

Dear EACC Members,

Here are the updates through May 11, 2015:

Negotiations started on May 4, 2015 and are continuing. Thank you to everyone who responded to the Negotiations survey, who came to the Negotiations Committee meetings, and who has sent in concerns and suggestions. As soon as there are any updates on negotiations, Courtney will fill you in.

On May 7, 2015, we held a **press conference** at the McConchie One-Room African American School building on the Charles County Fairgrounds. At the press conference we send the message to push the Governor to release the GCEI funds he is holding hostage. Delegate Edith Patterson was with us to make a “clarion call for action” in an incredibly impassioned speech to urge the Governor to release these funds. We also had teachers, parents, and AFSCME President Bill McLaughlin speak to urge the Governor to heed our call. We have pictures on our FaceBook page.

- How can you help? If you haven’t already, visit www.dontshortchangemaryland.com and click on the yellow button to “Take Action” to send an email to Governor Hogan.

Last weekend we closed out **Teacher Appreciation Week** with our first ever **EACC Scavenger Hunt** and **Family Picnic**. We had great weather on Saturday for our activities! The winners of the Scavenger Hunt were:

1st Place – Swann Power
2nd Place – Dragon Flames

Congratulations to those inquisitive, fast moving, creative-thinking teams for finding, documenting, and posting their pictures of lots of Charles County landmarks!

The Family Picnic was a lot of fun with hamburgers, hot dogs, sides and desserts, games, good fellowship, and a poster-making session for the Commissioners’ Budget Hearing on May 20, 2015. Visit our FaceBook page to see all the pictures!

Please mark your calendars for May 20, 2015 at 6:30PM for the Commissioners' Budget Hearing. We want to fill the auditorium! The Commissioners need to see us in mass, asking for their support.

- We will be having a tailgate party before the hearing with hot dogs, chips and sodas available in the parking lot of the County Building at 5:30PM.
- The t-shirts we ordered for all members are here and will be distributed by your reps soon. On the front they say, "Feed the Fire" and on the back they say, "Fuel the Future! Ask me How" followed by #fullyfundededucation #opportunityforall #timetolearn #timetoteach.
- At the budget hearing, we are giving away 5 Amazon \$50 gift cards. If you attend, one ticket will go in the drawing for you. If you speak, you will receive a second entry in the drawing.
- We hope that we can spark a conversation out in the community with the messages on the shirts. We will be sending out "talking points" to you soon. Please plan to wear the shirt to the Budget Hearing on May 20th.

The **EACC Annual Crab Feast** is **August 21, 2015**. It's a GREAT way to celebrate the beginning of a new school year and spend time with friends as you enjoy all-you-can-eat crabs (and hamburgers and hot dogs, too!). There will be a DJ and lawn games, too.

Crab Feast Ticket sales began on May 10, 2015. Go to our website, www.teameacc.org and purchase your tickets early! Tickets are \$20 until June 20th, and then the price goes up to \$30.

- The Crab Feast is **ONLY** for CCPS employees and CCPS retirees and one guest.
- To enter the crab feast you must have your ticket and school ID.
- The Crab Feast is for adults only (21 and older).

Thank you,

Linda McLaughlin

EACC President