

AEA Team Talk

Labor Management Newsletter 2002-2003 Vol. 7

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Discipline Grant Recipients



Two schools have been selected to receive grants for the 2003-04 school year in order to work on school-wide discipline issues. The two recipients were Hazelwood Elementary and Washington Elementary.

Hazelwood Elementary plans to use the grant funds to address discipline issues identified on their recent School Improvement Plan's parent and student surveys. The staff will be working to address the needs of students concerning bullying and recess problems. They plan to create a more supportive learning environment by developing alternative behaviors for unstructured areas such as the playground and hallways. They will also be implementing a program that teaches respect and cooperation. All of this will be done with support from the Hazelwood community.

Washington Elementary will work on building community, increasing acceptance of diversity and creating a positive, nurturing, safe learning environment for their students. They will kick off next year with school wide training on respect building activities. Once school begins they will hold a school-wide Respect Day giving students the opportunity to interact with different teachers in an effort to build a respectful school-wide community.

Legislative Session Extended



This year's regular legislative session ended without passing a budget. A special session will start on May 12th in order to decide on the state's budget and revenue sources. Since there are too many unknowns and too many possible negative impacts that could come from the state budget the district felt it was necessary to take precautionary steps. In order to protect the funds that the district has available they have placed a moratorium on all expenditures with the exception of emergencies and accounts that must be used now or the funds will be lost. The moratorium will be in place at least as long as it takes the state legislators to produce a budget.

This moratorium does not include items such as tuition reimbursement for classes, workshops, conferences, or continuing education credits. It also does not affect monetary items that are included in the negotiated agreement such as payment for optional time and other stipends.



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Serving the ESL Population

The Auburn School District has experienced a large growth in ESL students. The growth surpassed anticipated numbers and has created concerns about the number of qualified staff members to teach ESL. Currently the ratio used to determine certificated staff is 50 to 1. If a building has 50 students they will be assigned a 1.0 full time teacher, 26-49 students is a .6 teacher and 1-25 is a .4 teacher. Each certificated teacher is then assigned a Para Educator to help with the instruction. In many cases there is more than one classified staff member assigned.

The ESL population seems to have stabilized. The district is now working on refining the program, providing additional curriculum and staff training.

Bargaining Update

The two bargaining teams have met to discuss problem statements for this bargain. After mutual understanding of each problem was obtained, the interests of each team was then shared. At the next meeting the bargaining teams will continue to share interests and then move on to brainstorming possible solutions.



Groundbreaking Ceremony for High School #4

The groundbreaking ceremony for the new high school will be held May 30th. The ceremony will begin at 2 PM at the high school site, 28900 124th Ave SE.

Supplemental Salary Committee



The Supplemental Salary Committee made a recommendation to LMT as to how future salaries for positions covered in the agreement between the Advisors and Coaches of the Auburn Education Association (AC/AEA) will be determined. They also made recommendations for improving the process of placement and/or movement on the supplemental salary schedules. The Labor Management Team will study their recommendations in order to bargain a fair contract for the AC/AEA members.



What is the Labor Management Team?

The Labor Management Team (LMT) is a group of District and Association members that collaboratively work to solve problems relating to working conditions.

Association Members

Sue Laib, Carolyn Olson, Steve Homfeldt, Tom McDermott, and Mary O'Brien, Puget Sound UniServ Representative.

District Members

Tim Cummings, Kip Herren, Debbie Helm, Mike Newman, and Mark Boynton.

Issues for the LMT should be taken to your AEA Building Rep. The Rep will take your concern to the next Rep Council meeting on May 19th. The next LMT meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28th.