Pine-Richland School Board

Focused on Learning for Every Student Every Day

PREA Negotiations Update

Dear Pine-Richland Community,

The Pine-Richland School District recently received media inquiries indicating that the Pine-Richland Education Association membership has voted to authorize a strike since a successor collective bargaining agreement has not yet been attained. Neither the school administration nor the Board have received any such information from the PREA. Such a membership vote is common whenever negotiations extend beyond the term of a collective bargaining agreement. Importantly, a vote by teachers to authorize PREA leadership to call a strike does not mean that a strike has been or will be initiated. State law requires that a school district be provided not less than 48 hours prior notice that a strike will begin. No such strike notice has been received and, at present, **it remains planned that school will commence for students on Thursday, August 22**.

The Board remains committed to achieving a contract settlement that is fair to both our teachers and our community. We have worked and will continue to work diligently to that end. The Board has made multiple economic proposals during bargaining, each of which included salary increases. The Board was disappointed that, despite the Board's willingness, more negotiating sessions could not be scheduled during the summer recess than occurred. However, the Board and the PREA have agreed to schedule five more bargaining meetings during the next several weeks.

In the near future, the district will share with the community Frequently Asked Questions regarding the ongoing negotiations process. Meanwhile, the Board reiterates its request that the community maintain its mutual support of all stakeholders involved with the school district's educational program while these negotiations continue.

Sincerely,
Pine-Richland Board of Directors

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