

PUBLIC STATEMENT

Since February 2018, representatives of the Glen Rock Board of Education (hereinafter “Board”) have been negotiating with representatives of the Glen Rock Education Association (hereinafter “Association”) in an attempt to reach a successor agreement to the current collective bargaining agreement (hereinafter “CBA”) which expired on June 30, 2018. Each negotiations session lasted approximately two hours.

The Association represents teachers, along with several other categories of employees such as guidance counselors and specialists, employed by the Board. In the 2017-2018 year, teachers’ salaries and health insurance cost the Board over \$22 million dollars.

From the beginning of negotiations, the Board advised the Association of the rising cost of health benefits and the need to limit expenses due to the 2% tax levy cap.

To date, the parties have been unable to come to an agreement.

After the sixth negotiations session in June 2018, the Association advised the Board that it was declaring an impasse and asking the Public Employment Relations Commission to appoint a mediator to work with the parties.

The parties met with the Mediator on one occasion. Mediation occurred on July 31, 2018. At that time, the parties exchanged proposals through the Mediator and significant progress was made. As the parties continue to work with the mediator and one another, it is anticipated that they will reach an agreement in the very near future.

The Board recognizes and appreciates its teachers. The Board has and will continue to negotiate with its teachers in good-faith to foster mutual and continuous respect.

While the parties work toward negotiating a new Agreement, all of the terms and conditions of the expired Agreement remain in effect. During this time, teachers continue to receive their full salaries and benefits. There is no interruption and no reduction in salary or any benefit received by our teachers.

The Board is working to enhance the quality of education in Glen Rock and maintain all financial aspects of a new Agreement in line with the present economic climate. The Board is aware of the economic impact that the school budget and the cost of any Agreement reached will have upon the citizens of Glen Rock.