

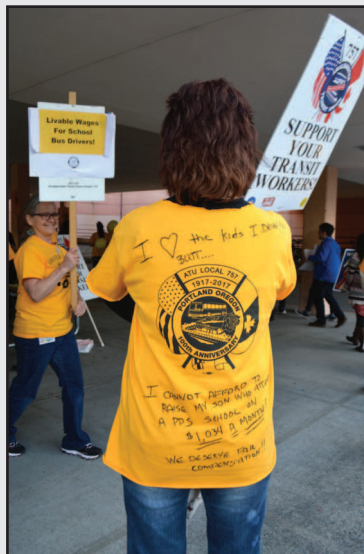
Special ed bus drivers at Portland Public Schools declare impasse; next stop could be a strike



THE T-SHIRT SAYS IT ALL: "I ♥ the kids I drive but ... I cannot afford to raise my son on \$1,034 a month!" says the back of a union t-shirt at an April 10 rally, right. Above, bus driver Beth Blumklotz talks to KATU.

Following an April 24 negotiating session, Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 757 declared impasse in bargaining with Portland Public Schools over a new contract for over 100 school bus drivers with disabilities and special needs. Declaring impasse means the union believes the two sides are unable to reach agreement. Local 757 spokesperson Andrew Riley said the union will now pre-

pare for a strike, which could take place after summer break. Local 757 has asked the district to agree to binding arbitration as an alternative to a strike. [ATU's national union requires that step.] PPS has not yet responded to that proposal. The district's final offer would raise starting wages to \$17.96 an hour—up from \$16.25—but at rallies held on April 10 and April 24, drivers said that's not enough.



PAMELA WHITE

CLACKAMAS COUNTY CLERK

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- ✓ Keeping public records public
- ✓ Recording of marriages, domestic partnerships and the sale of homes and businesses
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Professionally, Pamela has spent 25 years in increasingly responsible roles in the nonprofit sector, the last eight as a department director. She brings expertise in organizational management, budgeting, public relations and community outreach, and employee empowerment strategies. She is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Steve Kindred, recently retired Clackamas County Elections Manager stated in an Op-Ed for the Clackamas Review/Oregon City News, "Pamela deserves your vote. She possesses the competence, integrity and leadership the office of County Clerk has missed in recent years."

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