



[Home](#) |
 [Newsroom](#) |
 [Media](#) |
 [Administration](#) |
 [NJ's Priorities](#) |
 [Contact Us](#)

[Press Releases](#) |
 [Public Addresses](#) |
 [Executive Orders](#) |
 [Press Kit](#) |
 [Reports](#)

Home > Newsroom > Press Releases > 2010 > In Case You Missed It: Star-Ledger Editorial Board – "...Public employees are accepting reality: Taxpayers simply can't afford to pay for bloated salaries, hefty raises and costly benefits."

In Case You Missed It: Star-Ledger Editorial Board – "...Public employees are accepting reality: Taxpayers simply can't afford to pay for bloated salaries, hefty raises and costly benefits."

Monday, August 16, 2010 • Tags: [Other](#)

Signs of salary sanity in recent New Jersey teacher, police contracts
Star-Ledger Editorial Board
Published: Monday, August 16, 2010, 5:51 AM

They're getting the message.

Slowly but surely - and however reluctantly - public employees are accepting reality: Taxpayers simply can't afford to pay for bloated salaries, hefty raises and costly benefits.

After initial union obstinacy in the face of a deep and prolonged recession, the pendulum apparently is swinging back toward reason.

Thanks to taxpayer anger, salary caps and other cost-containing legislation, it's sinking in: Public workers aren't entitled to automatic raises and better benefits regardless of economic conditions or job performance, and a public-sector job without a raise is better than no job at all.

Public officials now realize, too, that they must stand fast and protect overburdened taxpayers, and if they don't, they will be held accountable for outrageous deals.

The Star-Ledger's Lisa Fleisher reported that teachers in 75 districts who settled contracts in the first half of the year received an average raise of 2.03 percent for the upcoming school year - the lowest increase in the 30 years the New Jersey School Boards Association has been tracking the data.

That's still higher than the average private-sector pay increase, but the insanity has ended.

...

But there's still room for attitude adjustment. Remember, only a handful of unions volunteered wage freezes to save jobs. Others took their raises and allowed colleagues to be laid off.

...

View entire opinion here.

###

Press Contact
Michael Drewniak
777-2600

Stay Connected with Social Media



Stay Connected with Email Alerts

LIKE THIS PAGE? SHARE IT WITH YOUR FRIENDS.

