



## **All Educators Are Essential**

The Public Schools of Brookline has sent out 300 layoff notices, taking public schools in exactly the wrong direction and sending the wrong message about our values. Right now, students need *more* support and broader educational programming. Rather than crudely designed cuts, our schools need *more* revenue. Yet the district hides behind contract language. They used a lay-off date to cover up their failure to adequately pursue needed funding after repeatedly rejecting the Union's revenue suggestions and coming up with no others.

They have failed to work with the Union as a partner, in spite of the BEU's greater capacity to access the advice and expertise of educators. Our members know directly what our students need. Confusing public statements to the contrary, the district has chosen to gut the arts, world language, health and wellness, vocational ed, information literacy, early childhood department, and more, laying bare their readiness to damage educators' capacity to teach the whole child. By the crudeness of their plan they are also prepared to destroy what is needed now more than ever: retention of educators whose racial and ethnic diversity reflects our society. These educators help provide students with a well-rounded education the district promises, one that enables students to meet "the social demands of life in a diverse, ever-changing, global environment."

What educator who is handed a pink slip would not be tempted to look elsewhere for more respect and security? The longer it takes to rectify the failure of district leadership the longer it will take to make the town of Brookline the beacon of educational excellence that currently attracts families and educators from around the world.

BEU educators are taking a firm stand: All Educators Are Essential

There is still a great deal of wealth in our country, state, and town. The default decision to resort to cuts is a serious mistake. Every member of the Brookline community needs to be working to reverse this action immediately. The members of the Brookline Educators Union pledge to do our part to defend the common good and to help create the schools our children deserve.

#AllEducatorsAreEssential