SPECIAL CONTRACT UPDATE

February 16, 2018

LEA President, David Hockaday

The Lansing Board of Education voted to impose a contract on the Lansing Educational Assistants at its Board meeting on Thursday evening, and rejected the option of going back to the Bargaining table to resolve differences between the two sides.

To say we are disappointed would be an understatement.

The contract the district imposed on the Educational Assistants was overwhelmingly rejected by our members. By taking this action, the board has shown it's unwilling to listen to the concerns that caused our members to reject the terms of that contract. Instead of working collaboratively to resolve our differences at the bargaining table, the board has taken a heavy handed approach that will create ill will toward the employer. That is not a positive learning environment for our students, and it will not sit well with many community members.

In response to concerns about low wages and other economic issues expressed by more than a dozen LEA bargaining unit members and supporters at the board meeting, the board also passed a motion to offer re-opening negotiations on economics for eight weeks beginning January 31, 2019.

We believe we could've reached a mutual agreement on economics and other important issues with continued negotiations now instead of having these issues settled by imposition. However, we will carefully look at the boards offer to reopen economics next year. Reopening negotiations could result in positive and negative changes. The boards unwillingness to provide a fair settlement now gives us no reassurance that their stance would change in a year.

Therefore we will be changing our governing board meeting scheduled at Gardner for 4:15 to a General Membership Meeting In the West Cafeteria. Please plan to attend if possible and stay tuned for further updates!!!!!!

Please enjoy your negotiated holiday weekend.

TENTATIVE AGREEMENT UPDATE: *February 13, 2018*

LEA President, David Hockaday

The Lansing School District has added our tentative agreement, that was voted down by the membership back on the agenda as a new business item.

While they are not using the word of imposing, they are using the word implement.

This meeting will be held at the administration building to start promptly at 6:30 PM with an opportunity for public comment concerning this issue to start the meeting.

Our LEA leadership team discussed this tonight and wanted to make sure you were aware of it and to make sure you would have the availability to express your concerns. We will be sending out to members in good standing an email to your home email address with the exact wordage on the agenda. Your attendance at this meeting helps put a human face to the issues for the LSD board members as they ponder their decisions. Stay tuned

TENTATIVE AGREEMENT UPDATE: *February 8, 2018*

LEA President, David Hockaday

While we have not heard anything new from the district at this time. We continue to monitor and communicate to try to reach a fair resolution.

Tonight's board meeting is a informational study session and does not have us on the Agenda. Although they do have the ability to add things to the agenda at the meeting we believe that is not likely.

Stay tuned.

TENTATIVE AGREEMENT UPDATE: *February 2, 2018*

LEA President, David Hockaday To all concerned, Lansing school district board says no to meeting in close session with LEA leadership. Unfortunately so as we continue to try to get a fair and equitable contract

TENTATIVE AGREEMENT UPDATE: *February 1, 2018*

LEA President, David Hockaday To all concerned, It has been a long start of the week with decisions and discussions about our contract. At this point the district has put us back on the agenda but in a close meeting to have further discussions and questions about our contract. Stay tuned and I expect more information soon.

No good news does not necessarily mean bad news.

TENTATIVE AGREEMENT UPDATE: January 27, 2018

LEA President, David Hockaday LEA was pulled from the agenda of Thursday night's School Board meeting. Your LEA leadership along with the assistance of the MEA has requested a closed session with the School Board or to return to the bargaining table to get you a fair and equitable contract.

We have heard no response as of yet from the Lansing School District administration.

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TENTATIVE AGREEMENT UPDATE: January 24, 2018

LEA President, David Hockaday

After a long couple weeks I wanted to make you aware that the vote of our tentative agreement was rejected overwhelmingly by our membership.

Your Executive Committee met directly after the Elections Committee gave us the information so that we can move forward expeditiously and try to get you a fair and equitable contract.

Stay tuned for news as we move forward. Remember united we stand and divided we fall.