert	Morton	Rober Morton	<p>I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier recently. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>
Jennifer	Hirsch	I support raise for teachers.	<p>Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Angela	Mundy	Pay	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Angela Mundy</p>
Julia	Kuehn	Enhancing Educator Pay	<p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>
Micheal	Breedlove	Support	<p>I support your endeavors</p>
Rick and Jan	Menniti	Enhancing Educator Pay	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>It would be great if you can please show your commitment to our children and those who shed their blood, sweat and tears for them. Our teachers are in dire need of your support for all they do. One way to show this support and appreciation is to increase their financial compensation. It would truly show that you value their dedication to all the children in our community.</p> <p>You can do this by supporting:</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>Now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools and I am confident you will find the resources and determination to make this happen.</p>
Nancy	Brennan	Teacher pay	<p>I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations!</p>
Cecilia	Menniti	Action Needed: Teacher Raise	<p>I am a teacher, resident and parent in CCSD. I love this city, district and our students. However we know how expensive the cost of living has gotten in Charleston. Everything costs more then when I started teaching here in 2010. My classroom supplies cost more, my children's uniforms cost more, kaleidoscope for my children costs more. The raise last year allowed me to stay in this career for one more year. I love teaching and want to stay but every other industry is increasing pay for their employees and our school district is trying but it is harder and harder to stay in education when I could make so much money elsewhere. We are asking you to please consider the task force recommendations. It has been proven to make a difference in teacher retention! Please also include teacher assistance and support staff. It is becoming increasingly difficult to hire strong candidates for these roles as pay is not on par with other jobs for the high demand in the workload and these jobs are so essential to teaching and learning. Please support the recommendations from the task force.</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Steven	Johnston	Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations	<p>Dear Board of Trustees, Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment.</p> <p>2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>
Ariel	Brooks	Teacher Salary Compensation	<p>As a constituent of the CCSD, a parent of a child in an elementary public school, a long haul committed professional educator with advanced degrees and trainings I hope with a certain desperation that there are accelerating salary increases applied for our teachers and support personnel. Compensation packages should be provisioned for educators to receive incomes and benefit that are normed in other professions that similarly require higher education degrees, state certification and on going credential accruals. Base salaries should be increased and compensation should be comparable to the average pay of 60,000 or more.</p>
Kristine	Peters	<p>The Article "Fighting to Raise Teacher Pay.." listed at this web address: https://edition.pagesuite.com/popovers/dynamic_article_popover.aspx?artguid=379bb71f-a490-416c-b06d-3dfd681b8669&appcode=POS670&eguid=1f620f98-f5ea-4e82-9798-4c321aeea0cc&pnum=13&fbclid=IwAR1yATxAYFs5cCIB--0Uu9OVSkF8d44qLfHaL3BuGlxMykb69I98Nv7ivxc</p> <p>reflects my opinions as an educator.</p>	<p>https://edition.pagesuite.com/popovers/dynamic_article_popover.aspx?artguid=379bb71f-a490-416c-b06d-3dfd681b8669&appcode=POS670&eguid=1f620f98-f5ea-4e82-9798-4c321aeea0cc&pnum=13&fbclid=IwAR1yATxAYFs5cCIB--0Uu9OVSkF8d44qLfHaL3BuGlxMykb69I98Nv7ivxc</p>
Jessica	Didyk	Pay our Teachers	<p>If we want good teachers, then like all good quality things, we need to pay for them accordingly. Otherwise we are losing them to better paying jobs with far less stress.</p>
Dashonde	Brown VanDyke	Raise for Classified Staff	<p>I would like to discuss a raise for all Classified Staff</p>
Courtney	Hutson	A significant pay raise is LONG overdue for CCSD teachers.	<p>Pay raises for CCSD teachers are long overdue and necessary to help with teacher retention in an area where expenses are on the rise. Teachers make ALL other professions possible and should be paid as such!</p>
Simon	Nel	Teacher Pay	<p>The teacher pay in this district has made it unlivable for us to do the job we love. I cannot support my family in this career. You are forcing us to live in poverty to educate your children. We are not asking to be rich, we are begging to survive. Our classrooms don't have enough teachers and student performance is being hindered because of that. The districts inability to raise salaries show a lack of care for basic human decency. The time has past for you to act to fix the problem. You are not putting a bandaid on a fatal wound. The recent measly salary increases are pathetic and you expect us to be grateful for them. Shame on this board and the government that supports them. This is a crisis and your actions show you don't care.</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Theresa	Ray	<p>Action Needed: Enhancing Educator Pay</p>	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Best, Theresa Ray</p>
James	Peterson	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Thank you. James Peterson Johns Island, SC</p>	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Thank you. Jim Peterson Johns Island, SC</p>
James	Peterson	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p> <p>Thank you. James Peterson</p>	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Rochelle	Green	Investment	Investing in teachers means investing in the children and communities. Please consider 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.
Melissa	Reese	Teacher and support staff pay	
Natalie	Best	Pay	Please pay all teachers more at all salary levels. We continue to struggle.
		Dear Board of Trustees, Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today. Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county. 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.	
Karen	Peterson	Best, Karen Peterson	Our teachers need our support for salary increases if we expect to attract and maintain quality teachers. Our children are the future and we need to fuel them with every opportunity possible.
			A good start was made this year to teacher compensation with the \$5,000 teacher raise and bonus. Evidence of the effectiveness of the salary increase is seen in the large decrease in vacancies for the 2023-2024 school year. Two more actions can ensure that teachers continue to be retained and fairly compensated: 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. Thank you for considering these items and moving forward on them.
Melanie	Sharkey	Enhancing Educator Pay	
Stacey	Shoecraft	1. Salary Increase	I am concerned about my peers, both those that are teachers, as well as those that are staff. With the standard of living and inflation being what it is, it is still so hard it is to pay for groceries and housing, in light of the fact that there is a real problem with affordable housing. A pay increase would definitely help with that!
			Thank you all for your dedication to supporting all our students and educators in Charleston County. I am writing in as I am unable to attend board meetings due to work conflicts with my second job. Though last years increase was very helpful, I am still unable to afford rent, utilities, gas, groceries, and college loans with my teaching salary alone. Teaching is my absolute passion and I cannot imagine another career for myself however, the burnout I am feeling and the financial stress I am under is affecting my daily life. It is impacting my ability to show up as the teacher that my students deserve, and be the educator I always hoped to be. A \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. This would significantly alleviate a large amount of my financial stress, and enable me to take care of my mental health while also ensuring that I can show up every day as the teacher that all of my young learners deserve.
Morgan	Pink	Teacher Compensation	Thank you for considering this, and supporting teachers and students across this district.

