



**Statement by Louise Boyd,  
President, Neshaminy Federation of Teachers  
Regarding School District Finances**

LANGHORNE, PA—In the ongoing contract talks between the NFT and the Neshaminy School District, it has taken four long years for us to get to the point where we are able to have correct and up-to-date financial and workforce data to guide our negotiations. We have tried to share with the Neshaminy community this fact: There is agreement on the costs of various proposals, and the two sides are actually closer together than previously thought.

We learned today that some members of the community are questioning the accuracy of a telephone message left by the NFT during recent phone calls to the Neshaminy community.

In some of those calls, NFT volunteers referred to \$21 million in “uncommitted personnel” funds that could be available to the Neshaminy School District to settle economic issues in our contract talks. We now understand that our use of that term may have caused some confusion. In the jargon of budget officials, “uncommitted” or “unallocated” are words often used to refer to a general fund balance. NFT callers did not refer to “surplus” funds, as some have suggested.

In our previous offer to the board we identified \$21 million in cost savings to the District based on changes made to our proposals including wage and benefit issues. That figure is based on:

- The budget savings that could be achieved with our agreement to make a significant contribution to healthcare costs; and
- The fact that we now have exchanged accurate personnel information and budget figures with the District so that we can determine the real costs of various proposals.

Our message simply conveyed the truth of the matter: A fair settlement is possible. We look forward to sorting out the details during our next scheduled bargaining session on Nov. 1.

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