



NEWS

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For Immediate Release

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Superintendent Statement Following the Ratification of Tentative Agreement with Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers *Brings District Closer to the Return of Students Five Days a Week*

PITTSBURGH August 23, 2021 – Following the ratification of a new four-year collective bargaining agreement by the Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers membership, Superintendent Anthony Hamlet, Ed.D., expressed enthusiasm about the start of the new school year:

This pandemic has been difficult on us all, and the one group that truly stepped up to the challenge was our teachers. From the abrupt transition to remote instruction to physical distancing challenges in the classroom, our teachers’ lives were turned upside down by the COVID-19 pandemic. I am proud to have reached an agreement that honors their professionalism and commitment to Pittsburgh Public Schools students and families.

Today, our teachers have also brought us closer to the return of students for in-person learning five days a week. The adjustments to school start and end times are now approved through the ratification of the tentative agreement by our teachers. Allowing us to implement a multi-tiered bussing schedule that will increase the number of routes one driver can make, narrowing the seat gap. I am truly grateful to these invaluable employees and hopeful for the upcoming school year and beyond.

The new agreement supports the District’s efforts to seek solutions to address the significant seat gap it is facing due to a nationwide school bus driver shortage. Through multi-tiered scheduling, the District can increase the number of routes one yellow bus driver can complete before and after school for a maximum of six routes a day for up to 144 students.

The Board of Directors will vote on the new agreement at its August 25th Legislative Meeting.

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