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The official newsletter of PGCEA

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## BARGAINING FOR THE COMMON GOOD

*UPDATE FOR MEMBERS AND ALLIES*



**Click here to view video.**

On Wednesday, February 6th, the Prince George's County Educators Association (PGCEA) kicked off our negotiations with the school district at an open meeting at PGCEA headquarters. PGCEA presented our negotiation proposals, encompassing a wide range of critical issues including: commitments on compensation improvements in each year of the contract; ensuring sensible workload for educators; less testing and more learning for our students; and the development of a productive and timely evaluation process. Read more about our proposals here: <https://www.pgcea.org/negotiation-proposals/>

*(continue reading on next page)*

# BARGAINING FOR THE COMMON GOOD

## UPDATE FOR MEMBERS AND ALLIES (Cont.)

In addition, the 20 educators on the bargaining committee presented data driven and specific stories to reinforce the importance of all our proposals. Paula Clark, a student at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, addressed the meeting and urged negotiators to prioritize less testing and more learning. “Many students feel forced to take useless tests that they do not see results of,” she said. “Teachers are not given time to help improve students, and the tests take away from an already overcrowded curriculum. Time on many of these tests could be used to prepare for teacher-created tests, SAT, AP, ACT, and assessments important to our future.” Phixavier Holmes, a school counselor at William Wirt Middle School, stressed the importance of a sensible workload. She noted that counselors often volunteer their own time before school opening, working with principals and guidance secretaries to prepare for student arrival.

The next bargaining session is scheduled for Wednesday, February 20th, ([click here to RSVP](#)) and members and allies are encouraged to attend. PGCEA will continue to bargain in good faith using the Bargaining for the Common Good model. As educators, we are part of a movement for change sweeping across the country demanding an education system that values and respects educators and the work we do. We deserve – and will accept – nothing less.



## MARCH FOR OUR SCHOOLS

Important March for Our Schools Reminder!

We're less than a month away from March 11th, and we need to send a strong message to legislators to increase funding this legislative session and pass a new funding formula in the next year that ends the underfunding of our schools. Students, educators, and schools deserve better. Don't forget to RSVP using the link below to reserve your spot on the bus and ensure that you will have a meal. Let's show up big and make history!

It's time to end the underfunding of our schools. Sign up to join us in Annapolis!

Register today! [Click here](#) to register.

**OUR  
KIDS  
CAN'T  
WAIT.**

**Charter Committee to Celebrate Barack Obama**

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD  
CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO  
PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA**

10 Year Anniversary Celebration of Obama's Inauguration ★★★★★

**Saturday  
February 23, 2019 | 11:30 AM  
to 4:00 PM**

**Oxon Hill Library  
6200 Oxon Hill Rd  
Oxon Hill, MD 20745  
(302) 839-2400**

**Come join us for our:**

- Community Resource Fair
- Citizen Empowerment Center
- Personal Finance Information Station
- Health-Wellness-Nutrition Information
- Children's Corner
- "Love-in-a-Box" Community Service Project
- Sojourner Truth Room Display
- 2019 Oratorical Contest Winners
- Annual Obama Commemorative Address
- Obama Memorabilia

**With Special Guest**

Council Woman  
**Monique Anderson-Walker**  
(District 8)



**More details on back**



*The Charter Committee to Celebrate President Barack Obama (Charter Committee) is a coalition of community organizations and activists that mobilizes people and resources to create a more empowered citizenry – energized by a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the values, accomplishments and legacy of President Barack Obama.*

Connect with us at [cccobama@gmail.com](mailto:cccobama@gmail.com) or follow us on Facebook!

**Prince George's County Council Member Monique Anderson-Walker,**

MSRE, was elected to her first four-year term on the Prince George's County Council in the November 2018 General Election. Council Member Anderson-Walker was raised in District 8, which she represents on the Council. She is the Principal Broker of Fleur de Lis, LLC Commercial Real Estate Brokerage and Development Advisory Services in Oxon Hill, MD. During her 20-year real estate career, she has become known as an effective negotiator in representing international, national, and regional corporations with commercial expansions into the metropolitan area, and bringing career opportunities to Prince George's County residents.

**Let's Do it Again!**

When the Charter Committee to Celebrate President Barack Obama planned our first Birthday Celebration honoring President Obama on August 4, 2018, attendees were asked to bring a "Shoebox Gift." As a result of the community's generosity, we were able to donate nearly 200 shoe box gifts to area charities in Prince George's County (MD) and Washington, DC.

On February 23, 2019, we want to do the same thing, **ONLY BIGGER.**

We are excited **ONCE AGAIN** to invite you to participate. Bring a "Love-in-a-Box" to our Black History Month Celebration and Tribute to President Barack Obama on the 10-year anniversary of his inauguration. These winter care packages will be collected at the door and then promptly delivered to designated charities to support those individuals who are in need.

