

Staff Editorial



Students: Stand with educators

Fact #1: No teachers equals no learning, which means no writing and no performing and no building and no solving. But we are not here to talk about not having teachers because we do — ignore that the number of teachers in Indiana has decreased significantly in recent years.

Now that we have established that teachers are fundamental to society, let us get on with the actual topic of discussion.

Teacher walkouts have been taking place across the nation as educators fight against injustices of educational funding. This includes low teacher salaries.

The *Bagpiper* fully supports the idea of teachers receiving more pay. They are arguably the most necessary citizens, since they turn everyone else into a functioning part

of society. Also, high pay is an incentive to do well and attracts the best educators.

Fact #2: No teachers equals no learning, which means no writing and no performing and no building and no solving. Yes, that was also the first fact; however, they serve different purposes. The first one established the importance of teachers. The second expresses the danger of no teachers, which is where we are headed.

As previously stated, teachers deserve higher pay. To remedy this, there have been walkouts across the nation, including next door in Kentucky. Now, as a newspaper, the *Bagpiper* loves the First Amendment. We appreciate that teachers are utilizing their rights to protest an injustice.

However, it is naive to ignore Fact #2. We need

teachers. This becomes an issue when they leave schools to protest. Do they have that right? Absolutely. Do they deserve what they are asking for? Absolutely. But with this comes the risk of forgetting what this is all ultimately about — education. There are places in our country where students have missed weeks of school. And although everything else can be justified, this cannot.

Then what is the solution? We cannot abandon our teachers.

Fact #3: We are stronger when we work together. Students need to show support. One way to do that is to write letters to the NAFC school board. Each year, the corporation gets a certain amount of money for the state that they decide what to do with. This fund includes teacher

salaries. The issue with this is that the most recently reported NAFCS budget only gives 1.97 percent to “institutional staff” — teacher salaries — whereas school administration, which is far fewer in employment number, gets a whopping 7.52 percent of that fund. Indiana code 20-43 states that Indiana school corporations decide how they divide up that money. The *Bagpiper* firmly believes that the solution lies in the corporation’s distribution of that fund.

Time to work together to get something done. Students: we need to take care of our teachers the way they have taken care of us.

Email your letter to bagpiper.fchs@gmail.com and we will send it to the school board. We need as many as possible. Time to take a stand as a school.

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