

May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009

EA 2 Update

As you know, the DDSB has given out lay off letters to members of this employee group. On Friday many EA2 were given letters. There were 3 letters. One was to EA2s stating that their position was no longer deemed an EA2 position but they had enough seniority to chose a remaining EA2 position at another location. The 2<sup>nd</sup> letter to other EA2s stated that there were no EA2 positions but they could be recalled to a vacant EA1 position. The 3<sup>rd</sup> letter to 25 EA2s was their position was no longer an EA2 position and that they were laid off as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

The Union response:

Immediately upon meeting with the Board and given the financial information, the Union raised with the Board – the \$970,000 para professional line in the budget that should be spent on unionized employees – This budget line is in contention, and to that end we are calling upon the Ministry of Education to rule on this money.

We now have language from our lawyer to file a grievance today regarding this lay-offs. The union's position is that the "job" has not disappeared and that the Board is trying to have that work performed by the EA1s at a lower wage rate. It will also address the funding issue.

Monday – CUPE's communication department issued a press release and later in the week we are planning on hitting the radio with announcements regarding the cuts to the EA2 group. These were very effective last year.

What can YOU do to save your jobs?

On Wednesday June 3<sup>rd</sup> several EA2's are addressing the Trustees regarding the decision to make these cuts.

**Please come out and support your co-workers at this meeting. The meeting starts at 7:00. Come early. Bring your family, and friends.**

While Don Bryans, CUPE 218's president will be speaking, and Marion Moore – Chairperson EAs, it is much more effective for YOU, the people involved to be making the Board look at you as PEOPLE and not as budget lines. Its always harder to lay someone off, when you have to look them in the eye.

Have your friends, family phone the trustees.