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Kate	Counts	<p>Dear Board of Trustees, Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>	<p>Dear Board of Trustees, Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <p>1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success.</p> <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future. I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>
Kristen	Markham	Teacher Compensation	<p>Dear CCSD Board of Trustees,</p> <p>As both a parent within our community and a dedicated teacher in our school district, I wanted to take a moment to extend my gratitude for your decision last year to increase teacher salaries. This raise significantly impacted my life, allowing me to find and offer the best mental health care possible for my oldest son.</p> <p>The creation of the Charleston County Teacher Compensation Task Force and its agenda items, such as raising the starting salary for teachers to \$58,000 and enhancing compensation for school-based classified employees, are steps in the right direction. These initiatives are crucial for retaining and attracting the caliber of educators our children deserve. Do you support these measures?</p> <p>I am writing to express a personal concern that mirrors a broader issue within our community. Despite my love for teaching and my passion for education, the continuing challenges of inadequate compensation, in light of escalating childcare and housing costs, are becoming increasingly difficult to navigate. Last year's progress was a beacon of hope, yet without further action, I will not be able to continue teaching here.</p> <p>I urge you to continue the momentum from last year. Our educators, our children, and our community's future prosperity depend on it. Let's work together to ensure that dedicated teachers can remain in the profession they love, without the constant worry of financial sustainability overshadowing their passion for teaching.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and for considering my perspective. I remain committed to my role and am hopeful for what we can achieve together for the betterment of our school district and community.</p> <p>Sincerely, Kristen Markham</p>
Kristen	Markham	ELA Curriculum	<p>Thank you for your service to our school district. Though I'd prefer not to be in the position of choosing a new curriculum, I accept that we must. It looks like the new curriculum will be Wonders. One of the pieces of this curriculum that impresses me the most are the Multilingual components. If we purchase this curriculum, I ask that we commit to purchasing these components. I also ask that we purchase enough sets so that Multilingual Teachers can have their own copies to use. I also ask that they be included in all trainings in the curriculum's implementation.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my suggestions.</p> <p>Sincerely, Kristen Markham</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Amy	Hills	Teacher Compensation	I am a first year teacher in the district and a single mother of three children attending CCSD schools. I am writing in support of the Teacher Compensation Task Force and their efforts to increase educator and support staff salaries. As residents of Charleston, I am sure you have all felt the impacts of rising taxes and insurance over the years. The current cost of living in Charleston is 12% higher than the national average and 24% higher than the state average. Housing is almost 50% more than the national average, and 89% more than the state average. To live comfortably in this area, a single person needs to make at least \$63,000 yearly. I'm not sure how "comfortably" is defined, but spending more than half of your take home pay on rent alone doesn't equate to comfortable living by my definition. Personally, the 23/24 5k teacher bonus allowed me to pay most of the tuition for my alternative pathway to teaching program without taking on any additional loans or secondary employment. I am hopeful that the proposed 10k increase will be implemented, incorporating the 5k bonus for this year with the additional 5k pay rate increase. This would allow me to continue in my currently position without having to take on a second job or a "side hustle" to make ends meet. I know I am not alone in supporting this initiative. These sentiments are echoed regularly in conversations with my colleagues and in the many educator groups I participate in online. I love my school and my job, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve our community in this capacity. I hope that the board swiftly and unanimously implements the TCTF proposal and sends a strong message of support and appreciation to our incredible county educators and support staff. Thank you for your time and service.
Rachel	Gamble	Compensation	I urge you to provide teachers with a \$5,000 raise and a \$5,000 one time bonus. It is essential for recruitment and retention of the best teachers. Paying teachers a competitive salary is key to keeping and attracting the best teachers in the low-country.
Cara	Ernst	Teaching is an incredibly rewarding job. However it is also very demanding and stressful. With the number of stressors that are involved in our job, one of them should not be whether or not we can afford to live in the community we teach in or whether we can afford health care. This is even more of a problem for assistants. They are often asked to teach small groups and support the teacher in disciple. They need and deserve an affordable living. No teachers or assistants should have to get a second job to afford living in our city.	Teaching is an incredibly rewarding job. However it is also very demanding and stressful. With the number of stressors that are involved in our job, one of them should not be whether or not we can afford to live in the community we teach in or whether we can afford health care. This is even more of a problem for assistants. They are often asked to teach small groups and support the teacher in disciple. They need and deserve an affordable living. No teachers or assistants should have to get a second job to afford living in our city.
Jennie	Church	FY 25 Budget Priorities	Good afternoon, I am writing to you as a parent of two CCSD students (grades 7 and 3) and a dedicated professional with 19 years of experience (16 years within CCSD). As our budget-writing season gets into full swing, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your dedication to meaningfully raising teacher/staff salaries, increasing salary steps to 40 years, and incorporating a \$5K bonus during the 23-24 school year. This has positively impacted our family this year and reduced the overall financial stress that comes with providing for a family during record inflation and cost-of-living increases. The inclusion of steps up to year 40 has also given me a new trajectory for the future, I have a new career goal post to aspire to. As an invested stakeholder in public education, I make it a point to follow all CCSD board meetings, even if I have to tune in after the meeting has started due to my school schedule. During the most recent Audit and Finance meeting, I was disappointed to hear the term "historical raise" used to describe projected allocations for both teacher and support staff raises. A "historical raise" is the reason that teachers and support staff are historically underpaid. A "historical raise" also directly correlates to South Carolina's struggle with a historical teacher retention crisis. If schools only focused on meeting "historical test grades" (vs. continually striving for improvement), our efforts would be labeled unacceptable and we would be put on an improvement plan. I use this analogy because the time is NOW to continue the teacher/support staff improvement plan trajectory that started last spring. Please continue the momentum that you began last spring by raising the starting certified professional salary to \$58,000 and increasing benefits/personal days. Certified staff are professionals and should be treated accordingly with competitive salaries and benefits that mirror other professionals with college degrees. We have already witnessed the impact that meaningful salary increases and improved incentives can have on staff retention and I strongly feel that CCSD can continue to be an inspiration to other districts state-wide. In addition, as Teacher Appreciation Week and Yearly Contracts approach in early May, action now will secure both morale and momentum for the future of CCSD. Thank you for your time today. Please let me know if I can do anything further to assist with advocating for teachers and our essential support staff.

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Steven	Johnston	Teacher Compensation	<p>Dear Board of Trustees,</p> <p>Thank you so much for your service to our schools and community. I am reaching out today to let you know that I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations mentioned in the Post and Courier article today, Fighting to raise teacher pay, task force gears up for next goal, and I am writing to ask you to do the same. Despite last year's salary increase, issues like childcare and housing remain pressing for our educators in Charleston County. We must act to avoid falling behind and ensure we can attract and retain top talent for the students of our county.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>We've made a start, but now is the time for significant action to protect our district's future.</p> <p>I appreciate your dedication to our schools.</p>
Julia	Kuehn	Teacher Compensation	<p>Thank you for your service to our schools. My name is Julia Kuehn, and I am a middle school teacher at CCSD. I am requesting your consideration of Lowcountry Teacher Advocates' proposed teacher compensation. It is essential that educators receive fair education. I see more educators leave the field daily because it does not make enough to support a family. Teachers have various skills that they could easily use in another job that makes double or triple the salary. It is heartbreaking to see talented professionals continue to leave, not because they don't love teaching but because they cannot afford to continue teaching. There is a major teacher shortage, which will continue to grow if teacher salaries are not raised. The Charleston area is becoming more and more expensive, and nearly impossible for educators to live where they work. We want teachers to be active members of the communities they teach and serve. Please prioritize funding to increase pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants and increase teacher salaries in the budget by \$10K for every step up to 40, which would incorporate the current \$5K bonus into the new pay scale and add an additional \$5K to help with teacher recruitment and retention efforts. This would make first a first-year teacher's salary \$58,000. Thank you for your consideration!</p>
Brynnan	Frye	Unrelated/Teacher Compensation	<p>I am a second year teacher in CCSD. I cannot afford to live in Charleston despite working a full time job teaching. The teacher pay in South Carolina is a disgrace to our state and needs to be fixed immediately.</p>
Katie	Smith	<p>We ask for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Increase pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants ▶ Increase teacher salaries in the budget by \$10K for every step up to 40, which would incorporate the current \$5K bonus into the new pay scale, and add an additional \$5K to help with teacher recruitment and retention efforts. This would make first a first year teacher's salary \$58,000. 	<p>We ask to please:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Increase pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants ▶ Increase teacher salaries in the budget by \$10K for every step up to 40, which would incorporate the current \$5K bonus into the new pay scale, and add an additional \$5K to help with teacher recruitment and retention efforts. This would make first a first year teacher's salary \$58,000.
