

Dear Washoe County School District Family,

I've so enjoyed meeting with many of you last week, and I'm happy to see such a great turnout at our Casual Conversation meetings. We are planning to schedule more of these meetings in the coming weeks so our Leadership Team and I can continue to keep in close communication with you. Thank you for taking time out of your busy summer months to come and visit with us. These meetings provide us with an invaluable opportunity to spend time together, and I appreciate it.

I have received so many good ideas and great input from the [30-60-90 survey](#), and I encourage everyone to take a moment to fill it out and send it. This survey, where you may provide your ideas about our 30-, 60-, and 90-day goals as a District, comes directly to me. You may access a link [here](#), and I look forward to hearing more about what you think as we move forward together. Also, please remember that you can always email me directly at kmcneill@washoeschools.net.

I have some important information I want to share with you regarding our health insurance: WCSD continues to monitor contract renewal negotiations between Anthem and Renown. We are encouraged that both organizations have expressed a desire to reach a new agreement as soon as possible.

Please keep in mind that while the current Anthem/Renown agreement expires on July 31, 2019, our employees are covered by Hometown Health through December 31, 2019 and can continue to access care through Renown facilities and providers. We understand how important healthcare and benefits are to our employees and their families and will provide additional information and updates as soon as they are available. I was able to speak with Renown's CEO Dr. Tony Slonim last week, and he is committed to making sure Renown employees are all aware that our employees who use Renown are covered to December 31, 2019.

If you or a family member who is covered by our insurance is told by Renown staff you are not covered after July 31, please call Risk Management immediately so we can fix the situation right away.

I have also received a number of questions about the 3% pay increase provided for during the last Legislative session. We appreciate the work of Gov. Sisolak and our state lawmakers on the issue of educational staff compensation, and the District accounted for this increase in the final amended budget approved by the Board of Trustees.

It is important to note that the funding provided was for the biennium (3% total for the two years until the next legislative session in 2021) and this type of change to compensation must be negotiated with the employee associations per NRS 288. The District and each of our five employee associations are currently engaged in contract negotiations, and as additional information becomes available updates will be provided.

In the meantime, the salary schedules have been updated to reflect the PERS increase and step increases have been implemented. Those employees eligible for a step increase should see it reflected on their July or August paycheck(s) depending on their contract (July-June or August-July). If you have questions about your compensation, please reach out to your HR Technician for assistance.

This is a hectic time of year for all of us in the WCSD family as we prepare to start the 2019-2020 school year. I know many of you are involved in neighborhood groups, faith communities, and other activities with your families, and I hope you'll help us get the word out about the beginning of classes for most of our students on Monday, August 12! We want to make sure each and every one of our 64,000 students is registered and prepared when the first day of school rolls around. Please direct your friends and family members to our website, or ask them to call their child's school for more information. If we all work together, we can support our team members who are responsible for ensuring our students are enrolled and ready to start school.

Another busy week lies ahead, and I'm attaching my schedule above. I'm especially looking forward to our Lead Teach Learn (LTL) meeting on Friday, and next Monday's New Hire Breakfast, where we are eager to welcome the newest members of our family to WCSD.

I hope you have a great week.

Take care,

Kristen

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