



PEA Advocate

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1 Year Contract Presented to General Membership

The Negotiations Committee, led by President George Chilmonik, presented the details of a new one year contract to a general membership meeting yesterday held at the high school's auditorium.

The highlights of the new contract, according to George, are:

- the duration of the agreement is one year in length;
- there will be no changes in medical benefits from the current contract;
- there will be no changes in the length of the school day or school year from the current contract;
- "Family Illness" Days will be replaced by "Emergency" Days;
- a new paragraph on "comp time" will be added to the contract. Comp time may be granted by the district with the prior arrival of the superintendent.
- The salary guide for 2002-03 will be increased by 4% over the salary guide from the current year. Distribution will be as follows:
 - 1.4% for increment costs;
 - 2.6% for senior service increments.
- The extra-curricular and athletic guides will both be increased by 4%;
- Hourly rates as stipulated in the current contract will be incremented by one dollar.

The rationale for a one year, instead of multiple-number of years contract, is the ability to throw all the 2.6% monies into the top of the guide. This will make the salary guide more attractive to all teachers who would like to stay in the Phillipsburg School District for their entire professional careers.

The down side to this strategy is that teachers who have not made it to the top of the guide (16+ years) will either receive only their annual step increment, or if you are a teacher on steps 11 thru 14, no increment for next year *only*.

Voting on the new contract will take place on Thursday, May 30, in each school.

Editorial Policy of the PEA Advocate

The PEA Advocate is the official newsletter of the Phillipsburg Education Association (PEA.)

The PEA is the recognized "... exclusive representative for collective negotiation concerning the terms and conditions of employment for all certificated personnel, under contract..." — Article I of PEA contract

PEA membership also encompasses the Warren County Education Association (WCEA), New Jersey Education Association (NJEA) and the National Education Association (NEA).

Editor Charles Nowalk, PHS

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<http://www.pburgea.org>

<http://www.warrencoea.org>

<http://www.njea.org>

<http://www.nea.org>

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