

Para Committee Meeting 3/31/10

Present: Emily Bare-JCNEMS, Joanie Drimmel-ACCS-Int., Marlene Jolly-Jeff West ES, Sherry Bingham Jeff West HS, Dana Holtmeyer-McLouth, Linda Aldridge, and Robin Courtney.

Absent: Rhonda Denning, Heidi Kirby-ACCCHS, and Tammy VanDyne-McLouth

Guest: Lisa Morando

Peri Levin will no longer be on the committee since she has resigned her position with Keystone.

Linda Aldridge went over the current budget concerns from the state cuts to aid and the recommendations she will be making to the Board in order to cut approximately \$260,000 from the Keystone budget for next year.

Lisa distributed handouts about the para benefit survey. The committee recommends no benefit changes to the products being offered to paras next year based on the results of the survey.

The Para Committee was informed of the Benefits Committee decision to recommend to the Board that the paras be dropped from the Keystone health insurance group after one more year of being offered to take the health insurance; all paras taking the insurance in the 2010 enrollment will be grandfathered into the group.

Lisa handed out information requested by the committee concerning para weekly hour cuts versus holiday cuts. The committee unanimously agreed to recommend to the board that they cut 5 holidays from the para contracts next year instead of cutting weekly hours in order to save approximately \$10,000 in the budget next year.

Linda heard communications from the districts.

1. Can the administration consider changing the amount allowed for reading/video and Infinitec classes so that more hours could be earned that way? Answer: Linda will talk with Jeanette and Rhonda about the policy.
2. How come paras have to get 20 hours? Answer: It is state mandated.
3. The Infinitec site is difficult to use and paras aren't given actual time spent taking the class, only the Infinitec allotted time. Can that be changed to actual time spent? Linda will discuss it with Jeanette and Rhonda.
4. Keystone used to pay up to 20 hours of inservice attended or done outside of the classroom with prior permission. How come that is no longer done? Paras feel they shouldn't have to use personal time to do the inservice without reimbursement. Answer: It isn't in the budget anymore and Paras should be learning from their supervising teacher so that the inservice directly correlates with the student needs. Linda directed Robin to put together a para inservice report to show how most paras are accomplishing their required hours.
5. Can a para turn in application inservice next year from knowledge inservice this year? Answer: No, the state requires that it fall within the same cycle year.

The next meeting is April 14, 2010 at 3:45 at the Keystone Oskaloosa office.