

Public Comments for School Board Meetings

#535

I would like to provide: *

Written Public Comments

My public comments are related to: *

Budget

Topic *

Need for more teachers and more equity in pay for teachers given over 150 students

Full Name *

Tara Rougle

What is your relationship to ACPS? *

Staff Member

Enter your comments here OR upload below:

I urge you to support the FTE requests of schools as we are woefully understaffed. My department, social studies at King Street, has requested another FTE for years and have been consistently denied. This has resulted in large classes, 70% of the department teaching over the state limit of 150 students, and teacher burnout and ill health. In addition, the pay for teachers has to be made more equitable. Teachers receive the same low extra pay if they teach 151 students or 170+ students. This is not fair or equitable. 170+ students is the equivalent of a whole additional class. If we were asked to do that and give up a planning period to do it, we would get 1/6 of our pay more. But instead we get 6 classes with more in each class and then we just get 800 per semester. It is a sneaky, abusive, exploitive and inequitable way for the school system to add another class for teachers yet not pay us properly for it. The pay for those with over 150 should be on a per student basis. This has been suggested to Central Office and it was suggested that a committee including teachers be formed to form a more equitable pay structure but they did nothing and dismissed it. It is time for this school system to start putting into practice the equity it preaches by treating its own staff equitably. The best solution, however, is just to hire more teachers – this is better for teachers – less burnout, and better for students as they will be in smaller classes and have teachers who are not so overwhelmed by the number of students they have.