

# Support Staff Council Meeting Minutes

## December 11, 2014

The *Support Council* met on December 11, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in the Central Office conference room. Council members present were: Peggy Patterson, Ed Eary, Katy Swinford, Don Richardson, Michelle Hollingsworth, Lisa Evans, Gail Carroll, Robin Sontag, Cindy Canter, Patrice Jones and Richard Harden.

### **Welcome:**

Mr. Harden called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. A list of Support Staff Council Members for the year beginning January 1, 2015 was provided to everyone in attendance. Alternate Support Council members are always welcome and are encouraged to attend the meetings.

### **Communications:**

The communication section centered on the following:

- **Budgets:** School Districts have been informed of a reduction in funding for the current 2014-15 fiscal year. The State's budget shortfall causing this reduction could possibly affect next year's budget as well. As of the current date, mandated raises of at least 2% must also be added to next year's (2015-16) budget.
- **Retirement Systems:** The Kentucky Teachers Retirement System (KTRS) and the County Employee Retirement System (CERS) are two completely separate entities, each having governing bodies and specific rules and regulations. Both retirement systems are facing serious financial crises due (primarily) to years of underfunding by the Kentucky's legislature. Hopefully, the General Assembly will address the very serious issue of underfunded public retirement systems during the 2015 legislative session.
- **More Retirement:** The two retirement systems treat pay for unused sick leave (at retirement) somewhat differently. Under both systems (upon retirement) an individual is paid by the school system 30% of remaining sick leave at the individual's current rate of pay. Under KTRS, that unused sick pay becomes part of the figuring for (and increases) the individual's lifetime retirement annuity. However, under CERS rules, the pay for unused sick leave is not included in the retirement calculation and does not add to the individual's annuity. Please note that there are counselors available at both KTRS and CERS who can assist anyone with specific retirement questions and inquiries.
- **Salary Schedules:** Staff members would like to inquire on the possibility of the salary schedule being changed to include additional years above and beyond the 30-year experience level. Mr. Harden will investigate this inquiry.
- **Snow Day Make-Up For Classified Staff:** All Support Staff employees must make up any time missed due to a non-traditional instruction snow day. Under current law, payment cannot be made to staff members for services not rendered. Employees should contact their Principal or Supervisor for specific guidance on making up lost hours/days.
- **Health Fair Feedback Requested:** Approximately 200 people attended the Health Fair this year. Please contact Patrice Jones at [Patrice.jones@jessamine.kyschools.us](mailto:Patrice.jones@jessamine.kyschools.us) with any comment, suggestions, or concerns you may have that could help with planning future health fairs.

### **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](mailto:richard.harden@jessamine.kyschools.us).

The next meeting of the *Support Council* will be **Thursday, January 22 at 9:00 a.m.**