



DISCUSSION NOTES

2013-2014 School Year

April 2, 2014

The Discussion Team is the body charged by ETA to comply with Indiana Code 20-29-6-7. The school employer shall discuss with the exclusive representative the following items: 1. Curriculum development and revision; 2. Selection of curricular materials; 3. Teaching methods; 4. Hiring, evaluation, promotion, demotion, transfer, assignment, and retention of certificated employees; 5. Student discipline; 6. Expulsion or supervision of students; 7. Pupil/teacher ratio; 8. Class size or budget appropriations; 9. Safety issues for students and employees in the workplace, except those items required to be kept confidential by state or federal law; 10. Hours.

Discussion Session: March 20, 2014

ETA – Mark Lichtenberg, Debbie Hartz, Robert White, Vera Emmons, Dan Hartz
EVSC – Dr. David Smith, Paul Neidig, Marsha Jackson, Pat Tuley

ETA ISSUES

Walkthroughs

ETA raised a number of questions regarding the purpose of walkthroughs, the length of the report form, the lack of expected feedback, and the lack of clearly communicated expectations surrounding walkthroughs. ETA feels that a lack of a shared understanding of the purpose of walkthroughs, from administration to the classroom, has been detrimental to all concerned. The purpose must be clearly articulated in order for the value of walkthroughs to be realized. This conversation ended without a clear purpose or expectations of a walkthrough being determined. This issue will be revisited.

Energy Policy

ETA asked for a status report on the EVSC energy policy. The EVSC reported that they are on track to reduce the cost of energy by about \$355,000.

Tracking Communications with Students

ETA asked if teachers were required to keep track of the details of all communications with students, such as recording the dates that students were told the due date of a particular assignment. The EVSC replied that teachers are not expected to keep track of every direction given to students, but that administrators may request detailed information in an effort to support teachers when complaints are registered. ETA encourages its members to maintain detailed and accurate records of individual communications with students, parents, colleagues and administrators.

Virtual Academy Responsibilities

ETA requested that prior to the acceptance of a position at the Virtual Academy, the teachers should be made aware of all additional responsibilities.

Length of School Day

ETA asked if the EVSC was investigating lengthening the teacher day. The EVSC said it had been discussed internally but further discussion with various stakeholder groups, including teachers, was needed prior to a decision being made.

PD Specialists

ETA asked if the PD Specialists were required to evaluate teachers. The EVSC indicated they would get back to us.

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