On Thursday 10/26/23 the SPFE Bargaining Team met with SPPS District Management to present our proposals for full-service community schools, site councils, mental health teams, healthy green schools, bilingual fluency stipend, LGBTQIA+, critical ethnic studies, itinerate DHH, and sick leave.

Parents, community members, students and educators filled the audience to hear about our proposals centered around supporting the needs of our diverse students, communities and educators.

What are Common Good Proposals?
SPFE presented a group of common good proposals: Full-Service Community Schools, Site Councils, Mental Health Teams and Healthy Green Schools. When we bargain for the common good, we partner with parents, students and the community to create a long-term vision for the structural changes they want to see in their school communities. SPFE has a proud history of bargaining for the common good! Past issues have included class sizes, mental health supports, decrease in testing and increase in school nurses.

“We understand that when the head is well, the body follows. We understand that when the family is supported, we are supported and the children will flourish. I ask you to fund and support Full-Service Community Schools because we need to support our students and just like education, it starts at home.” - Devina Moore, SPFE Member, SPPS Parent and Cultural Specialist at Benjamin E. Mays

“When our students needs are met and they feel connected to their community, they thrive not only academically, but in all areas of life. And isn’t that what schools are supposed to do?”
- Hannah Rieder, SPFE Member, SPPS Parent and Special Education Teacher at SPMA

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SPFE BARGAINING UPDATES

Proposal Process Overview

- SPFE or SPPS presents a proposal at a bargaining session to the other team.
- The team then has the opportunity to review the proposal, ask questions and respond.
- A response is often called a “counter”.
- Once a counter is received, the bargaining team reviews it and engages in back and forth discussion about that specific proposal.
- Changes are negotiated and made to the initial proposal. When both teams agree to a final version of a proposal, it’s called a “Tentative Agreement”.

Critical Ethnic Studies, LGBTQIA+ and Bilingual Fluency

“We have the moral imperative to help our current and future students thrive” - Kimberly Colbert, SPFE Member and Critical Ethnic Studies Teacher

“I, along with my queer, trans, and allied colleagues want to see diversity celebrated and our rights as queer and trans staff acknowledged and valued, thank you.” - Micha Langenberg, SPFE Bargaining Team Member and School Counselor

“Anyone who speaks a second language should be celebrated with a small stipend, as a thank you for helping out when others can’t.” - Camila Carroll, SPFE Member and EL Teacher

Next Open Bargaining Session: Thursday November 2, 2023
Location: 360 Colborne (SPPS District Admin Building), 4:30pm

On 11/2, SPFE will present our proposals for Wages, Dual Language Immersion, Professional Development, Class Size and a Health Care Savings Plan.

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