



Media Advisory

May 20, 2021

Contacts: *Kenneth Page, kpage@mseanea.org, 410-570-2553*
Amanda Menas, amenas@mseanea.org, 443-994-0509

TAAAC Calls for Transparency Around \$4.4 Million Surplus Transfer

The Executive Director of the Teachers Association of Anne Arundel County, Kenneth Page, released the following statement in reaction to the upcoming County Council hearing on June 7 during which a bill will be voted on to transfer \$4.4 million in surplus funding out of the Instructional Salaries and Wages category of the FY 2021 budget.

"We understand both the County and the Board of Education have difficult priorities to reconcile. However, this continued annual pattern at the Board of transferring money away from salaries and wages while teachers have fought for years to repair salary inequities is egregious.

"The Board claims to value teachers while they refuse to pay them a salary consistent with years of credited service. For the last five years, the BOE has moved money out of instructional salaries into other priorities without addressing the 2014 salary restructure that has left 3,000+ Unit 1 educators behind in their years of credited service.

"If history is prologue, we can expect to hear again this year at the bargaining table, that there aren't sufficient funds to make all teachers whole.

"It is clear with this transfer request that they have had the funding all along, but either don't really value their teachers, or have a fundamental misunderstanding of how this issue has demoralized our members."

###