



Bargaining for the Common Good, Compensation Restoration Taskforce and the March for Our Children— Why Does It Matter To Me?

▶ The educators in Prince Georges County Public School (PGCPS) did not receive scheduled salary increases during and immediately after the economic downturn of 2008.

In order to help the Prince George's County Schools weather the recession, these members sacrificed "lost steps" that have yet to be reinstated. Due to the action members took last year with the Work to Rule and "Occupy Sasscer" PGCEA has begun a working with the school system, the other labor unions, and Segal Waters Consulting as members of a Compensation Restoration Task Force with the goal of restoring that lost compensation.

As part of that process, we will determine the number of full-time employees affected, examine how neighboring jurisdictions have addressed this issue, recommend an approach to restore lost compensation over the next 3 to 5 years, and look at improvements to salary ranges to improve both recruitment and retention. The Task Force will be meeting throughout the next few months, and we will keep you updated on our progress.

We are also in the midst of a critical legislative session here in Maryland, for the first time in 20 years, the state is updating the school funding formula for the next 10-15 years and allocating funds for next school year that could go to raises and other priorities. This is a historic opportunity to organize and advocate on behalf of our schools.

As part of that effort, we urge you to join us in Annapolis on March 11 at 6:00 p.m. for a March for Our Schools. Educators from across the state will be rallying to demand adequate funding for every Maryland student. PGCPS has been chronically underfunded by \$2 Billion dollars. Our kids can't wait. **[RSVP HERE](#)**

PGCEA has entered into negotiations with PGCPs as we bargain for our new contract. We are using a model called “Bargaining for the Common Good,” in which educators, community activists, students and parents unite to advocate for our students.

A key plank of our bargaining platform will be “fair compensation for highly trained professional educators that helps Prince George’s County continue to attract and retain world-class teachers.”

Additionally, we will focus on issues including a sensible workload for educators; less testing and more learning; a safe and secure learning environment for students and staff; smaller class size; training and professional development; and a fair evaluation process.

We look forward to working in a professional and collaborative manner to negotiate an agreement that prioritizes our schools, fosters collaboration and learning, and treats our educators like the highly skilled professionals that they are. To learn more about Bargaining for the Common Good and how you can get involved, [**CLICK HERE.**](#)

Educators are leading the way in a movement for change sweeping across the country. From West Virginia to Kentucky to Oklahoma to Los Angeles, teachers and our allies are demanding an education system that values and respects educators and the work we do.

We deserve – and will accept – nothing less.

www.pgcea.org

For our **STUDENTS**, for our **COMMUNITIES**, for our **PROFESSION.**