Lauren	Dickson	Salary and teacher retention	<p>Thank you for your service to our schools. I'm a first grade teacher at Springfield Elem. This is my 20th year teaching. I've lived in Charleston since I began my teaching career and have struggled to pay for the basic cost of living, especially in the last decade when we've seen the cost of living and basic necessities skyrocketing. As an advocate for all teachers and retaining the absolute best for the students of Charleston County, I am asking that the Board prioritize funding to increase pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants and increase teacher salaries in the budget by \$10K for every step up to 40, which would incorporate the current \$5K bonus into the new pay scale, and add an additional \$5K to help with teacher recruitment and retention efforts. This would make first a first year teacher's salary \$58,000. Thank you for your service, time, and consideration. I would love to hear any feedback you may have on this topic.</p>
Simon	Nel	Teacher Pay	<p>Teacher's have lost hope. We aren't going to make more money because the people in charge of this district don't care about the teachers and the embarrassingly low pay. That is why when I have free time at work I look for other jobs. I hope to not be a teacher next year because I literally can't survive in this job. I have given my financial well being to support students and cannot any longer.</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Zoe	Roff	Teacher Compensation	I'm a lifelong resident of Charleston, a product of our schools, a parent of a recent graduate and an employee of 17 years. I love our schools and their faculties and staffs. I am heartbroken though that I see colleagues leaving this District and this profession weekly. It is a challenging career that requires so many hard-earned skills, and the pay is not commensurate with the workload. At current pay levels it is neither enough to cover the daily living costs nor is it extremely attractive to students considering a career pathway. The entire State of South Carolina has identified Teacher Recruitment and Retention as a CRISIS. Please prioritize the proposal of the Compensation Task Force to help with teacher recruitment and retention efforts. This would make our beloved career and this District that I love a viable, attractive option for a first year teacher. Thank you for your service, time, and consideration: we have to prioritize the well being of our educators and all staff who work with students in order to provide what is best for the students in our district.
Karmella	Cook	Teacher Pay Increase	Please prioritize funding to increase pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants and increase teacher salaries in the budget by \$10K for every step up to 40, which would incorporate the current \$5K bonus into the new pay scale, and add an additional \$5K to help with teacher recruitment and retention efforts. This would make first a first year teacher's salary \$58,000.
Dianna	Luff	Classified Staff Compensation	As much as I support an increase in Teacher Compensation, please consider the hundreds of highly qualified, college-educated Teacher Assistants who earn on average \$30,000 a year. As you discuss the livable wage for teachers please consider the other educators who care for the students of Charleston County.
Kevin	Markham	Teacher Compensation	I stand in unwavering support of the dedicated educators in our community, particularly within CCSD, where my children have graduated and currently attend high school. My profound appreciation extends especially to my wife, who not only serves as a teacher but also contributes to my business after working at her schools. I firmly advocate for an increase in the starting teacher salary to \$58,000, recognizing the immense value these professionals bring to our society. I have listened to my wife's impassioned advocacy for the rights of her students and fellow educators during numerous Zoom calls, and I commend her unwavering determination. However, I have been disheartened by certain remarks made by district leadership during the interactions. Comments such as "We can't afford those services anymore because the teachers are pushing for a raise" have been uttered more than once, casting undue blame and demoralizing those who tirelessly dedicate themselves to their profession. Despite facing unjust scrutiny, my wife remains steadfast in her commitment to her students and her colleagues, even amidst challenges such as the sunset of ESSER funds. It is imperative to recognize that fair compensation for teachers is not just a matter of justice, but also a strategic investment in the future economy. It is through the dedication of educators like my wife and her colleagues that our community is able to attract and retain highly skilled professionals, ultimately enriching the fabric of our society. Kevin Markham North Charleston
Larissa	Bortz	Compensation	I am writing to support at least a \$5000 salary increase for teachers and increased compensation for school based classified employees in this budget cycle.
Tara	Spurling	I support at least 500\$ pay increase for teachers	I support a \$500 increase in teacher compensation
Michelle	Anderson	Wonders	As a parent, I am urging the board to honor the teacher vote as originally communicated it would be and select Wonders for our curriculum. The board needs to stand by its word and select Wonders as they said would do.
Kaylen	Dodson	English Language Arts curriculum.	Please honor the teacher vote as originally communicated it would be and select Wonders as the next English Language Arts curriculum.
Whitney	Windsor	Teacher compensation	I am a CCSD teacher and parent. I work and live in Mt. Pleasant; however, the ONLY reason I am able to live in Mt. Pleasant is because my husband makes a lot more money than I do. I hope that the board will continue to support pay increases for teachers and school-based classified staff. In order to recruit and keep the best, it is imperative that CCSD continues to increase pay.
Melissa	Reese	Teacher and support staff livable wages	I am writing to request that the board consider raising the starting teacher salary to 58,000 with adjustments to all cells in addition to the much needed raises for our vital support staff.
Madeleine	Denner	Livable Pay	Livable Pay
Kimberly	Farrier	voting to adopt a curriculum	When deciding on which LA curriculum to vote on, please keep in mind that when you ignore the teacher's voice in favor of admin, you are basically ignoring the fact that the teachers are the ones who are in the classroom, who know the best way to teach our students. So please listen to the teachers who are responsible for teaching and choose Wonders. As a HS English teacher I know from experience how bad it can be for the students when admin try to implement curriculum changes without really listening to the teachers. It is the students who lose out. As a parent, I know that the teachers have my child for 7 hours a day and know how to best teach my child. Also, by asking for teacher input and then ignoring it, you are essentially telling teachers that their experience and dedication are not valued.
Joseph	Jutzi	Teacher Compensation	I have been an educator in Charleston for over 15 years, and lately I have begun to regret my decision. I watch my friends who do not work nearly as hard as I do make so much more money than me, and I begin to question why anyone would want to go into this field. I understand that it is a calling for many of us when we being teaching, but soon the reality of such a low salary begins to set in and we begin to realize that we can't support our own family while we tirelessly work to support children who are not our own. Relying on the altruism of young professionals can get them in the field of teaching, but only by paying them a salary that matches their peers in other fields with similar education requirements and tenure in their position can provide the incentive to stay in teaching. Not only is teaching essential to training the next generation of our workforce to be successful and effective, but it is essential to the current workforce by providing a place for children to go during the day while their parents work. Without enough quality teachers in the field, our society will cease to function, and we need to be paid a fair wage for the essential service that we provide.

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Erin	Beasley	ELA curriculum	Please honor the teacher vote as originally communicated and select McGraw Hill Wonders program.
Ben	Beasley	ELA curriculum	Please select the Wonders ELA curriculum consistent with the teacher vote.
Owen	Jackson	Wonders Curriculum	Please consider this comment as supportive of the teachers vote on the ELA Wonders curriculum. Who better to understand and empathize with our students, our children's ability to learn and engage appropriately. We respect other opinions but support our teachers in their vote.
