

Hey Folks,

Once AGAIN, please allow me to update you on the never-ending saga of this contract.

- The BOE voted to table the item until the next meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup> at PS #11 at 6:00 PM. This motion was made by Ms. Sebron, seconded by Ms. Thompson, and passed by a 5-4 margin with Mr. Connors, Mr. Waterman, and Ms. Lester joining Ms. Sebron and Ms. Thompson.
- The contract was not changed from the original document that was presented to you and ratified by you in December.
- The 1.5% contribution to medical has been imposed on us by the governor. Our contract was fashioned by the arbitrator as a one year (1), beginning September 2009 –August 31, 2010. Then a three year (3) beginning September 2010 – August 31, 2013. Those terms were not changed, as such. The imposition of the 1.5% goes into effect September 2010 for the teacher and teacher assistants/aides. July 1 for secretarial staff and NCASA. Any rumors, discussions, myths, etc. that indicate otherwise are just that.
- The newest board members were endorsed by the JCEA, and only endorsed to our membership only.
- The threats made to them were only threats. We have our attorney submitting an affidavit outlining our involvement/participation in the election. Mr. Valentin has been on the Board for 8 years and Mr. Waterman received the highest vote total ever in a school board election. These threats are disenfranchising the voters of Jersey City, as well as compromising the constitutional rights of those elected to serve.
- We will have a Building Directors meeting next week to update the membership. It will also give them the opportunity to ask questions and prepare for the meeting at PS #11. We will again provide transportation as needed.
- The layoffs for the non-tenured staff: Dates of hire as well as area of certification were the determining factors. It appears the 9/1/2008 hire date was the approximate beginning.
- The non-instructional staff will be reduced according to the Civil Service regulations. We will attempt to have a representative(s) from unemployment in to assist you with the filing process. The number of retirees and cuts in programs may also impact on the return of some folks.
- Next the issue of PS #41 and their application process. Why would you apply for a job you already have? There has been reluctance on the Boards part to meet with us regarding the hours and compensation. Until we have more information we suggest not filing out anything.

Please contact us if you have any questions at [cecchini@jcea.org](mailto:cecchini@jcea.org), [tfavia@jcea.org](mailto:tfavia@jcea.org), [cecchinibob@yahoo.com](mailto:cecchinibob@yahoo.com). Rumor, innuendo, untruths, exaggerations do none of us any good.

Let's stay strong and stay united.

Thank you once again for your continued support and patience.

Stay Tuned and Stay United

Bob & Tom