Bring a shoebox decorated in red, white and blue [box and lid wrapped separately], or a gallon zip lock plastic bag filled with the recommended items listed below to:

Oxon Hill Library, 6200 Oxon Hill Rd, Oxon Hill, MD 20745

So that we can be fair and consistent, each box / bag should include:

- 1 pair of socks
- 1 bar of soap
- 1 small bottle of shampoo
- 1 small lotion
- 1 stick of deodorant
- 1 tooth brush
- 1 tube toothpaste

OR

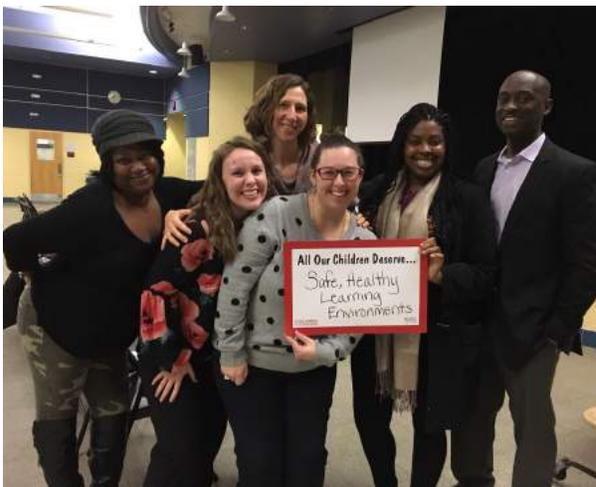
- 2 small bags of trail mix without nuts
  - 2 cereal-in-a-box
  - 2 instant hot chocolate mix
  - 2 small cans of fruit with flip-top lids
- Individual items are welcomed as well.

Contact Bill Ayers at [billayers25@gmail.com](mailto:billayers25@gmail.com) if you have questions.



**RSVP to [cccobama@gmail.com](mailto:cccobama@gmail.com)**

[Click here to download flyer](#)



# EXPANDING PARENT & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Since August, PGCEA Parent Organizer Lori Morrow has been working to expand our parent and community outreach in support of Bargaining for the Common Good negotiations. Through unity sessions, PTA/PTO meetings, and social media, the network of informed community members supporting PGCEA efforts continues to grow. Individual connections are often the most effective, so you can help by engaging parents and community members at the school where you work or schools that your children attend. If your school has an active PTA/PTO, ask if you can have a few minutes on the agenda to share information about the Bargaining for the Common Good and the March for Our Schools. Advocacy is a key mission of many parent groups! You can also spread awareness by sharing PGCEA posts on Facebook and Twitter (@PGCEA\_PR). Contact Lori at [parent@pgcea.org](mailto:parent@pgcea.org) if you have questions or would like support for an upcoming event at your school.

# LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET DAYS OF ACTION

It's our time to Show Up, Speak Up and Step Up. The next couple of weeks will be full of activities to get involved in increasing awareness of what more funding would mean for educators and students.

Here is where you can get involved:

**February 18th** – Legislative Receptions in Annapolis, transportation leaving from PGCEA at 5:00pm ([sign up here](#))

**February 20th** – County Executive Budget Hearing at Flowers High School at 6:30pm ([sign up here](#))

If you are interested in speaking at any of the above hearings and activities please email [jepps@pgcea.org](mailto:jepps@pgcea.org)



# 10TH FINANCIAL EDUCATION SUMMIT FOR TEACHERS

Thursday, June 20, 2019  
 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
 Red Lion Hotel Baltimore North(Timonium)

Participants will receive:  
 \$50 Stipend  
 Teaching Materials  
 Breakfast & Lunch

Register early as space is limited  
**Deadline: June 1, 2019**

For more information, please contact Dawn Baker @ (410) 704-2137 or [dbaker@towson.edu](mailto:dbaker@towson.edu).

If you're interested, register online at [www.econed.org/summit!](http://www.econed.org/summit!)





[Click here to watch](#) the Milwaukee Art Build video.



## ART BUILD FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION

We are calling on art teachers, artists, students, allies in public education, and allies outside of public education to submit images to be used in the struggle to defend and promote public schools. The images will be used on banners, drop banners, parachute banners, screen printed posters, t-shirts, and screen-printed picket signs for the **March for Our Schools Rally**.

If you're interested, [click here](#) to receive more information!

## 2019-2020 UNIT I VOLUNTARY TRANSFER PROCESS (UPDATED)

NEW for the 2019-2020 school year, Human Resources will communicate a list of anticipated vacancies to all eligible Unit I employees that submit a voluntary transfer application.

Vacancies will be also be shared with Unit I impacted by a "Staff Reduction".

- 2019-2020 Unit I Voluntary Transfer IRC Number Listing
- 2019-2020 Voluntary Transfer Acceptance Agreement Section
- 2019-2020 Unit I Voluntary Transfer Application Guide
- 2019-2020 Unit I Voluntary Transfer Process Instructions and Frequently Asked Questions For Administrators
- 2019-2020 Unit I Voluntary Transfer Process Instructions and Frequently Asked Questions Unit I Employees



# UPCOMING EVENTS

2/20/19

## February 20th Negotiation Session- Bargaining for the Common Good

Wednesday, February 20, 2019 | 4:30 pm- 7:30 pm

PGCEA Center  
8008 Marlboro Pike  
Forestville, MD 20747

[Click here](#) to RSVP

2/23/19

## PGCEA & Issac Gourdine PTSO Health & Fitness Fair

Saturday, February 23, 2019 | 9:00 am- 12:30 pm

Isaace Gourdine MS  
8700 Allentown Rd, Oxon Hill, MD

[Click here](#) to RSVP

2/27/19

## February 27th Negotiation Session- Bargaining for the Common Good

Wednesday, February 27, 2019 | 4:30 pm- 7:30 pm

PGCEA Center  
8008 Marlboro Pike  
Forestville, MD 20747

[Click here](#) to RSVP

03/01/19-  
03/03/19

## Art Build for Public Education

Friday, March 01, 2019 -Sunday, March 3, 2019

3/01/19- 4:00 pm- 10:00 pm  
3/02/19-03/03/19- 10:00am- 10:00pm

PGCEA Center

[Click here](#) to RSVP

3/11/19

## March for Our Schools

Monday, March 11, 2019 | 6:00 pm

Maryland State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

[Click here](#) to RSVP