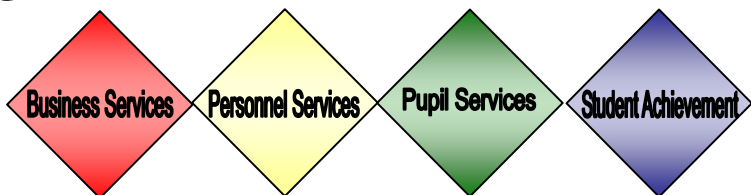




School District of New London



MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Bill Fitzpatrick
District Administrator
Date: June, 2011

Continuing Negotiations

On Friday, June 3, the NLEA met for about 1.5 hrs. with an estimated 75% of the membership attending. Kim Jordan outlined the changes and explained the recommendation of the committee. The WEAC UNISERVE director, Hank Krokosky, was invited to the meeting by the NLEA Executive Committee to explain where Act 10 stood, the Supreme Ct. case, Joint Finance and the budget, etc. It was reported that some of the proposal was misrepresented to the group who were seeing it for the first time. When the floor was opened to discussion and questions, it soon became clear that a positive result wasn't in the cards. A secret straw poll confirmed that the proposal would have been overwhelmingly defeated. NLEA Leadership requested a meeting on Monday, June 6 to discuss the meeting and to seek further clarification and modification to the Board offer.

An initial discussion with the NLEA lead negotiator was conducted on Monday. On Tuesday, a meeting with the lead negotiator and the new NLEA President, Jennifer Holewinski was held. It was reiterated that we need to get beyond counting minutes of everything. People need to be held to professional standards. The important work that educators do cannot be distilled to punching the clock. With that said, when students are expected to be in school, there is also an expectation that staff is actively engaging them and providing the guidance and supervision necessary to teach them and to keep them safe. A slight modification to the workday language was proposed. The remainder of the proposal including control of the operational and economic factors necessary to meet the new budget parameters remained unchanged.

A second meeting with the NLEA membership has been scheduled by the union and will be conducted on Thursday, June 9. The NLEA Executive Committee and WEAC UNISERVE Director have endorsed the approval of the one-year extension. A vote of the membership is expected prior to the Board meeting on Monday, June 13. Therefore, I have included the approval of a one-year contract for the 2011-2012 school year with the NLEA on the

agenda should the proposal be ratified by the membership.

School to Manufacturing Partnerships Emerging

We have been working to cultivate school-to-work partnerships with local employers to assist with connecting talented students with career opportunities within our community. Dave Thiel, Executive Director of the Waupaca County Economic Development Corp., and I have established emerging relationships with four area manufacturing firms. They are Neumetal, Wohlt Cheese, Curwood Bemis RE&D, and JBC. Several students have been connected with these companies for experiences during the summer months. I have included some information about the program for you.

Teacher and Leader Effectiveness

We have completed our first year of evaluating all of our teaching staff each and every year. We have incorporated the research base behind effective instruction linked to our work over the past three years with Dr. Jane Pollock. Although this has been a daunting task, it is perhaps the most important work we do. We should be about ensuring that every student has the very best teacher possible.

Nearly every school district is trying to find the most effective way of accomplishing that feat. As an extension of our work in this area we will be joining forces with others in the CESA 6 region to collaboratively develop a regional response to teacher and leader effectiveness. I have included a document outlining the scope of this project that has a direct link to the work we have done thus far and to our strategic direction to build the capacity of our staff (teachers and principals).

Student Travel Request Submitted by Music Dept.

The Music Department submitted a request to make a New York City trip available to students for next spring. Music students traveled to Orlando Florida this year. The rotation schedule is attached.