

AT THE TABLE

ONE DAY LONGER | ONE DAY STRONGER



A BARGAINING BULLETIN

As is currently a yearly rite of passage for us - TAAAC is back at the [virtual] bargaining table, though it was only months ago we finalized a mediated resolution for TAAAC's FY 21 successor bargaining agreement. Bargaining yearly like this is a drain on Union resources, based in the uncertainty of former economic downturn years and an obstacle for both educators and our communities to fairly plan.

The Bargaining Team has been hard at work since January with training and reviewing member priorities. We have also been shaping our bargaining proposals by reviewing the School System and County economic reports and have both confidence and evidence that County Council support for the Board of Education full budget request is a question of political will and not resources. TAAAC is planning a virtual rally for April 7, 2021 with County Executive Pittman to make sure this year's Budget is one where educators are prioritized.

TAAAC's work over the years, including our activism this year, has our Union in a position, once and for all, to repair the experience-credit issues of over half our membership and hopefully place everyone on the salary scale consistent with their years of credited experience. The result of your hard work was most evident with the School Board's recent passage of a motion to enhance Dr. Arlotto's budget request to

the County Council by 11.87 million dollars.

While this is a positive step, we have a lot of hard work remaining. We must convince both the County Executive and the County Council to support and adopt the full budget as requested by the Board of Education.

We have a chance to win here, but it is not guaranteed. There will be outside forces working against us. I am optimistic, however, that with a strong show of support we can achieve more than we have in the past. We will need everyone, all of us, to put in the hard work to bring this home.

Please look out for opportunities in the President's weekly updates to join with your fellow TAAAC members to message and lobby the County Council and insist this is a question of political will and not resources.

Kenneth Page
Executive Director