



# EAST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Board of School Directors

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July 23, 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We are writing to you in an effort to keep you abreast of the negotiations between the East Allegheny School District (EASD) and the East Allegheny Education Association (EAEA).

As you may have heard throughout the community, EAEA has notified the EASD that they intend to commence a strike on the first student day of the 2014-2015 school year, which is Tuesday, September 2, 2014. While the Board Negotiation Team is available to meet and has offered to continue to engage in discussions with EAEA over the summer, we feel we must urge you to prepare for the possibility that the school year will indeed begin with a teachers' strike.

We remain hopeful that we can reach a tentative settlement that reflects a fair solution for our teachers, taxpayers and students. At this point, the District continues to operate with a structural deficit and state funding remains relatively flat. Even though we have exchanged proposals, we have not yet received a proposal from the Association that the District could afford. Thus far, the Association's proposals would make the deficit larger and would require substantial tax increases.

With the distinct possibility that a strike will occur, parents will need to plan for a potential later start to the school year. Additionally, in the event that there is a strike, the school calendar will require revisions that will extend the school year further into June. This will also mean that graduation will most assuredly occur later in June as well. We recognize that parents are making end of school year plans, including our senior parents. We wanted to be sure that this possibility was known to all so parents can plan accordingly.

As a reminder, updates on negotiations can be found on the District's website, [www.eawildcats.net](http://www.eawildcats.net), under Our District, School Board, and then click on the Negotiations link.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

East Allegheny Board of School Directors