



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 20, 2007
6:00 p.m. – Board Conference Room

Communications Committee Closure Statements 9.20.07

Education Association of Pekin members present:

Jim Drainer Donna Brantley Linda VanDyke
Vickie Koch Cathy Powell (absent) Jamie Dinkins

Board of Education/District Administration members present:

Chris Spanos Karen Frazier Linda Harris
Bill Link Stan Fitzanko
Marc Fogal Matt Green

The meeting was convened at 6:00 p.m. and co-facilitated by Board President Spanos and Association President Drainer. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Discussion Items

A. Introductions

All Communications Committee members were introduced.

B. Approval of Prior Month's Minutes

Those present approved the August 16, 2007 closure statements. Approved monthly closure statements are electronically archived at

http://www.pekin.net/pekin108/superintendents_office/boe_committees/communication/index.html

C. Committee Members and Meeting Schedule

1. Association President Drainer shared that the WEB Chairperson and other WEB members will be the Association's representatives on the Communication Committee.
2. Association President Drainer and Superintendent Link shared that if there were no topics to discuss at the monthly Communications Committee meeting, the meeting would be canceled. Members will be informed by Superintendent Link by email of a cancellation by Tuesday of the week that the meeting is scheduled.

D. District Hiring Practices and Procedures

DHR Harris shared with the Communication Committee membership the standardized hiring procedures that were developed school year 2005-2006. As the district searches for the best applicants for the different openings, these procedures are designed to provide consistency in the hiring and interviewing of all candidates.

E. Work in Progress Flowchart

Communications Committee reviewed the Work in Progress Flowchart and how it is used to consider items for Communications Committee agenda.

F. For Resolution Items

1. Memorandum of Understanding – Article VII: Compensation and Fringe Benefits
 - a. Superintendent Link and Association President Drainer shared that the following section of the previous contract was accidentally omitted from the current contract. It was discussed that the intent during negotiations was to not delete this section. The Communication Committee members agreed it should be included in the current contract. The Board of Education will vote on the Memorandum of Understanding at the October 15th board meeting.

ARTICLE VII: COMPENSATION AND FRINGE BENEFITS

M. TUITION

6. The District will pay eligible teachers \$100 for each credit hour of professional development academy course work completed. Eligible employees are defined as those in the BA30 or MA30 columns of the salary schedule and not in a degree program. Credit hours shall be defined as one (1) hour completed for every fifteen (15) clock hours of direct instruction.
 7. The District will pay a stipend equivalent to \$56 to any support staff employee required to take District provided course work outside regular work hours.
2. Clarification of Individual Evaluation Meetings
 - a. Association President Drainer brought a meeting clarification to the Communications Committee. The members discussed the question and determined the appropriate response to the question.
 - i. Are the individual meetings that a principal and an employee have regarding evaluation to be counted as one of the 21 required meetings identified in the contract?

1. No, evaluation of a school district employee is required by IL School Code (Article 24A. Evaluation of Certified Employees), and a condition of his or her employment.
3. Change Meeting Date in November
 - a. The Communications Committee will meet on Wednesday, November 14, 2007 at 6:00 since there is a conflict with the original date.

Pending Resolution Items

None

FYI [For Your Information] Topics

1. Unit Clarification

- a. Superintendent Link and Association President Drainer shared that the district has received the Unit Clarification ruling from the Illinois Education Labor Relations Board regarding the removal of the two business office positions from the association. It was determined that these two positions do handle confidential information and should be removed from the association. The resolution will be posted on-line with the 2007-2012 contract.

2. Association Representative (AR) Information Sharing

- a. Association President Drainer shared that the Association Representatives Meetings that are held monthly will be set up as training and information sharing sessions. The ARs will learn about the different systems and processes in the district and will share this information with the membership in each building.

3. Communications Committee Minutes Approval Process

- a. The minutes will be sent to all Communication Committee members following the meeting. Each member will have one week to notify DHR Harris about corrections or changes. If there are no content corrections, the minutes will be approved and posted on the website the following week.

BOE Agenda Review

Board President Spanos reviewed the agenda for the September 24, 2007 BOE meeting.

The next Communications Committee meeting will be Thursday, October 11, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.