



8-21-2020

Superintendent Myers-Small, Commissioners of the Board of Education, Vice President Elliot, President White,

We feel compelled and obligated to advocate for the employees of the Rochester City School District as a whole. This week, at the Finance Committee, we were stunned to hear that the District plans to take immediate actions to reduce the work force serving the students and families of Rochester. We recognize the fiscal predicament that the State has been grappling with, however we advise caution and deliberation prior to any work force reduction. To the best of our knowledge, the cuts to school districts is a potential issue not an imminent situation.

Please consider suspending any and all layoffs until Congress has the opportunity to make things right by passing the Heroes Act and restoring aid to the State, thereby removing the threat to the Rochester City School District.

In addition, there was reference to Healthcare during the CFO's presentation on Tuesday. Compromises to healthcare, especially now, is agonizing and insensitive to the welfare of the community as a whole.

We also recognize, as do you, that we have just come off of a brutal budget season that has left many of our valued members without income or healthcare. Acting hastily now seems ill advised. We are urging the Board of Education and the Superintendent to hold the Governor's office responsible for committing the aid due to RCSD. We believe all Districts across the State are advocating for the same; not solving the State's fiscal crisis for them by swiftly eliminating staff.

Respectfully,

Angelina Rivera, President  
Rochester Association of Paraprofessionals

Dan DiClemente, President  
Board of Education Non-Teaching Employees

Adam Urbanski, President  
Rochester Teachers Association

Timothy Cliby, President  
Association of Supervisors and Administrators of Rochester