

12.07.20 SEA Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Noreen Harnett, Mark Janick, Shannon Picard, Kevin Courchesne, Suzanne Wosko, Kelly Myers, Jay Efland, Chris Cosma

Carolyn Liss is stepping down for the year as a Spaulding building rep for personal reasons.

Membership Update: CEA is getting involved with the high school teacher that is trying to drop out of SEA, CEA and NEA. If they try to drop during the year it is hard to do as we are paying for them for CEA and NEA dues. August is the only drop date.

Chris Cosma- All set on the books currently.

Kevin Courchesne- Just put MOA onto the website with the contract; www.suffieldteachers.org on the document page.

Substitutes- Nothing we can do about the shortage, but don't let that stop you from taking a sick or personal day.

Budget Proposal Meeting- tonight 12/07/20 during the board meeting.

Tuesday Meetings- You have to stay-teachers shouldn't have meetings except for 1 Tuesday a month. They are meant to be teacher time only, not struct

Special ed support Teachers need to bring it up to their building administration if students who get support lose their support because the paras are being pulled when teachers are gone. Chris C recommends using email so that your concerns are documented.

Additional Prep- Make sure everybody is getting extra 40 min prep per MOA. High school is the only one that is questioning and having trouble. Noreen and Jay will check with building administration to make sure this is happening. Duties are being covered.

Calendar Days before Christmas Break- What the BOE discussed and what they voted on is different. December 23 is moved to June. BOE said that they will not keep changing the schedule. The Governor may close down schools the week of Christmas. As of right now we are going to school December 21 & December 22.

Quarantine vs Sick Days- We have to take sick days- stop trying to work from home. It's ok to be sick. Don't over stress. Teachers are trying to do it all. The subs need to sub if they are being paid to sub.

Teacher Wellness- We need to reach out to other teachers. Check in with fellow teachers and friends in your buildings.

Results of Last Week's Meeting:

- June days are not the same
- Teachers do not feel like we are being treated like professionals.
- Not using metrics anymore but don't know why?
- Changing back and forth is hard on teachers.

Possible Solutions: send out a survey that was sent out in another district. Sending out to teachers and collecting data. Jay Efland will reconstruct this survey and we'll get it out to staff before the holidays. Then take that data and form a response from ALL of the SEA to the board and TVT.

Extra- high school is keeping online communication journals with parents. A lot of stress around continually adding tasks for teachers. The teachers are being asked to do more principals and the leadership's message is "Do more." with less time. Expectations for teachers are high during this pandemic. We have to take care of ourselves.

10 Minute Meetings: Mark will send out the survey that Jay E rewrites this week. Mark will be on a ZOOM from 5-7 PM on Wednesday December 16 to answer any questions about the survey or answer any questions.