

Support Staff Council Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2015

The *Support Council* met on April 23, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Central Office conference room. Council members present were: Cindy Canter, Jennifer Maynard, Michelle Hollingsworth, Michael Dunaway, Jo Willis, Lisa Sieberkrob, Melissa Curry, Ed Eary, Katy Swinford, Lisa Evans and Richard Harden.

Welcome:

Mr. Harden called the meeting to order and welcomed all Support Council members as well as Ms. Karen Barden, Director of Food Service. Notation was taken that Mr. Harden will be discussing Employee Code of Conduct at the next Support Council meeting.

Communications:

The communication section centered on the following:

- Staffing for the 2015-16 School Year: Due to the 2015-16 fiscal year funding not being final until after the May 15th deadline to notify employees of contract renewals for 2015-16, it is expected that there will be a limited number of pink slips given to current employees. It is quite likely that many of those employees will eventually be re-hired. More than 80% percent of the District's expenditures are for staffing costs.
- 2015-16 Salary Schedules: A minimum 2% raise will be reflected on all 2015-16 salary schedules. In addition to this, approval is expected for instructional assistant and food service pay rates to be increased to the level of custodial salaries. Adding a pay differential for second shift custodial staff will also be recommended to the Board. In addition, changes to the Certified Salary Schedule, allowing our District to be more competitive with the wages offered in surrounding counties, will also be recommended.
- Under consideration is a recommendation is the establishment of Paraprofessional Teaching Assistant positions. These positions will require a Bachelor's degree. A job description is under development.
- Free & Reduced (F/R) Lunch Application: A completely reformatted F/R lunch application will be used for the 2015-16 school year. Federal regulations require that students must pay full price until a completed F/R lunch Application has been received and approved. Unfortunately, approval for a Free and Reduced Program in a different Kentucky school district does not transfer to Jessamine County. Due to the number of applications, the beginning of the school year is the period that takes the longest for the applications to be approved. Ms. Barden has a plan to establish communication with principals that will convey ways that will streamline the application process and provide for collection of the F/R applications during beginning-of -the-year open houses.
- Cafeteria Food Waste Concerns: There are many regulations, which do result in some unavoidable food waste, that must be adhered to by cafeteria staff. Mrs. Barden is constantly looking for options that will allow for less food waste while at the same time adhere to the strict laws and safety practices. For younger students, teachers can help by discussing choices students have in selecting various menu items. It may also be possible is to have a table set up by the cashier that students can place unwanted milk/juice on that will be monitored by the cafeteria staff.
- Bus Garage: Question: Why can't the field trip rate be the regular hourly wage that the driver currently receives? It seems that surrounding counties pay drivers their regular rate for field trips. Answer: Surrounding counties that pay a driver's regular pay for field trips will not pay for down time during the trip. Jessamine County's field trip rate does pay for down time. A raise in the field trip rate will be recommended for 2015-2016.
- Last Day of School: May 27th will be a half day instead of a full day.

Other:

- If there are questions or issues that need to be discussed at the next *Support Council* meeting, please email those to Richard Harden in advance at: richard.harden@jessamine.kyschools.us.

The next meeting of the *Support Council* will be **Thursday, May 21 at 9:00 a.m.**