



PREA Negotiations Update

Dear Pine-Richland Community,

The Board of Education acknowledges receipt of emails and social media posts concerning the status of its negotiations with the Pine-Richland Education Association for a new collective bargaining agreement. While public discussion of the parties' specific proposals would rebut the recently expressed criticisms directed to the Board, the Board presently intends to confine those discussions to the bargaining table as we continue to work toward mutually acceptable contract terms with the PREA.

The Pine-Richland School District's negotiating team is comprised of administrators and four school directors. Since December 19, 2023, there have been seventeen (17) meetings with the PREA to discuss and negotiate terms of a successor agreement. During this process, the parties have been assisted by an experienced, neutral mediator assigned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Bureau of Mediation. The PREA has been informed of the Board's willingness and desire to continue active negotiations with the PREA throughout the Summer.

The Board was hopeful that a new agreement could have been achieved by now; however, it is not unusual or a cause for alarm that negotiations continue beyond the expiration of a prior agreement. Teachers will continue to receive the same compensation and benefits that they received under the prior agreement until a new agreement is achieved.

The Board has approached these negotiations in good faith and with the objective of attaining common ground with the PREA, and we will continue to do so until an agreement is reached. The Board is firmly committed to achieving a contract settlement that is fair to both our teachers and our community. The School District already has made multiple economic proposals during bargaining, each of which included salary increases.

The Board asks the community to maintain its mutual support of all stakeholders in the School District's educational program while these negotiations continue.

Sincerely,
Pine-Richland Board of Directors

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