

TAAAC Press Conference Q&A

August 15, 2022

Why is TAAAC holding a press conference?

The Board of Education is hiring temporary, private-contractor, teachers to fill special education vacancies across the county. This is a gross violation of state statute, our negotiated agreement, and a deeply dangerous decision by the Board that undermines public education. We are holding today's conference both to make the broader public aware of these actions and to demand the Board cease this practice and negotiate in good faith on shared solutions to the teacher shortage.

Without hiring contractors, won't the teacher shortage become worse?

TAAAC does not oppose hiring additional teachers and we welcome new colleagues to the county. We simply believe that new teachers should be treated fairly, paid adequately, and respected under the provisions of our collective bargaining agreement with the Board of Education, not the whims of a private contractor.

Temporary teachers with no connection to their community or students is a short-sighted and unsustainable reaction to the teacher shortage. We've offered to meet and negotiate with the Board of Education over shared solutions to this shortage, but they refuse. The Board has made the worst possible choice in the face of this crisis, and we will not allow our schools and communities to suffer as a result.

How does the issue impact parents and guardians?

Parents want to know their children are receiving high-quality education from teachers dedicated to their communities and their schools. Temporary for-hire contractors without permanent connections to their communities and students dilute the quality of education across the county and undermine the faith and trust parents place in their public schools. TAAAC members are parents too, and we stand with parents against these irresponsible acts by the Board of Education.

What are TAAAC's proposed solutions to this crisis?

1. Immediately cease hiring private temporary contractors to fill special education vacancies.
2. Settle the Negotiated Agreement with TAAAC to give teachers, parents, and students assurances of stability heading into an uncertain school year.
3. Meet with TAAAC to negotiate solutions to the teacher shortage that place students, teachers, and the community first, not the pockets of for-profit private contractors.