

CEA

Coloma Education Association – Encouraging Excellence

July 20, 2022

Dear Member,

The PN Bargaining Team came to a tentative agreement with Coloma Community Schools on Wednesday afternoon, July 20th. A ratification meeting will be held on Monday, July 25, at 4:00 pm at the High School Media Center. The meeting will begin with a presentation of the tentative agreement and an opportunity to field questions afterward. A ratification vote will take place the next day, Tuesday, July 25 between 4:00 and 5:00 pm at the High School Media Center.

The PN Team met last with the District, July 12, to present our proposal for the contract reopener. The team received the District's counter proposal today. After working through some minor language issues, both sides were able to come to an agreement. The CEA signed off on the tentative agreement, and the Coloma School Board will meet Monday evening, July 25, to formalize the agreement.

Bargaining for this year's contract started once the last school year was over, focusing on salary and benefits, working conditions, and teacher retention incentives. The deliberative start to negotiations this time around allowed the PN Team to gain an advantage with the other locals having signed off on their agreements and with the School Aid Budget having been passed.

There was a lot of mutual agreement between both parties, regarding the financials and issues addressed in negotiations. The process was respectful and amicable—thus creating a proactive bargaining environment and producing positive results. The team was able to significantly build on past precedents.

The membership has had to adapt to the changing working conditions brought on by Covid, and the PN Team was resolute in representing the interests of the full membership throughout the bargaining process. The District was receptive and acknowledged the commitment and service of our members. The PN Team and District representatives are committed to a continued working relationship in moving the District forward that prioritizes all the stakeholders, including students and staff.

At the ratification meeting on Monday, July 25, at 4:00 pm in the High School Media Center, the PN Team will recommend this tentative agreement for ratification. We will make a brief presentation and be available for questions. Voting will follow the next day.

This TA will present significant movement on the salary schedule with an emphasis on service credit in the District, presently and moving forward. We also have addressed some significant issues regarding class sizes and other working condition issues. We are confident that you will make every effort to attend the meeting this coming Monday afternoon. You can enter the media center from the east High School parking lot. See you there.

Respectfully,

CEA PN Bargaining Team

Kevin VanPeteghem

Ryan Ransom

Rebecca Roberts

Terry Sheehan