

September 3, 2022

The Collective Bargaining Agreement between Seattle Public Schools (SPS) and Seattle Education Association (SEA) is an agreement between employer and union, but it has an impact on our students. The confusing and conflicting messaging that is coming out is causing stress, frustration, and an erosion of trust.

We ask that the two parties either:

Open the Process, so that all of the information and negotiations are available to the public, so that people in our community are able to be as aware, or not aware, of what is happening as they would like to be.

OR

Agree to publish Joint Statements of Fact that are agreed to by both parties, and are shared out through both parties' channels. While we appreciate the efforts that both sides have made to share information, the contentiousness of this part of the process means that we are now asking for them to collaborate to state facts clearly, specifically, and jointly.

Our families need to make plans for childcare, food, and for supporting their children through the uncertainty of start of school during a Youth Mental Health Crisis. A timely resolution is in the best interests of families and students.

We call on Seattle Public Schools and the Seattle Education Association to collaboratively negotiate in good faith.

We call on the City of Seattle to please be prepared to support our families through this time.

We call on employers for their understanding and support of the uncertainties our families are facing right now.

We are here to support all parties in collaborating to help our families navigate this time of uncertainty, and to centralize information about mutual aid for our families.

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