Jessica	Trask	Curriculum Decision	I urge you to honor the teacher vote and choose Wonders curriculum . Amplify is not appropriate for our young children
English	Walpole	Teacher Compensation	<p>I am writing to you all to ask that you consider the Teacher Compensation Task Force's recommendation for an increase of \$5,000 for teacher salaries in the upcoming budget. I have been teaching in Charleston for 29 years. I have a master's degree and still live paycheck to paycheck. It has always been a struggle to help support my family of 4. My husband is also a teacher in Charleston. We currently have 2 children in college.</p> <p>Teachers teach because we love it! We do not teach for the pay. We deserve to be paid like the professionals we are. I have a daughter who will be joining CCSD as an early childhood teacher next school year. There have been times I have wanted to discourage her from the teaching profession but did not want to crush her desire to teach. She will be an amazing asset to CCSD. I worry though because I know she will struggle to live and work in the Charleston area, because she will not be able to afford the cost of living. If you want new energetic teachers to join CCSD and stay, you must increase the salaries so they will be able to live here and help to educate CCSD's children!</p>
Willa	McGirth-Singleton	Excellence in Teaching Awards that don't include Reading Interventionists	<p>This email is in reference to the Excellence in Teaching Awards that are given to classroom teachers. Reading Interventionists are not a part of the bonus program. However, Reading Interventionists are certified teachers with graduate degrees, extensive training and many years of classroom experience.</p> <p>I am writing to express my strong support for recognizing and rewarding the invaluable contributions made by Reading Interventionists in our education system. I believe that Reading Interventionists deserve the same teacher bonus for our dedication, expertise and the profound impact we have on the academic success and future prospects of our students.</p> <p>As we all know, Reading Interventionists play a crucial role in supporting students who require additional assistance in developing their reading skills. It is my firm belief that our contributions are invaluable and warrant the same monetary bonuses as our esteemed teachers. Based on the work that I have done with students from Fall to Winter, I would qualify for \$9,000 using the formula provided by Meeting Street Excellence in Teaching Awards. My scholars have made tremendous gains - I should be awarded for that, just like classroom teachers.</p> <p>Reading Interventionists work with students facing significant challenges, including undiagnosed learning disabilities, language barriers and socio-economic disadvantages. By addressing reading difficulties, early on, we lay the foundation for academic achievement and future success.</p> <p>By fostering a supportive and equitable environment for all educators, we contribute to a positive school culture that values the diverse talents and contributions of each team member. It was mentioned by a staff member that Reading Interventionists should approach the teachers of the scholars they serve and request a percentage of the bonus if the scholars they serve meet their goals. We shouldn't have to do that. The unfair practice of not including all stake holders who meet with children daily has created a tense environment.</p> <p>I kindly request that you consider extending the same monetary bonuses to Reading Interventionists as a token of appreciation for their hard work, dedication and positive impact on our students' academic journeys.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to continued collaboration in creating an environment that values and supports all members of our education team.</p> <p>Thank you, Willa McGirth-Singleton Master Reading Teacher</p>
Holly	Sponseller	ELA School Curriculum	Please uphold the teachers vote for the Wonders Program. I trust the experience and knowledge of our teachers with both of my daughters.
Aaron	Stahl	Teacher Salary Increase	I am in support of increasing the starting salary to \$58,000 for teachers for the next school year. I encourage the board to vote for a \$5,000 increase, with equal increases throughout the pay scale, and to ensure fair compensation for our dedicated school-based classified staff this budget cycle. Educators and support staff work tirelessly with our youth every day deserve our full support and investment.
Lauren	McCarthy	English Language Arts Curriculum	Please honor the teacher vote as originally communicated and select McGraw Hill Wonders program.

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Laura	Mina	Curriculum	<p>Dear Board Members,</p> <p>As a certified public school teacher (12 years) and a practicing librarian (8 years with 4 of these in the classroom), I have been a part of many discussions focusing on adopting and integrating one curriculum or another (and there are many). The outcome—the results of the curriculum put into practice in the actual classroom environment—is always the same: if you cannot get teachers behind a curriculum choice or teaching methodology, it will not succeed in the classroom. To "sell" the curriculum to their students, they must have whole-hearted buy-in themselves! After reviewing the curriculum options available through the district, the teachers have spoken through a majority vote (55.3%) that the McGraw Hill "Wonders" program is clearly their preference. While principals may feel differently—and we certainly need to support their perspective too—what happens in the classroom, especially as it relates to the development of literacy skills, is of utmost importance. Therefore, supporting the curriculum preferred by teachers, with their sleeves rolled up, directly nurturing the minds of our children everyday, is of utmost importance.</p> <p>As the parent of a Kindergartener, I can vouch for the power of well-hewn and fully embraced instruction on the part of an educator. My son is reading (!) on his own and powering through sight words voraciously. We know, unequivocally, that literacy is paramount not only to academic success, but also (absolutely) to success in life. It is truly a survival skill. If you look at the number of non-profit entities in our community exclusively focused on pushing in to help teachers as they strive to support the development of literacy in our students, it goes to show that everything that can be done to nurture the classroom environment is paramount. This in itself is plenty of rationale to support the choice of our district teachers.</p> <p>Finally, developmental appropriateness is of paramount importance, students must buy-in too! Concepts too abstract or outside of their scope of interest will fail to intrigue them enough to stay engaged. With all of this in mind, and on the behalf of my five-year old son who now reads, I urge you to support the well-researched choice of our teachers, the adoption of the McGraw Hill "Wonders" program on March 25th, 2023.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Laura K. Mina MLS, SLMS</p>
John	Dodson	Language Arts Curriculum	<p>Dear Members of the Charleston County School District,</p> <p>As a deeply invested parent, I write to advocate for adopting the McGraw Hill Wonders program as our English Language Arts curriculum. I appreciate the thorough deliberation and educator input that went into the decision-making process, particularly the endorsement of Wonders by teachers, including those from Stiles Point.</p> <p>After reviewing the options, I echo Stiles Point teachers' sentiments regarding the Wonders program's developmental appropriateness and comprehensiveness. Its structured approach to phonics, reading, and writing aligns with our students' needs and cognitive levels. Concerns have been raised about the suitability of the Amplify/CKLA curriculum, especially regarding its developmental appropriateness and alignment with standards. Tasks such as sequencing events from Theodore Roosevelt's life for kindergarteners seem out of place in early childhood education.</p> <p>I urge you to respect our teachers' collective decision and prioritize Wonders. Let's trust their professional judgment to provide our children with the best educational experience.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention and dedication to our community's children.</p>
Christina	Perrin	Wonders NOT Amplify	<p>Please honor the teacher vote and select Wonders as the curriculum for CCSD schools. - Mother of SPES students</p>
