

RTA news, February 27, 2007

1. For tax purposes: the union dues for 2006 were \$713.40.
2. School 9 received the approval for the proposal of Superintendent's Conference Day, March 23. The money is \$1,179.
3. Make-up snow days: the union is still negotiating for the 2 elementary days. The district is saying that the May Superintendent Conference Day listed as one of the make up days was a mistake. The first day is the last day of school, June 22, next, April vacation beginning with Friday, April 13. Adam Urbanski is working on using May Super Day in the morning, and possibly the morning of March Super Day. However, he recently found out that BENTE had already paid for a speaker for the March date. Therefore, he will continue to negotiate and will let us know as soon as possible. He's aware that the last thing people want is losing the April break.
4. District met with RTA leaders about new Special Ed regs and/or interpretation that will go into effect in September:
 - * No single teacher (even though dually certified) can be sp ed and gen ed teacher. Needs to have 2 teachers in the room.
 - * Integrated teachers cannot be the Consulting teacher or Resource teacher in the same room for students with CT or RT designation on IEP.
 - * All integrated classes need whole time sp ed teacher (not 1/2 time in 2 rooms).
 - * All 8:1:1 classes will become 8:1:2.
 - * Kids will be moving schools to meet needs and concentrate integrated students in a few buildings.
 - * Maximum of 10 students in integrated classrooms. (However, they said that in certain cases it could go higher.)
 - * Be careful not to have all kids "cured" when going to annual reviews because district will push this because the above will mean having to hire many new staff.
 - * The cadres have already been inserviced on new rules.
5. Rochester Teaching Academy (formerly U Lead) courses on AVATAR today for March and April. Some more will come for May. Courses are listed under RTA.