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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

October 30, 2026

Dear School Directors:

It has come to our attention that the negotiations for the teachers' contract at Forbes Road Career and Technology Center has carried out well beyond its June 30 expiration.

With nine school districts feeding into Forbes Road CTC, we understand the many demands facing each district individually, while also balancing out sending students to the career and technology center. We know our school districts are expected to maintain fiscal responsibility to the taxpayers and communities, while maximizing dollars to educate our youth. Each school district is represented on the Joint Operating Committee of Forbes Road CTC, and we are asking that your school district representative on the committee come to the table with the teachers of Forbes Road CTC to move forward with a plan to resolve the labor dispute.

One of our shared priorities is expanding job training and career readiness pathways for students in Western Pennsylvania after high school. Forbes Road CTC has an excellent record of doing just that. Forbes Road CTC teachers are not only educators, but they are experts in their fields, maintaining not only their teaching certifications but also maintaining and expanding their knowledge and expertise in their industry or trade. Their commitment to their craft and educating the next generation of workers has lent itself to the school's success.

Rooted in the belief that investments in career and technology education are sound, the state has increased our funding in the 2026-2027 budget for Forbes Road by 3.8% over 2025-2026, while simultaneously increasing funding to each feeder school. We urge each of the sending districts to invest appropriately in Forbes Road and budget accordingly for a collective bargaining agreement for Forbes Road CTC teachers that reflects the strength of the school and the excellent programs provided for the students of our districts.

If we want Forbes Road CTC to continue to offer the same level of highly skilled and competitive educational programs, it is essential that our districts invest appropriately where funding is needed. It is equally essential that we can recruit and retain talented teachers. Low wages and no contract have resulted in 20% of educators leaving Forbes Road CTC since the end of last school year. This is not sustainable and we are calling on you to find a resolution to bring a bargaining agreement to the table that will keep talented teachers at Forbes Road to educate our youth to the best of their abilities.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing a resolution to this matter soon.

Respectfully,

State Rep. Brandon Markosek
25th Legislative District

State Rep. Joe McAndrew
32nd Legislative District

State Rep. Abigail Salisbury
34th Legislative District

State Rep. Mandy Steele
33nd Legislative District