

## A lesson for teachers

*Maybe Neshaminy teachers will learn something from their bosses.*

Perhaps recognizing the new economic realities that have the nation in crisis mode, Neshaminy administrators this week accepted the school board's reasoned and responsible contract offer. It was an encouraging and commendable decision.

This is the same offer teachers rejected — a 3 percent annual salary increase and contributions toward health benefits of 15, 16 and 17 percent over three years. It is, as we said, reasoned and responsible, but it's also a great deal.

Many private sector workers, if they still have jobs, have been hit with pay cuts or freezes. And most pay twice what Neshaminy administrators will pay for their health benefits.

Neshaminy teachers, on the other hand, are on the taxpayer gravy train. They pay nothing for benefits — zero! — and they want a 6 percent salary increase. This, despite being among the highest paid teachers in the state.

Fortunately for taxpayers, the school board won't budge. It is sticking with its offer and should.

Likewise, the teachers aren't budging. Union President Louise Boyd would not comment on the administrators' decision, but did say the school board's description of its contract proposal to teachers is inaccurate. She would not elaborate.

Great.

But Boyd isn't the only one not talking. Board members, on the advice of their attorney, would not describe slight changes in the offer to administrators, including whether so-called longevity bonuses were eliminated.

That's ridiculous and insulting. We strongly encourage board members to explain the deal in detail before obligating citizens to pay for it. Meanwhile, maybe teachers will come to their senses.