Courtney	Hodges	ELA curriculum choice	<p>As a veteran Early Childhood educator with 23 years of experience, I urge you to select Wonders as the ELA curriculum for elementary students. This program is logical, developmentally appropriate, and includes the foundational skills needed to teach young children to read.</p>
Jennifer	Jessup	Honor the original vote for the ELA curriculum	<p>Comment regarding the ELA Curriculum for the McGraw-Hill Wonders Program - Let's respect the fundamental decision made by our dedicated educators—the very individuals who are at the forefront of our children's education. They are the ones who intimately understand the needs of our students and are directly responsible for delivering quality instruction day in and day out.</p> <p>The democratic process was meticulously carried out, with the teachers rightfully entrusted to make the decision. It's disheartening to see attempts to alter the rules simply because one side didn't prevail in the vote. It would be unjust to disregard their vote simply because it didn't align with certain interests. We've witnessed the repercussions of such actions before, and it's evident that our schools and school board should remain focused solely on the education and well-being of our students.</p> <p>The Wonders program, chosen by our teachers, is not just a curriculum—it's a testament to their expertise and commitment to providing developmentally appropriate learning experiences for our children. Let's not undermine their dedication and insight. Let's honor their decision and uphold the integrity of our educational system.</p>
Lindsay	Smith	New Language Arts Curriculum	<p>I am very concerned with the planned implementation of the Amplify ELA curriculum for primary grades. I have reviewed the curriculum and find the content to be inappropriate for younger grades where my children will be placed once this curriculum is implemented. I implore you to honor the teacher recommendation to adopt the Wonders curriculum. They are the best qualified individuals to assess a curriculum's potential success rate in teaching children, and to dismiss their vote in favor of a principal vote - those who are so far removed from tactical classroom activities and success - is unacceptable.</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
			<p>Subject: Urgent: Request for Funding Increase for Teacher Salaries and Classified Employees</p> <p>Dear CCSD School Board Members,</p> <p>I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for your commitment to serving our schools and community. My name is Eric Wilkinson, and I am a teacher at Wando High School, as well as a father of two young children attending a CCSD elementary school.</p> <p>I am reaching out to urge you to prioritize funding in the upcoming budget to address the critical issue of teacher compensation. Specifically, I request an increase in pay for school-based classified employees, such as teacher's assistants, and an augmentation of teacher salaries by \$5,000 for every step up to 40.</p> <p>Allow me to share a personal story that underscores the urgency of this matter. Both my wife and I are educators, passionate about our profession and dedicated to our students. However, when our children were born, we faced the harsh reality of financial strain due to the rising costs of living in Charleston. Despite my wife being a decorated and accomplished teacher, she made the difficult decision to resign from her position to ensure we could adequately care for our family.</p> <p>Regrettably, our story is not unique. Many teachers and their families across Charleston County are grappling with similar challenges, forced to make sacrifices due to insufficient compensation. As our community continues to attract families who wish to enroll their children in CCSD schools, it is imperative that our teachers have the means to live and thrive in the same community they serve.</p> <p>Investing in our educators is an investment in the future of Charleston. Adequate compensation not only attracts and retains top talent but also fosters a positive learning environment for our students, ultimately leading to stronger schools and a more prosperous community.</p> <p>Moreover, it is essential to recognize that competitive salaries are instrumental in attracting young, talented educators to CCSD. Without competitive compensation aligned with the cost of living, we risk losing out on promising individuals who are essential to the success of our schools.</p> <p>In conclusion, I urge you to consider the profound impact that prioritizing funding for teacher salaries and classified employees will have on our educational system and community as a whole. Together, we can ensure that CCSD remains a beacon of excellence in education.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your favorable response.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Eric Wilkinson</p>
Eric	Wilkinson	Teacher Compensation	
Rob	Simons	Teacher Compensation	Teacher Compensation
Ashley	Jenkins	Parent in favor of McGraw Hill Wonders program	Please honor the teacher's original vote to select Wonders as the Core Curriculum.
Dana	Long	Reading curriculum	I implore you to please vote for the Wonders reading curriculum. It is so much more developmentally appropriate for elementary children. The literature included is award winning, high-interest, engaging, and will foster a love of reading and learning to read. The literature provided in CKLA Amplify is long, boring, and does not correlate to our standards at all in the third grade. The support materials for Wonders is so teacher-friendly and provides wonderful small group lessons. The support materials for Amplify are minimal, and require mostly whole group instruction. The Wonders curriculum would support the teachers' choice for our new curriculum. Please honor the teacher vote.
Elissa	Manchester	Teacher Compensation	Thank you for your service to our schools. My name is Elissa Manchester, I am a teacher at Wando High School and I am writing today about teacher pay. I am a 26 year old teacher and I am struggling to find affordable housing near my work location. Living far away and commuting to work is unrealistic for me and I am hoping to start a family in the near future. Teacher pay is important to me and my future family. Please prioritize funding to increase pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants and increase teacher salaries in the budget by \$5K for every step up to 40. Thank you for reading this and considering.
Hillary	Hutchinson	School name and curriculum	With regard to Item 4, I support the selection of the emails put forth by CAO Michelle Simmons; with regard to Item 10, I support the naming of D9 school to Easu and Janie Jenkins. We have plenty of named schools, and this one would honor a true civil rights legacy, and not ignore the important part of Johns Island history.

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Jennie	Church	School Staff Salaries	<p>Thank you to all who have been a positive voice for the teachers and staff who provide the essential learning foundation for ALL CCSD students. We must continue the forward momentum on our greatest assets, the teachers and staff who work with the children of CCSD.</p> <p>A March 14th article in the Post and Courier highlighted that many public servants (including teachers) will be unable to access the future attainable housing project planned in Carolina Park. As noted by Anna Sharpe, "To buy a townhome in Carolina Park Towns, a teacher with a bachelor's degree would need 30 years of experience to make 80 percent of the area's median income—\$77,750. A teacher with a doctorate would need 14 years under their belt, according to the school district's 190-day pay scale.". This sobering quote highlights the dismal state of opportunities for teachers to rent and/or own property in the communities that they serve. Even with 19 years of experience and an advanced degree, I could not afford to purchase a townhome in Carolina Park Towns.</p> <p>Thank you again for the positive voices and support as we approach the FY25 budget. By continuing the momentum that began last spring, we have the opportunity to change an entire career mindset through increased salaries, adjustments to personal days, and support for staff families</p>
Megan	Sweeney	Teacher Salary	I have a Master's Degree and over 15 years experience teaching and cannot support myself as an independent Professional woman. Please raise salaries to a livable wage to encourage teacher retention and to treat us as the educated Professionals that we are and strive to be.
