



# Newslette

The official newsletter of PGCEA

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## BARGAINING FOR THE COMMON GOOD; EDUCATORS SHOW UP IN NUMBERS FOR CONTRACT NEGOTIATION

Nearly 200 Prince George's County educators, students, and parents showed up to participate in Collective Bargaining Negotiations for Prince George's County Educators

"As the labor union that represents the teachers, we work hard to get them the best possible contract," said PGCEA President Theresa Mitchell Dudley. Some our request have been rejected by Prince George's County Public Schools but this is not the last negotiation session and we will continue to fight because we know that what is best for our educators is best for our students, our schools and our communities."



The hall was packed with nearly 200 negotiation participants, including 4 representatives from PGCPSS.

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"This was my first time attending a Bargaining for the Common Good Session. I was immensely pleased with what I heard. At times it was hard to contain myself with all the excitement that I felt listening to the committee speak on our behalf. They were the voice of the people... the sentiment of our hearts. I hung on every word, story after story, as I thought to myself, "that's exactly how I feel." I have often heard co-workers at my school say that they don't trust or support the union because they have hidden agendas and ulterior motives, and they don't speak up for us. Well, I can say that without a shadow of a doubt, based on what I heard, that's not true. I am confident that the individuals sitting at the bargaining table have our best interest at heart. I plan to go back to my building and share what we heard tonight. My FAC Chair and I took copious notes. Our plan is to inform everyone that we have a strong voice at the table that represents us."

-Itari Hinds

The House of Delegates has passed a balanced budget that would put \$325 million into classrooms across the state, in line with recommendations of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education. The budget under consideration in the Senate puts far less new money into our classrooms. It does not include the proposed level of new funding for special education. It is vital that state legislators fully fund the recommendations of the Kirwan Commission if Prince George's County Educators are to receive the compensation and resource increases that they deserve.



Itari Hinds  
Stephen Decatur Middle School



Philimena Owona  
Maya Angelou French Immersion

## YOU DESERVE FAIR COMPENSATION!

The Maryland General Assembly has an opportunity to provide a world-class education system for every PGCPS student. There is disagreement about the level of funding that will be distributed this session and we need to let our lawmakers know that Kirwan must be fully funded! Anything less than full funding is unacceptable.

We raised our voices at the March for Our Schools, showing legislators how much support there is to increase funding for our schools with 2,000 educators, parents, and students from Prince George's County. Now it's time to raise our voices again to make sure that we get this legislation across the finish line and add much-needed new funding to our schools. [Click here](#) to email your legislators!



# REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL REMINDER

Reminder, the next Rep Council will be Monday, March 25, 2019, at the PGCEA Center. Food accommodations will be a "Taste of Diversity". Please plan to arrive early.

[Click here](#) to RSVP.



## WE DID IT!

On March 11th, the media reported that nearly 8,000 educators, students, parents, and community members showed up to "March for Our Schools". THANK YOU! This will go down as the largest rally in Annapolis to date and none of it would have been possible without all of your hard work and commitment.

You showed up for the art build to create banners and signs for the rally. Over 2,000 PGCPS educators, administrators, support personnel, students, parents, and community members rallied, and for that I am grateful. PGCPS was well represented and our voices were heard loud and clear. This rally was the beginning. Let's keep this momentum going!

Together our Children Win!





# MARCH FOR OUR SCHOOLS THANK YOU PARTY

MARCH 30, 2019

4 PM- 6 PM

PGCEA CENTER  
8008 MARLBORO PIKE  
FORESTVILLE, MD 20747

Please feel free to stay for the Social Committee's Line Dancing Party  
6 PM- 11PM

[Click here](#) to RSVP

# STANDING TOGETHER, BALANCED!

Celebrating Women's History Month @ PGCEA Hosted by SPARKS

March 29th, 2019 at 4 pm -7 pm

PGCEA Center, 8008 Marlboro Pike, Forestville, MD 20747

**Community Service:** Everyone, please bring a new outfit or item for women in shelters.

Come, Celebrate Women - Enjoy Food, Fun, Games, Hot topics, Prizes!  
Bring a Friend or Colleague.

