

## **PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS SIT ON CASH WHILE TEACHERS SIT WITHOUT A CONTRACT AND CHILDREN SIT IN CROWDED CLASSES**

January 27, 2014 the School Board is holding a public hearing and then voting on a resolution to pass amendments to their budget. The District has experienced changes in its financial position that require updating the budget to better reflect the current status.

The following information has been taken from a document prepared by the Finance Department of PPS.

\$16.3 million	Amount the beginning cash balance is increased
\$ 29.9 million	Total additional revenue over current budget
<b>\$ 19.6 million</b>	<b>Net increase in revenue after announced additional expenditures</b>

The contingency fund is a fund in the budget that is sometimes called the reserve. It is money set aside for unexpected expenses. The 2013/14 budget has a contingency fund of \$20,184,089. **This amendment will increase the contingency fund to \$34,233,376.** This is an increase of \$14,049,287. The contingency fund usually is 2% to 5% of the total budget. This increase puts the contingency fund at 7.4%.

**At the bargaining table** the district has offered 88 FTE using the **\$7.8 million** that they will receive from the legislature in 2014/15. Whether we bargain the use of this money or not, the legislature is requiring the District to still use this money in this manner. It's not enough for workload relief. However, combining this money with the net increase in the budget there is \$27,394,870 available to settle this issue. This is much more than our workload relief supposal costs.

**So what's the problem? Why No Contract? PAT gave the District a supposal that should have led to a settlement:**

- It provides workload relief for teachers and better learning conditions for our students, **Well within this budget**
- It holds teachers financially harmless keeping **current** contract for insurance and teachers' retirement provisions, and asks for a modest salary increase.
- It protects some groups of teachers from being singled out for loss of **current** rights.

**One wonders since the District has the ability to pay for a settlement,  
Why are they unwilling to settle?**

**Attend the public hearing on January 27 and demand an answer!**