Ashlee	Bass	CCSD Teacher Compensation	Better pay for teachers and TA's
29405	29405	Esau and Janie B. Jenkins Elementary	<p>I am writing to express my full support, and that of every teacher I know, for naming the upcoming Johns Island Elementary School after Esau and Janie B. Jenkins.</p> <p>Their commitment to education and community service perfectly aligns with the values we educators aim to instill in our students. Their lives and legacy serve as a compelling illustration of how education can catalyze social change and elevate communities. By naming the school in their honor, we not only acknowledge their remarkable contributions but also motivate our students to pursue education and community service with fervor and dedication.</p> <p>I appreciate your consideration of this proposal to commemorate Esau and Janie B. Jenkins, whose legacy epitomizes the transformative influence of education and community involvement. Warm regards,</p> <p>Best, Patrick Martin CCSD Teacher Director of Lowcountry Teacher Advocates</p>
Deetz	Hanna	Teacher and School Based Worker Compensation	<p>I am writing to urge your attention to an issue of utmost importance: the need to raise the starting salary for teachers to \$58,000, accompanied by an equal increase to every cell on the teacher pay scale, and to enhance compensation for school-based classified employees within Charleston County. As a member of this community and a concerned advocate for education, I believe that addressing these matters is crucial for the well-being of both educators and the students they serve.</p> <p>Charleston County is renowned for its vibrant culture, historical significance, and natural beauty. However, alongside these accolades, it is also home to a cost of living and housing market that has far outpaced the earnings of teachers and other school-based employees. While our educators demonstrate unwavering dedication and commitment to their profession, it is disheartening to witness the financial strain that many of them endure simply to make ends meet.</p> <p>Paying teachers and school-based employees wages that are fair, commensurate with their education and experience, and competitive with other jobs requiring similar levels of education and expertise is not just a matter of equity; it is an essential investment in the future of our community. Talented educators are the lifeblood of our schools, and their presence is indispensable to the success and well-being of our students.</p> <p>By raising the starting salary for teachers to \$58,000 and ensuring an equal increase to every cell on the teacher pay scale, we send a clear message that we value and respect the vital contributions of our educators. Furthermore, enhancing compensation for school-based classified employees acknowledges the integral role they play in the daily operations of our schools and demonstrates our commitment to equity and fairness across all positions within the education system.</p> <p>Recruiting and retaining talented teachers and school-based employees is not just a matter of competitive salaries; it is a reflection of our collective dedication to providing the best possible education for every child in Charleston County. Excellent, dedicated staff are the cornerstone of school and student success, and it is incumbent upon us to prioritize their well-being and professional satisfaction.</p> <p>I urge you to consider these proposals with the utmost seriousness and to take decisive action to ensure that our educators receive the compensation they deserve. By doing so, we not only honor their hard work and dedication but also invest in the future prosperity and success of our community.</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Cindy	Philbeck	Teacher and Support Staff Compensation	<p>Thank you for the opportunity for public comment. My name is Cindy Philbeck. I am CCSD teacher and parent of four CCSD students and live in Charleston County.</p> <p>In this county, we have too many teachers struggling to make ends meet, to send their own children to college, and to advance towards a secure retirement while living on a bare minimum salary that does not meet the average cost of living in Charleston County. We've proven that it takes just over \$58,000 to maintain a modest lifestyle in Charleston County (higher than that in some zip codes). Did you realize that we're often more connected and less stressed as educators when we live and work in the same zip code without the strain of a commut, yet our local system has educators scrambling all over the county because many teachers can't afford to live where they teach.</p> <p>Our goal is clear for Charleston County School District to retain and attract the best educators in this area by securing a starting salary of \$58,000. The second step in this multi-year plan is to encourage the board to vote for a \$5,000 increase, with equal increases throughout the pay scale, and to ensure fair compensation for our dedicated school-based classified staff this budget cycle with a commitment to achieve the compensation goal in the next 2-3 years. The educators and support staff who work tirelessly with our youth every day deserve your full support and investment. Teachers are far more educated, trained, and professional than the average employee yet we're not compensated as such. In the private sector, individuals with masters degrees & master+30 status along with 20+ years of experience are often making 6 figures without the extra cost of maintaining licensure, earning continuing education credits, and working far more than 40 hours per week responsible for educating the next generation. New and returning teachers deserve to be compensated as the respectable, valuable, educated, and and exemplary professionals we are. I sincerely request and strongly encourage this board to make way for this educator compensation shift in Charleston County to better meet the overall economic goals of this thriving county while retaining and attracting the best educators to this community for this generation and the next.</p>
Jackie	McGee	Teacher/Staff Compensation	<p>Please compensate teachers and school staff adequately by increasing salaries this upcoming school year as you did this past one. Teachers need to have a reasonable income to keep them in their positions. If tax millage must be increased so be it. I am a Mt. Pleasant home owner and will pay my fair share of taxes to fund PUBLIC schools.</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Sheri	Ferguson	Adoption of ELA curriculum	<p>I hope you will read this with an open mind. Many teachers are feeling that they continue to not be heard and respected when it comes to the decisions we attempt to make our students' education the best it can be. Teachers are the ones who love and know our students best, communicate the most with families, and have the education and experience required to make the best decisions for teaching our young students. While I know that Charleston County is a very large district, and has a variety of students with different backgrounds and socioeconomic status, we kept this in mind in making our choice. When teachers were given the task to look closely, study, and respond to the curriculum options, the teachers at my school took it very seriously. We spent days and countless hours looking at and researching both Amplify/CKLA and McGraw Hill Wonders. There are many reasons why we felt that Wonders was the most effective in teaching our young people to read. Below you will find a few concerns and explanations:</p> <p>We found Amplify to be developmentally and age inappropriate for all elementary school grades. Many of the subject areas are found in middle school standards and not appropriate for elementary school students. Some examples include: having kindergarteners sequence events of the life of Theodore Roosevelt and identifying and labeling presidents on Mt. Rushmore. First graders will learn about Judaism, Islam, Christianity. The war of 1812 and detailed body systems taught in 2nd grade, ancient Rome in 3rd grade, and middle ages in fourth grade. Students will be learning about these subjects with nonfiction texts for an hour each day. While Amplify and Wonders are reading curriculum and not science/SS curriculum, why would we spend so much time teaching these subjects, rather than integrating our grade level science and social standards with reading and writing? This would be much easier to do with Wonders and what I strive to do currently. In social studies, kindergarten students focus on community and the subject area broadens as students get older. But Amplify teaches first grade students World history in 3 of the units it provides. We are already left with very little time to teach the science and social studies standards our state requires. So we will spend much more time teaching reading with subjects that don't come close to aligning with our science/SS standards, than we can fit into our daily schedule to teach science and social studies separate from reading and writing.</p> <p>In the primary grades, much of the reading instruction should be given in small groups so we can focus on the individual needs of our students (developmental and academic). While we are teaching small groups, other students are practicing several various skills independently. Focusing on small groups and individual needs is a basic understanding and need for educating young students. In my classroom, this time is normally 45-60 minutes a day. The Wonders curriculum provides ample time for this and gives many ideas to differentiate instruction for students below, on, and above grade level. It also gives suggestions for teaching ELL students. In Amplify, 20 minutes a day is provided for small groups with little instruction on varying instruction for student needs. Most of the 120 minute reading block is spent in a large group setting. This is not appropriate, especially for our younger students.</p> <p>There is a big difference in the focus for reading instruction. In Wonders, authentic texts are shared with a mix of fiction and nonfiction with subjects that children can understand and enjoy. The materials are child friendly and engaging. Wonders' intent is not only to teach foundational skills but also to foster a love for reading. Amplify focuses on creating knowledge with primarily nonfiction texts. Most of the texts used were written by the curriculum company, not award winning and celebrated authors who are child focused. Many of the materials are printed in black and white, and are not engaging and child friendly. At the teacher meeting I attended last Friday, we were told that "CKLA's main focus is to create knowledge, while Wonders' focus is to teach foundational skills".</p> <p>The pacing of instruction is also inappropriate. An example would be that in kindergarten, Wonder begins with letter learning the first week of school, while Amplify waits until unit three. Also, independent writing begins with Unit 1 in Wonders, but not until at least the second semester for Amplify. Writing is also not taught daily in Amplify.</p> <p>I know that some schools found success with EL, which is similar to Amplify. I have not seen anything to show the growth shown by individual schools. I urge you to be careful in basing success on the positive growth that the testing showed as a district. Our school and many others had many concerns with EL. Many teachers noticed that their students were not making the progress normally seen. Teachers decided that they were not going to "sacrifice" their students' success and resorted back to much of what they have done in the past that was found effective. I'm sure this made the data look higher than it normally would if we all were using only EL.</p> <p>I have taught in CCSD for 24 years, 6 years in special education, and 18 in kindergarten. I have an additional 10 years where I taught in a private school. A lot has changed in these years. Teachers were more trusted to make decisions for teaching their students when I began teaching. I'm not trying to "toot my own horn", but I have been very successful in teaching students how to read and write. They leave my classroom as readers and writers. Why can't I be trusted now to do what I believe to be best for my students? I urge you to allow both curriculums to be taught and trust the schools and teachers to make the decision of which to use. It just doesn't make sense otherwise. It does not show a "we" mentality over a "me" mentality that we were asked to use in this process. If both absolutely can't be chosen, then I strongly urge you to choose Wonders to give all children the foundational skills they need to read and write, and also to learn subject matter and in ways that are developmentally appropriate. I do not believe that Amplify is the best choice for my students and for the district as a whole, but I do believe that all children can find success with Wonders and deserve to learn the foundational skills to be successful.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and for considering the points I have made. I know it is not an easy decision, but I am trusting you to make the best one for our children.</p>

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
			A dear colleague and excellent teacher told me today that she is resigning at the end of the year and leaving our profession. She is an excellent teacher working at a good supportive school. This is the second year in a row that my kindergarten team has lost a teammate to the profession. A first year teacher resigned mid year and has also left teaching. We have lost other good teachers at other grade levels also. This was unheard of in the past at Stiles Point. It was difficult to get a position at Stiles Point and when you did, you didn't leave until retirement. These teachers left because they were frustrated by not feeling trusted, not being listened to, and having an insufficient salary to support themselves financially. These teachers decided to leave because they don't feel that the district and board members won't allow teachers to make decisions in the best interest of our students. I wouldn't be honest if I told you that I haven't thought the same. I love teaching and I love my students, but even after 28 years teaching, I feel more stressed and overwhelmed now than I did when I started. I am widowed and rely on my single income. Even though I have a Master's degree and 24 years experience in working for CCSD, I can barely pay my bills each month. While increasing salaries is only one solution, if we truly want to retain teachers and respect them as professionals, something needs to change! We are losing good teachers, and we shouldn't be!
