

TAAAC EDUCATORS UNITED

Generational health and social challenges—and economic uncertainty—have required readjusting expectations around what's possible at the bargaining table.

The budget for tentative wage agreement(s) reached between TAAAC and the AACPS was cut by more than half after the county executive recalculated projected revenues—revenues reduced due to county and statewide stay-at-home directives.

Currently, both TAAAC and the BOE await voting for final allocations and decisions by the County Council to better understand more precisely the level of county funding to the AACPS. In the interim, **TAAAC has held a town hall and other transparent discussions about how best to allocate what monies end up being available for wages.**

Member outreach to county leaders has made clear TAAAC's commitment for educators to be treated fairly and similarly to other public servants. It's more important than ever that TAAAC continue with a unified and strong voice as this bargaining cycle nears its end—and as plans are crafted over the summer months for educators and students to return to the classroom. **TAAAC must lead in insisting any reopening of schools be done safely and equitably.**

Even under these straining and stressful circumstances, TAAAC educators have

seamlessly and without complaint adjusted in real time to the new realities brought on by the closure of schools and fast transitions to distance learning and virtual instruction. **Educators are most crucially positioned to help our students and communities navigate the uncertain days ahead.**

NEGOTIATIONS

The Bargaining Team, with support from the Negotiations Committee has been hard at work. **The Team has held several virtual meetings over the last weeks and held a bargaining session with the Board of Education (BOE) on May 26th.**

TAAAC and the BOE had framework discussions about wages and other important issues. Some good news—June 19 is confirmed as the last day for 10-month in-classroom educators. TAAAC members responded quickly and in force to President Leone's request for letters to the BOE echoing the fairness of TAAAC's last day proposal and helping ultimately to secure the final date the Bargaining Team requested.

TAAAC and the BOE plan to recommence bargaining after the County Council completes their budget process. Updates will be provided as there is new information to report.

Our (virtual) activism has been and continues to be the most powerful tool for our voices!