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The Mayor has spent federal aid already received by the city—which he repeatedly asserts he has the sole discretion to allocate—on vanity projects that will only cost Quincy residents money in future years. In the past two years this includes \$17 million dollars to purchase the Munroe Building and a small office building next to the courthouse, almost \$5 million dollars to purchase a boat ramp and waterfront property, and another \$3 million dollars for new gates at Mount Wollaston Cemetery. The Mayor also has a history of spending local revenue paid by Quincy residents on irresponsible vanity projects, most recently including \$2 million dollars for a copper roof on the new police department building. This mayor likes to spend city funds on the preservation of Quincy's rich history. We applaud that commitment; but ask what good will the history of this city be when he is not willing to invest in the city's future - our students.

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Quincy educators have been falling behind our peer districts for years. An experienced Quincy teacher with an advanced degree now earns:

\$10,264 less than a teacher in Newton \$11,964 less than a teacher in Brookline \$13,467 less than a teacher in Boston

There has been a lot of discussion about the "agenda" of the QEA. Our agenda is simple:

- A modern and reasonable parental leave policy that allows Quincy educators to care for our newest family members just as we care every day for the 10,000 QPS students and their families.
- Enough support and preparation time for Quincy educators to help all QPS these students and their families to navigate an increasingly complex world and all of the issues that surround them on a daily basis.
- Compensation that will help recruit and retain educators. We hear daily about the crisis in education. Quincy choosing to remain uncompetitive becomes an emergency for educators as we struggle to plug the holes created by high staff turnover throughout the school year. Burnout, low morale and increasing turnover all have one thing in common: they are bad for our students.

The reality in Quincy is that the Mayor is the only person who controls whether Quincy students attend schools which are fully staffed and funded or continue to receive less than what they deserve. Demand Mayor Koch invest in Quincy Public Schools and give our students the education they deserve!

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