Sheri	Ferguson	Teacher Retention & salary increase needed	Thank you for taking the time to read this.
Alison	Wolfgang	Teacher and staff pay	Please increase teacher AND staff pay including teacher assistants!
Elizabeth	Paige	Compensation	I have 20 years of being a classroom teacher for CCSD. I have a Master's degree plus 30 graduate hours. I work an extra job 3 nights a week in order to pay my bills. How is that acceptable? Please value my work by compensating me appropriately.
Rachel	Workman	I urge you to honor our teacher's ELA curriculum selection (Wonders.) I trust our teachers know best what they are capable of teaching and what their students need to succeed. I did my own research and agree that Wonders is the correct choice for ELA curriculum.	I urge you to honor our teacher's ELA curriculum selection (McGraw Hill Wonders program.) I trust our teachers know best what they are capable of teaching and what their students need to succeed. I did my own research and agree that Wonders is the correct choice for ELA curriculum.
			Please support the CCSD teachers' vote and choose the McGraw Hill Wonders curriculum for ELA at your meeting on Monday, March 25th. It is my understanding that the teachers voted overwhelmingly in favor of the Wonders curriculum, and the fact that their vote was not unquestioningly accepted raises concerns about the legitimacy of the other curriculum as well as the school board voting system. The opinion of every teacher I have heard from is that the Wonders curriculum is great, while the other one is at least, age inappropriate and at most, unconstitutional. As a mother yourself, I'm sure you can understand the desire for our children's teachers to have some control over the material that they teach, as they know what works and what doesn't in their classrooms. And as an elected official, I imagine you understand the importance of representing your constituents. To be clear, I have two children at Stiles Point Elementary and I voted for you in the last election.
Lauren	Shaute	Curriculum	Again, please select the McGraw Hill Wonders curriculum for ELA at your school board vote on Monday. Thank you.
Elizabeth	Biggs	Educator salary increase	As an educator with 14 years of experience and a Master's Degree, I still struggle to afford summer camps for my children, and the "extras" like vacations. Please consider a \$5,000 salary increase, not just for new hires, but teachers who have dedicated their lives to this profession. While we are "in it for the kids" we also have to be able to support our own families.
			First and foremost, I want to say thank you for your support for our teachers and students in our district. My name is Chak Or and I have been teaching in CCSD for 5 years. I was the Teacher of the Year at Mitchell Elementary in 2022 and also an Honor Roll Teacher, serving on the Teacher Roundtable and Teacher Forum for our district. I want to address the importance of teacher compensation in our district. Is it vital for you all to know how difficult it is to be in this profession and living in Charleston. I am beyond grateful for the bonus that was provided and it was a huge victory for all teachers across our district. However, with how expensive the cost of living is here in Charleston, it is nearly impossible to keep up with paying rent, groceries, utilities, car payments, phone bill, a gym membership, caring for an animal (I have a pup- she's the sweetest) on a teacher salary. Increasing the CCSD teacher salary is important to me because it means that I can live a stable life and not have to worry about my finances each week. As a single person household/income it is difficult to think about how to sustain my lifestyle in this city. I consider myself a very frugal person, prioritizing my needs over my wants. I often think about how I may have to move back to the upstate of South Carolina where I am from and move back in with my mom to save money. I've never had the opportunity to live alone (currently living with 3 roommates) and I have always dreamed of the idea of owning a home or living alone. I think that there is a chance I could possibly purchase a home in Charleston, but it would more than likely take an additional 5-6 years to make my dream a reality. I would like to be financially independent and not have to worry about living by the week just to barely make it each week. I love the community that I teach in and I want to be able to stay here as long as possible. In order to retain our teachers we have to consider paying our teachers more. I am open to having a conversation with you guys about how we can make it happen. Please prioritize funding to increase pay for school-based classified employees such as teacher's assistants and increase teacher salaries in the budget by \$5K for every step up to 40. Thank you for your consideration.
Chak	Or	Agenda Item 5: Audit and Finance / Teacher Compensation	
Kirstin	Martin	Teacher Salary Increase	I am in full support of the Lowcounty Teacher Advocates trying to increase the teacher salary an additional \$10K for next school year. As the costs of living continue to increase in Charleston, a pay increase will help keep our good teacher and not have them looking for alternative careers that pay more.
Bonnie	Cleaveland, PhD	Please increase teacher pay. Teachers deserve so much more, but, more importantly, we are facing a significant teacher shortage. Teachers cannot live independently on their teaching salary in Charleston, where housing is so expensive.	Teachers deserve a pay increase. Our students deserve teachers, and we have a shortage. Increased pay will help!

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Adrienne	Lett	Teacher pay	Increase teacher pay. They deserve to be paid more, and they need to be paid more.
