

## 8. December Report

Elementary West Officer

1. **Email Address**- My email address is [lsherman@psea.org](mailto:lsherman@psea.org) or you can call me at 610-914-4666.
2. **REA Website**- Please visit our website at [www.readingea.com](http://www.readingea.com)
3. **I Want To Attend Your Meetings**- I would like to come to each building for either your monthly building meeting or your monthly meeting with your principal. This may be a way to open up communications to all. **Please remember to send me the date and time of your building meetings. I want to pop in to as many Rep meetings as I can attend.** (I want to go to TS, LP and Glenside next.)

4. **Act 55 Updated- Four Categories to furlough:**

TPEs go first followed by the 4 Categories-

- Category 1 – 2 consecutive unsats
- Category 2 – 1 unsat and 1 sat
- Category 3 – 2 Prof or 1 Prof and 1 Dist (80% of our members will in this category)
- Category 4 – 2 dist. or 1 dist. and 1 Prof.
- No straight line or checker board bumping.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> cert doesn't come into play until it's time to reenter from the furlough list
- Administration must furlough the same %.

There was a lot of discussion on how we will combat this new legislation at my PSEA Board meeting. **It now more imperative than ever to let us know if you are not in the Proficient category.**

**School safety:** Provides chief school administrators flexibility to replace one monthly fire drill with a school security drill (a planned exercise designed to practice procedures to respond to an emergency situation that may include, but not be limited to – armed intruder or other violent threat). Certain rules regarding notification and process apply if the administrator decides to conduct the drill. Note – language opposed by PSEA authorizing teachers to bring guns to school was not included in the omnibus legislation.

**Opioid Prevention, Education:** Beginning in 2018-2019 school year, students in grades 6-12 must receive instruction regarding opioid abuse and its relation to prescription drug abuse. In-service training for employees on the topic is also required every 3 years. In-service training is only for those educators who will be required to teach about opioid awareness/abuse and/or have the topic integrated into their current curriculum. Training can be counted toward CE requirements.

**School Lunch program** (addressing “lunch shaming”): Places responsibility on the district and school administration to communicate with parents or guardians if student owes for five or more school meals. Makes it clear that no school shall deny a student a lunch if requested (unless parent has specifically provided a written directive to the school to withhold a school meal). Schools are prohibited from stigmatizing or publicly identifying students who cannot pay for a school meal or who owes money for the meal.

5. **2017 Unsatisfactory Rating**- If you are getting an unsatisfactory rating for the **last** school year, please take a representative with you prior to signing any paperwork. Remember that the building score cannot bring you down to unsatisfactory.
6. **Unsatisfactory Observation**- Do not hide your evaluation. Take your building representative with you to help you in this process. ***We can't help you if we don't know!!!***

***Happy Holidays to all and to all a good vacation!***

Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Sherman