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## Thumbs Up

To Neshaminy school board President Richie Webb for “holding out an olive branch” in the board’s pursuit of a new contract with Neshaminy teachers. The teachers are working under the terms of an expired contract, which Webb said “we’re grateful for.” Webb credited teachers with staying on the job.

Those are hardly fighting words. Indeed, Webb’s request to union negotiators to return to the table deserves more than a non-response, which is what union President Louise Boyd issued. Rather than comment on Webb’s appeal, Boyd said she has not received a phone call, e-mail or written request from the board.

Maybe the request was made, maybe it wasn’t in a formal way. We don’t know for sure. We do know an invitation was issued quite publicly in Thursday’s newspaper. Webb didn’t call us demanding a retraction. Apparently, he meant it.

It’s time for the union to return to the table and negotiate responsibly. And demanding a 6 percent annual salary increase and continued free benefits isn’t responsible — not in today’s world.