Karen	Byko	Naming of D9 Elementary School After Esau and Janie Jenkins	<p>I'm writing to ask the Board to approve naming of the new D9 elementary school after education civil rights leaders Esau and Janie Jenkins. There are a number of worthy Johns Island activists who certainly deserve recognition, but no other Johns Island natives are so identified as leaders in the education civil rights movement as Esau and Janie Jenkins are.</p> <p>Education is their legacy, and the new D9 elementary school would proudly bear their names.</p> <p>Please return spoken public comment registration to an online format. XXX repeatedly has not been receptive to this idea, despite strong pushback from the community.</p> <p>Most people who speak at school board meetings are teachers, students, or working people. Many of us are not available at 4:15pm to be at 75 Calhoun in person to sign up. XXX has been notified that some students are leaving school early to be at 75 Calhoun to sign up for public comment, but XXX does not seem to be bothered that students are missing instructional and extracurricular time because of the procedures XXX has enacted. People who do not have flexible work schedules are unable to leave work 2+ hours early to be at 75 Calhoun in time to sign up for spoken public comment. XXX response to this was to push public comment signup time back to 4:45. However, this does not solve the issue of certain demographics being able to physically be at 75 Calhoun hours early to guarantee themselves a spot to speak.</p> <p>People who do not work or do not have set work schedules are able to physically be at 75 Calhoun before 4:15pm in order to guarantee themselves a spot for spoken public comment. They often are on line before 4:15. Some individuals have reported waiting on line for two hours to ensure that they were able to speak.</p> <p>When XXX was told that speaking at public comment is now much more difficult for working people, XXX tried to elicit some sort of sympathy by sharing that XXX also has a job. However, XXX voluntarily filed to run for this position, and XXX has unilaterally made changes to the sign-up procedure. XXX put XXX in this position, and XXX has the ability to change the sign-up procedure again.</p> <p>Many of my concerns regarding the registration for spoken public comment were dismissed because XXX believes there are bigger problems, and the public comment registration process does not matter in comparison to some other issues. The existence of more than one issue does not negate the presence of another.</p> <p>XXX also tried to claim that Robert's Rules of Order states that spoken public comment should be organized in the form of being "for/against" an issue. First, as far as I can tell, Robert's Rules of Order says no such thing. Second, this format would be inherently problematic for generic school board meetings. The public may speak about agenda items or any other matters that concern the district. Requiring that public comments be presented in a "for/against" format would detract, if not eliminate, the ability of residents to speak on non-agenda item issues that concern the district. I also find it interesting that while Robert's Rules of Order seemingly do not present a "for/against" format for public comment, members of the private Moms for Liberty Charleston County Facebook group (of which XXX is a member) specifically requested that spoken public comment follow this format. It is also interesting that XXX returned public comment registration to an in-person format less than a month after the same Moms for Liberty group expressed that they desired in-person registration. But I digress...</p> <p>XXX would oscillate between claiming that XXX would revisit my dozens of previous emails regarding public comment registration and stating that XXX had no desire to change the registration process. It is still unclear as to where XXX stands on the issue, even after receiving very negative feedback from many community members (including students).</p> <p>XXX has also tried to claim that registering in person is somehow "more secure". In reality, there is no difference in the "security" level of registering online versus in person. When registering in-person for spoken public comment, IDs are not checked, and I do not believe it is legal for IDs to be checked. Hypothetically, individuals who are not "regulars" to the meetings could register in-person for spoken public comment under a pseudonym, or they could even use another person's name and allow someone else to speak during the public comment period. All of the issues that XXX has articulated regarding online registration are also present with in-person registration. XXX has been notified of ways that online registration could be "restricted" to prevent registrants from changing their name and/or email address after signing up. However, XXX seems uninterested in these suggestions since XXX has allegedly only heard them from me. When I asked who else would need to share this information for it to be considered, XXX did not have an answer.</p> <p>XXX has also previously claimed that policy BE has language that addresses public comment registration procedures, but it is important to note that policy BE only addresses "sign in" procedures, not "sign up" procedures. XXX does not seem to believe that there is a substantial difference between these two phrases, but I and many others (including Merriam Webster) note a substantial difference between the two. I explained this to XXX via email and in person.</p> <p>XXX has been unable to articulate a clear position on this matter. Despite strong negative feedback from residents across the county, XXX seems unwilling to consider what would be best and most equitable for all county residents.</p>
Adrienne	Lett	Public comment sign up process	I urge XXX all board members to swiftly return spoken public comment registration to an online format.

First Name:	Last Name:	Topic of Comment:	Public Comment:
Karen	Byko	Teacher Wages/Weighted Student Funding Proposal	<p>As a taxpayer in Charleston County, committed to ensuring a quality and equitable public school education for all of our students, regardless of income, zip code, race, gender, gender identity or ability, I am writing to ask that, as you consider the FY25 Budget, you include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Teacher increase of \$5,000. Our teachers deserve a liveable wage. Paying our teachers will help with quality teacher recruitment and retention, which will pay dividends in student achievement. 2. Increase the pay of our school-based classified employees to 98%-99% of market value. They also deserve a liveable wage. 3. Fully implement the weighted student funding proposal to ensure a more equitable allocation of resources, resulting in better student outcomes across every zip code. <p>Thank you.</p>
Diana	Doniphan	ELA Curriculum	Please respect the teacher's vote! We were asked to review, research and investigate each series. The Wonders program won the popular vote. Approve the Wonders Curriculum for our children. The program is rich in literature, diversity, and very engaging for the scholars in our district.
Robyn	Kline	Curriculum	Please respect the teachers vote and choose Wonders for our Curriculum.
Madison	Breland	Wonders ELA Curriculum	Please honor the teachers' choice of Wonders for the ELA curriculum adoption. CKLA is NOT developmentally appropriate. Please do what's best for our students!
Margaret	Hale	Increase Teacher Compensation	<p>I am reaching out today as a 22 year veteran teacher with Charleston County School District. I support the Teacher Compensation Task Force recommendations. Last year, I came to the board meeting and spilled my guts, sharing my family's challenges of living in Charleston (with children!!) on a teacher salary. It was embarrassing to publicly share this. The part that sticks with me so much is whether or not my chosen career has been a mistake. 22 years in, that stings. I love my job! I love my fellow teachers and I love my students. I have been the Teacher Librarian at James Island Elementary School for 20 years and it is my second home, but I have been actively investigating other careers when I am vested in the retirement system in just a few years.</p> <p>I was so encouraged by the progress made last year, but despite last year's increase, issues like childcare, housing and healthcare are still pressing issues for everyone. In my own family, my husband is now facing heart surgery in May. The tests and procedures leading up to this surgery already have us out of pocket over \$6,000 just since Christmas. This is life, of course, but unexpected expenses are crippling when you are just squeaking by already. And I am just one example in a sea of struggling educators. Bold action is necessary so Charleston County can attract and keep excellent teachers for all students in our schools.</p> <p>Please consider the following steps for Teacher Compensation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salary Increase: A critical \$10,000 raise in teacher salaries is essential this budget cycle, incorporating last year's \$5,000 bonus and adding another \$5,000 to boost retention and recruitment. 2. Support Staff: It's crucial to also raise pay for classified employees and teacher's assistants, who are key to our educational system's success. <p>Thank you for your dedication to CCSD!</p> <p>All the Best, Margaret Hale</p>
Tiffany	Gritzuk	Topic #4B: Please strongly consider the voice of teachers and their support for Wonders when casting your vote.	Please strongly consider the voice of teachers and their support for Wonders when casting your vote for the K-5 curriculum.
Sarah	Graham	Opposition to CKLA CURRICULUM	Please honor the teachers choice for Honor curriculum. I feel the CKLA curriculum is not developmentally appropriate and our children deserve the best. We surely cannot afford to lose more good teachers due to concerns over curriculum. Thank you
Jessica	Zak	Approve the Wonder curriculum! Let the teachers do their jobs!	Approve Wonders!
Kristin	Hutto	Ela curriculum	Vote with the teachers-WONDERS!!!
Kristin	Cerny	K-5 ELA CURRICULUM	Please consider voting for Wonders. Teachers voices should count!!!