



ATU LOCAL 1181-1061
CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 UPDATE
MAY 1, 2020

Brothers and Sisters:

I am writing to you today to give you an update on the status of this local union as it relates to the school bus contracts with New York City. You have all received or will receive furlough notices from your employer. There are two different issues occurring at the moment.

1. You received those furlough notices because the emergency extension contracts between the Department of Education and your employer expired on April 30, 2020. Without a contract extension agreement going forward your employer technically has no contract with the city at this moment.

2. The city of New York as of this UPDATE has not yet made the decision on whether or not it will extend school bus contracts to your employers. This local union with a coalition of other unions and school bus companies has been active over the last three weeks trying to assure that a vote at the Panel for Education Policy (PEP) would approve contracts. We had many members prepared to speak at that PEP meeting but the meeting was canceled and the vote was postponed and rescheduled.

When the city of New York makes a decision whether or not they will continue to extend the school bus contracts, hopefully within the next few days, your employers have committed that if they have contract extensions and are funded, they will resume the 85% wages and medical benefits.

In an effort to ensure that our contracts continue, I have had conversations with the City Comptroller Scott Stringer and City Councilman Mark Treyger, who chairs the Education Committee. In addition, I have been in constant contact with Vinny Alvarez, President of the NYC Central Labor Council, NYS Assemblyman Mike Reilly and US Congressman Max Rose who have all been very supportive and helpful. Also, our lobbyist has made contact with City Hall to put forward our position.

In regard to your medical benefits, you can pick up COBRA or if that is not affordable for you, attached to this update and on the ATU Local 1181 website posted at an earlier date, you will find the information you need to apply through New York State for medical coverage.

Your Local Union, along with the coalition, will continue to push the City to make the right decisions to restore your wages and medical benefits.

Again, thank you for your continued patience. Be safe and know that your Union is here fighting for you and your families.

In Solidarity,
Michael Cordiello, President/Business Agent
and the Executive Board
ATU Local 1181-1061