



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**STATEMENT BY GEORGE PARKER, PRESIDENT,
WASHINGTON TEACHERS' UNION,
ON D.C. PUBLIC SCHOOLS' CONTINUED TEACHER RECRUITMENT
FOR CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR**

WASHINGTON—The e-mail from TeachDC announcing the resumption of teacher recruitment activities so soon after D.C. Public Schools' untimely dismissal of 266 teachers is yet another example of questionable management practices—or malevolence—on the part of DCPS.

Any effort to hire additional teachers while claiming a need to cut staff due to budget constraints raises serious questions: What positions need to be filled? Why didn't DCPS wait until these vacancies were filled before issuing layoff notices? Why didn't DCPS assign certified teachers to these vacancies instead of terminating them?

DCPS is once again demonstrating the lack of transparency that prompted the Washington Teachers' Union to file a lawsuit to reinstate all laid-off teachers pending a thorough investigation. By now, instructional programs at our schools should be in full swing. Instead, the district's actions over the past several weeks have done nothing but needlessly disrupt the education of our students, and create an atmosphere of mistrust and fear for our teachers.

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