

Negotiations Are Good For You

(we're working for you)

Does the NEA effectively represent teachers? Not according to the NEA!

This is a news release from their website. This release explains the 40-year results of their negotiations for our nation's teachers.

Inflation Outpaces Teacher Salary Growth in More Than 40 States

As school districts struggle to fill teaching positions, NEA study finds teacher salaries are not keeping up with cost-of living increases

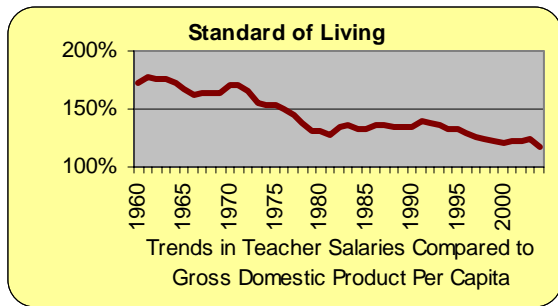
WASHINGTON -- Across the nation, teachers are losing spending power for themselves and their families as inflation outpaced increases in teacher salaries last year. According to the National Education Association's (NEA) update to the annual report titled, 'Rankings and Estimates: Rankings of the States 2004 and Estimates of School Statistics 2005,' inflation increased 3.1 percent over the past year, while teacher salaries increased by only 2.3 percent. Some of the key findings of the report include the following:

- Teacher salaries, which rose 2.3 percent to \$47,808 since last year, failed to keep pace with the nation's 3.1 percent increase in inflation.
- Average teacher salaries actually declined in three states -- Maine, West Virginia and Alabama.
- Education revenue increased 4.1 percent since last year.
- Education expenditures rose 4.7 percent over the past year.

Reg Weaver, president of the nation's largest professional employee organization, expressed concern over the rate of inflation rising faster than increases in teachers' salaries, as school districts across the country struggle to attract and retain teachers in the profession.

'Without a firm commitment to raising teacher salaries, our schools will continue to have difficulty recruiting and retaining diversified teaching staffs that are prepared to meet the educational needs of our public school children,' said NEA President Reg Weaver.

"It's unsettling that when the rate of inflation is considered, on average, our teachers are actually earning less this year than they did the previous year. We must do a better job of providing professional salaries to the teachers who are working directly with our children."ⁱ



From Reg's base salary of \$272,170 with additional allowances of \$98,258, for a total pay of \$370,428, it is easy to see why he is unsettled over the poor job his union does for teachers.ⁱⁱ Even the American Federation of Teachers, a partner union to the NEA, has identified the failure of negotiations for teachers. The AFT mentions that the "Relative Standard of Living for Teachers

is Lowest in 40 Years"ⁱⁱⁱ

Question: Who negotiated teachers to this standard of living during the last 40 years?

Answer: The largest most powerful union in the nation – the NEA.

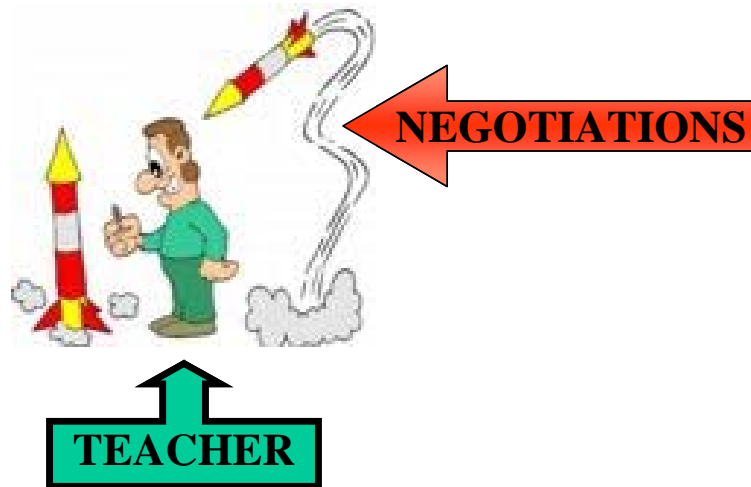
Question: When will the NEA show a commitment to raising teacher's salaries and not just a commitment to using union members dues to fund their controversial social agenda and raise their own salaries?

Answer: ???



This is not rocket science. Who would you choose to reward with pay and benefits:

- The person who works with you for the sake of the system and the children.
- The person who creates and perpetuates an adversarial battleground as prescribed by the "1939 industrial model of negotiations."



If you want to know more, please go to www.teacherspet.com. There you can look at full studies on negotiations in the state of Tennessee.

i Dec. 5, 2005 NEA News Release - <http://www.nea.org/newsreleases/2005/nr051205.html>

ii 2004-05 NEA federal labor organization financial disclosure report (LM-2)

iii American Federation of Teachers Annual Survey of State Departments of Education