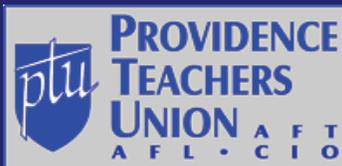


Membership
Update



January 14, 2014

From the President...

Negotiations Update

I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday season. As we begin the new year, one of our main focuses will be negotiating a successor agreement. Our current contract is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2014. Our goal is to present a tentative agreement to the membership before the end of the school year.

Preliminary discussions with Superintendent Lusi and her team have been positive and encouraging. I am pleased to report that Rob Weil from the American Federation of Teachers has agreed to provide his support with our upcoming negotiations. Rob has been deeply involved in negotiating several teacher contracts that have been nationally recognized as innovative.

As we proceed through this process, I will be engaging building delegates and the membership for feedback and recommendations. Thank you to those teachers who have already communicated their ideas and suggestions. Your suggestions will be shared with the PTU's negotiating team for consideration.

Educator Evaluation Survey Conducted by RIDE

This week RIDE emailed a survey to educators across the state requesting feedback with respect to educator evaluations. The feedback will directly impact model refinements for the 2014-15 school year.

It is highly encouraged that members complete the survey and provide feedback, especially as it relates to the use of SLOs in calculating a teacher's final effectiveness rating. For those of you who did not receive the email from RIDE, below is the link to the teacher survey. Please note the deadline for completing the survey is Monday, February 3, 2014. **This is your chance to tell RIDE how you feel!**

Teacher survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/13-14MYTE>

Respectfully,

Maribeth Calabro
Vice President At-Large

From the President...

Extended Time Arbitration

As previously reported, last school year the PTU filed a Union grievance on behalf of teachers who worked at Pleasant View Elementary, Alvarez High School and Mt. Pleasant High School who were required to work beyond the contractual work day without compensation.

After six full days of arbitration hearings, a settlement was reached with the City of Providence.

Affected teachers will receive two settlement payments. The first payment was issued on December 23, 2014 and the second payment will be issued prior to the end of the school year.

I want to thank the building delegates and the teachers from Pleasant View, Alvarez High School and Mt. Pleasant High School who provided testimony at the arbitration hearing on behalf of their faculty.

2014 Hiring & Transfer

The Criterion-Based Hiring Committee is scheduled to review this year's Hiring and Transfer timeline as well as CBH policies and procedures at its January 28, 2014 meeting. Once finalized, the information will be shared with teachers and administrators via PPSD email accounts.

Once this year's CBH timeline and procedures are approved, delegates will be asked to begin the interview committee selection process. In accordance with the CBH Policy and Procedures, two (2) teachers along with the building administrator serve on the hiring committee. If more than two teachers are interested in serving on their school's interview team, the members will be selected by staff vote.

If you are interested in serving on the interview committee, see your building delegate.

Union Grievance — Salary Step Placement for Newly Hired Teachers

The Office of Human Resources has denied newly hired probationary teachers with full previous service credit on the Teacher's Basic Salary Schedule (Appendix A-1). A Union grievance has been filed on behalf of the affected teachers.

Any newly hired probationary teacher who has been affected by the Office of Human Resources' denial of full previous teaching service should contact the Union office and speak with a field representative as soon as possible.

From the President...

Golden Apple Recipient



Jennifer Lynn Hudson (center) pictured with her TAs (Leah Rich and Robert Lomba)

Congratulations to Jennifer Lynn Hudson for her recent Golden Apple award!

Jennifer is a Special Education teacher at Roger Williams Middle School.

In addition to the Golden Apple Award, Jennifer also received a \$250 grant for her classroom from Hasbro.



Reminders...

◆ **Membership Meetings**

Membership meetings will be held on the following dates. Please note that all meetings will be held at the Union office and will begin at 4:00 p.m.

March 12, 2014

April 9, 2014

May 14, 2014

◆ **Sick Leave Retirement Payment**

Teachers who are contemplating retiring this school year, are reminded of the unused sick leave payment provisions in Article 4-8.1. Please note that the deadline for retirement notification to Human Resources to be eligible for the 50% payment of unused sick leave is **January 31, 2014**. For specific eligibility requirements, please refer to Article 4-8.1 of the contract or contact your field representative at the Union office.