

Certified Negotiations Committee Report
To The School Board
April 7, 2014

The District and BEA (teacher) negotiators have met twice since the last school board meeting: March 17 April 3. Our next meeting will be mediation on April 11.

At last meeting we had some meaningful dialogue pertaining to retiree health and state mandated sick leave language. As a result, the board is preparing language for the next meeting, which we expect will result in a tentative agreement on those items.

There was discussion about data. One of the data points discussed was how the Becker teachers' total compensation settlements have compared to the state average settlements over the past 8 years. MSBA data shows that the Becker teacher settlements have been higher than the state average settlement for the past 8 years. The data is attached to this committee report on the agenda. During this conversation we discussed the district fund balance being low relative to the average across our state. the BEA stated it is a good thing for the district to have a stable fund balance.

Between March 17th and April 3rd meeting the board offered another proposal to the BEA. This was discussed. The most recent financial proposal from the school district is an increase of \$558,000 or \$3,400 per teacher total compensation, a 4% increase. The district proposal would fall within the budget. The most recent proposal from the teachers is an increase of \$1,266,000 or \$7,800 per teacher total compensation, about a 9% increase. The teachers' proposal would exceed the budget by \$700,000 and require a budget cut of that amount.

The negotiating committee would like to schedule a closed session with the school board to discuss negotiations strategy. Since all of our members are not here tonight, we are scheduling a special meeting. The time and place of the meeting will be posted when it is determined.