

10. President's Report- December 2017

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"When given the choice between being right or kind, choose kind." Wayne W. Dryer

- **Insurance:**
 - Prescription Grievance: Scheduled for 1/10/2018
 - Medical MOU: A copy of the MOU may be found on the district website in the November Minutes as well as the REA website.
 - Please continue to check out the REA website regarding helpful hints with insurance.
 - Please do not hesitate to contact the office directly with insurance questions. It can be extremely difficult to understand at times and there are many inaccurate pieces of information floating around.
- **Observations:** Please carefully look over your 82 rating form when receiving it. With the passage of Act 55 schools may furlough based off economic reasons. We all know how much that impacts our district. Attached is a flyer better explaining the new process. We need to know if you receive a "Needs Improvement" as your rating, even if it is Satisfactory overall. Please pay careful attention to the pie chart that explains the 4 different categories in deciding who gets furloughed. We want ALL of our teacher to have nothing less than proficient on their rating forms. Also, please pay careful attention to your "Teacher Specific Rating" under section C if you have switched grade levels or content areas. This is a rolling average of 3 years.
- **Safety:** Safety concerns have been mounting at RIHS. We are planning to address some of those concerns with the school board at the January meeting. Although we will be focusing on safety at RIHS, it is important that we show a United front. Further information will be shared with building reps.
- **Childline:** The calls have begun. Please note that building reps, officers, President, and our Uniserv are not able to hear details of occurrences since we are mandated reporters. A building rep may be present during the initial meeting placing a teacher on leave. All dues paying members are entitled to PSEA legal should a claim be made against them. The number for the PSEA Eastern Region office has been given to all reps. All claims thus far have been unfounded.
- **Conferences:** Conferences are a great way to start to get involved with little obligation. I would like to see more of our Reps and Members start to attend conferences. Lodging and travel is paid for by the REA. The following are dates and locations of conferences coming up in the new year. If you would be interested, please send an email to me at president@readingea.com. Participation will be limited to the first 5 people that express interest.
 - February 2-3, Special Education Conference, Bedford Springs
 - March 9-10, Minority and Women's Leadership, Kalahari Pocono Manor
 - March 9-10, Urban Locals, Kalahari Pocono Manor
 - **March 16-17, Eastern Region Leadership Conference, Bear Creek Mountain Resort**
 - May 10-12, PSEA House of Delegates, Pittsburgh
- **Spirit Wear:** Our spirit wear store is up and running. All proceeds from the sale of shirts will go to the REA scholarship fund. You may place your order by going to the REA website and clicking on the link. www.rockhoundapparel.com/rea
- **Facebook:** Our public page is up and running! Please be in contact with Laura Stauffer (Communications Chair) for anything special your building is doing. We need to show off all the amazing things our teachers do!

Have a relaxing Holiday Break and a Happy New Year!