

Dr. Lynne Gabriel,

As President of the North Eastern Ohio Education Association (NEOEA) I wanted to reach out to you and offer you my support as your association goes through this difficult negotiations with your association.

NEOEA stands with you and encourages you to continue to be strong and to fight for what is right for your members. NEOEA implores your administration to work collaboratively with you to come up with a fair collective bargaining agreement. An agreement that is fair and reasonable that also protects the working conditions of all of your members. I would also ask them to meet in good faith to reach an acceptable agreement as quickly as possible. Working during a pandemic is stressful enough, working without a contract is unnecessary additional stress.

This current pandemic has taught our entire country the value of our public schools and public education. Lakeland has been a part of our community for over 50 years. I have grown up in this community and I know the incredible opportunities that Lakeland provides students that large state schools cannot.

Many studies have shown that the best indicator for student success is their classroom teacher. Your members are the ones that make Lakeland so valuable and enriching to the many members of our community that have taken advantage of the opportunities provided on your campus over the years. You deserve to be treated fairly and as professionals.

Myself, and our entire Board of Directors stand with you!

Robert McFee

NEOEA President