

## Para Committee Meeting 4/14/10

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

**Absent:** Rhonda Denning

Heidi Kirby has asked to be removed from the committee.

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.

A committee member asked if salary/wages were going to be cut. Linda Aldridge stated that she is not recommending salary/wage cuts for the coming budget year.

Linda Aldridge discussed the para 3.25 issue with committee members and asked them to rescind the decision to recommend to the Board to cut 5 holidays from the para contract. The committee agreed to rescind the decision based on the administrative decision to keep the standard para contracts at 31 hours. Teachers will need to schedule in such a way that paras stay at or below Board approved contract hours.

Robin Courtney distributed a report of how inservice is accomplished and the amount of inservice still needed from districts. Robin explained that the report was created Tuesday morning, April 13, 2010 and it is constantly changing as paras turn in more documentation. Discussion about the report occurred.

Linda answered last months' communications questions 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: Based on the inservice report from Robin and the belief that most para inservice should be received from the supervising teacher, the administration decided the limits would stay the same.
2. 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? Answer: The decision is that the hours allowed by Infinitec is the guideline to be used for Infinitec hours since there would be no way to verify time spent by each para. The administration understands that some people have difficulty using the site and is working with Infinitec to see if there are easier ways to set things up for registration and sign-in procedures. Keystone office staff is willing to help anyone having difficulty.

During the discussion about Infinitec some members wondered if they would be able to use Infinitec for blood borne pathogens and confidentiality inservice again next year since the site keeps records of classes already taken. This will need to

be researched if administration wants the site to be used for it again next year.

Linda Aldridge distributed the Program Analysis of Special Education spreadsheet and explained the break down of services used and expensed by the districts.

Committee members were asked to go back to their districts and ask paras for August inservice ideas to bring back to the committee next month for discussion. Some ideas were immediately voiced and noted by Linda Aldridge.

The next meeting is May 12, 2010 at 3:45 at the Keystone Oskaloosa office.