[Click here](#) to RSVP

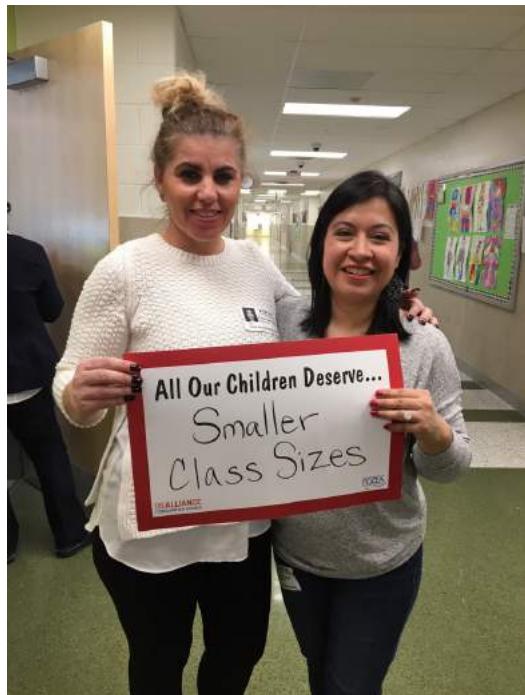
# SCHOOL NEEDS SURVEY

Does your school have everything it needs?

English: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/pgceaschoolchecklist>

Spanish: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/pgceaschoolchecklist-esp>





## 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 if you have questions or would like support for an upcoming event at your school.

## NTA-NOTICE TO MEMBERS



It has been brought to our attention that a group called National Teachers Associates (NTA) has been visiting schools speaking to PGCEA members relative to various insurance policies. This company is not affiliated with PGCEA; rather, PGCEA's current agreement is with Employee Plan Services (AFLAC). We ask that you do not speak with NTA representatives or give your personal banking information to them.

We're working with PGCPS to prohibit this company from entering schools or school property. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any concerns or questions.

(Please post in your staff lounge) [Click here](#) to download memo.

Theresa Mitchell Dudley  
PGCEA President



## PGCEA FOUNDATION & MINORITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SCHOLARSHIP

The Prince George's County Educators' Association Foundation and the Minority Affairs Committee have established a scholarship fund for minority students who will graduate from a Prince George's County public high school in the 2018-2019 school year. Scholarships are a minimum of \$500.00 and will be given in recognition of outstanding academic performance, leadership qualities, and financial need.

[Click here](#) to for additional information and the scholarship application.

All information must be postmarked by April 12, 2019 (no exceptions).

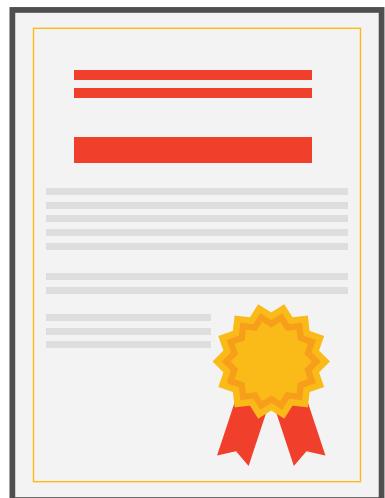
## FY-19 NATIONAL CERTIFICATE STIPEND

Pursuant to the FY-19 provisions of the Negotiated Agreement between PGCEA and the Board of Education of Prince George's County, all eligible employees will receive the other National Certificate Stipend. Employees who have successfully completed and attained a Board Approved Other National Certification shall receive the following for each certification:

- \$3,000 (\$1,000 one-time lump sum and \$2,000 stipend) for the first year of a new certification; or
- \$2,000 for a certification that remains in good standing

[Click here](#) to view requirements.

Action needed by eligible employees no later than April 26, 2019



# UPCOMING EVENTS

3/29/19

## STANDING TOGETHER, BALANCED!

Friday, March 29, 2019 | 4:00 pm -7:00 pm

PGCEA Center

8008 Marlboro Pike

Forestville, MD 20747

[Click here](#) to RSVP

3/30/19

## MARCH FOR OUR SCHOOLS THANK YOU PARTY

Saturday, March 30, 2019 | 4:00 pm- 11:00 pm

PGCEA Center

8008 Marlboro Pike

Forestville, MD 20747

[Click here](#) to RSVP

4/10/19

## APRIL 10TH NEGOTIATION SESSION- BARGAINING FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Wednesday, April 10, 2019 | 4:30 pm- 7:30 pm

PGCEA Center

8008 Marlboro Pike, Forestville, MD 20747

[Click here](#) to RSVP