

SEA WAVES

Negotiations

Newly Elected School Board Members Invited to Speak at SEA Rep Council:

Bill Daniels and Scott Blough placed first and second respectively in the November School Board election. Both responded yes when invited to the November 12th SEA Rep Council meeting to address their goals as new board trustees. Blough and Daniels will be sworn in at the December 9th school board meeting. They immediately face challenging issues including the financial right sizing of the district, potential school closures, along with the search for a permanent Superintendent.

SEA would like to thank Trustees Arleigh Kidd and Jeanne Davis for their years of service on the school board. As prior educators in the district, both were passionate advocates for our students, programs and employees.

Negotiations Survey:

The SEA Bargaining Team will be meeting with the District after the holidays to begin negotiations on a full contract. A contract survey will be sent to all members before formal negotiations begin in January. As in prior years, we will send surveys only to personal email addresses, not through school emails. Your SEA reps have received a roster of teachers at each site which includes personal email addresses that have been previously submitted to SEA. Please update (if needed) and confirm your personal email. We need each school roster returned to SEA by December 5th. If you want to participate in future surveys, please verify your personal email information with your site rep(s) as soon as possible.

Catastrophic Leave Bank Update:

There are currently 3 requests for catastrophic leave that have been approved by the District and SEA. An employee may receive up to 50 donated sick leave days. As of today, we have received 159 donated days, with a potential for using up to 150 of the days to cover our current catastrophic requests. If we receive another request, we won't have enough banked sick leave days to cover a 4th request.

There were many reasons we switched from requesting donations per individual to developing a bank. There are over 800 certificated employees that qualify for the bank. *If everyone submitted one day, we would not need to ask for more days for several years.* Also, we can keep the confidentiality of the employee/family catastrophic illness by using a bank.

If you have not submitted a sick leave day and you are a permanent employee, please consider helping your fellow colleagues by using the form on the back of this newsletter to submit a day. If you do not have 10 accumulated sick leave days, you may still complete the form and one donated day will be taken next August when all employees receive 10 new sick days at the beginning of the school year. Thank you to all who have donated.