

Membership  
Update



January 9, 2013

From the President...

## Pension Lawsuit Update

On December 18, 2012, Judge Taft-Carter met with attorneys and ordered mediation. The mediation will be overseen by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service which is an independent Federal agency.

This process will be extremely difficult as there are nine parties to the suit who all need to agree to the same terms. Ultimately, the Governor, Speaker, Senate President and General Treasurer, Gina Raimondo will all need to agree for a settlement to be reached.

A trial date will be scheduled most likely in May in the event mediation is unsuccessful.

## Teacher Workload Survey

At the last building delegate meeting, delegates were asked to distribute a short survey regarding teacher workload and teacher access to adequate student instructional materials.

It is imperative that every member take a few minutes to complete the 9 question survey and return the completed survey to your delegate by **Friday, January 18, 2013**.

## Payroll Taxes

This week's paychecks will reflect a decrease in your take home pay. This is due to the expiration of the two percent Social Security tax cut that was implemented for 2011 and extended for 2012.

Effective January 1, 2013, the Social Security tax rate was restored to 6.2%.

If you have any questions, please contact the Union office.

## Sandy Hook ES Donation

Thank you to everyone who generously donated toward the December 20th Dress Down Day in support of the victims' families from Sandy Hook Elementary School.

Our combined effort with the district raised over \$5,000. The donation will be forwarded with a joint letter from Superintendent Lusi and myself on behalf of our district.

## Reminders....

- ◆ **Retirement Sick Leave Payout:** Any teacher whose intention is to retire effective the last day of the 2012-13 academic year should notify the Office of Human Resources prior to **January 31, 2013** in order to be eligible for the unused sick leave payout. Please refer to Article 4-8.1 of our contract for complete details on the sick leave payout eligibility requirements.
- ◆ **Preference Sheets:** Preference sheets were emailed to all teachers on January 3. Deadline for returning preference sheets is Friday, January 18, 2013.
- ◆ **Next Membership Meeting:** March 13, 2013, 4:00 p.m. at the PTU Office.

From the President...

**Teacher Evaluation Deadlines**

<b>JANUARY</b>	Informal Obs & Collection of Ad'l Evidence Begin Mid Year Conferences (MOY) for full year courses	Continue <b>January 15</b>	Begin Mid Year Conf (MOY) All Administrators (who will serve as Evaluators) are certified in the FFTPS by ETS	January 15 <b>January 31</b>
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	Complete formal Observations Complete MOY (full yr courses)	<b>February 1</b> February 15	Complete Announced Visits/Continue Unannounced visits & collection of additional evidence Complete MOY	<b>February 1</b> February 15
<b>MARCH/APRIL</b>	Informal Obs & Collection of Additional Evidence	<b>Continue</b>	Conclude Unannounced visits & collection of additional evidence	<b>March 1—April 30</b>

**APRIL**

Begin MOY (sem 2 course)

**Wk of April 1**

<b>APRIL/MAY</b>	Begin Review /Analyze PGG/ SLO Data Conclude Observations	April 19 <b>April 30</b>	Begin Review /Analyze PGG/ SLO Data	April 19
<b>MAY/JUNE</b>	Begin Summative Conferences	May 1	Begin Summative Conferences	May 1
<b>JUNE</b>	Complete Final Ratings Review/Reflect/ Finalize Professional Growth Plan and PD/Planning for New School Year	<b>June 7</b> June 14	Complete Final Ratings Review/Reflect/ Finalize Professional Growth Plan and PD/Planning for New School Year School Year	<b>June 7</b> June 14

The aforementioned deadlines have come from the RIIC handbook and although both teachers and administrators are finding difficulty meeting this deadline please know that careful consideration to ensure that teachers and administrators are provided sufficient time to demonstrate their best work, show progress, attain goals, etc; and to ensure that evaluators are provided sufficient time to complete evaluations rich in data and evidence has been taken. We understand that each building varies in terms of circumstances, resources, and capacity. Thus, if an administrator discovers that s/he may have difficulty meeting the deadlines below, s/he will notify the appropriate Zone Executive Director immediately to discuss adjustments to the timeline as well as other supports that may be necessary. All teachers and administrators are strongly advised to review the official Teacher/Administrator Handbooks thoroughly **for additional information regarding specific strategies, details, etc.**