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October 31st, 2023

Dear Superintendent Guerrero and the PPS Bargaining Team,

We have received and reviewed your proposal package and letter explaining our shared interests.

If what we saw in your package was an actual engagement on the issues that matter to our members and community, we could have potentially arrived at a resolution and avoided a work action. This proposal makes it loud and clear: PPS does not want to engage in a bargaining process, one that began in January 2023.

We made it clear to PPS that we would follow the Oregon Timelines for bargaining, and were not interested in having 2 years of bargaining without a contract. We shared our members' and community's priorities and needs for settlement. We brought educators to share their experiences, we brought multiple proposals, we took time out of our schools, away from students, to try to get to a resolution. Despite our dedication, we end up meeting with a team that refuses to engage.

Our students can no longer wait while PPS management continues to engage in superficial dialogue and the pretense of collaboration. The PAT bargaining team has been at the table and available since the beginning of this negotiation; however, the urgent issues facing students and educators have not been taken seriously. PPS management is the only body that could have stopped the strike tomorrow by presenting a proposal that addresses the issues we have been clear are essential to a settlement. District management chose otherwise. The strike will end when management acknowledges and commits to take action upon the need to change the untenable status quo that educators and students have been living with for far too long.

Sincerely,

Maestra Angela Bonilla, PAT President
PAT Bargaining Team
Steve Lancaster, Chair
Francisca Alvarez
Samara Bockelman
Julia Fogg
Thea Keith
Charity Powell