

From: Soura, Christian
To: Webb, Beth <BethWebb@gov.sc.gov>
CC: Nolan-Abrahamian, Rafi <rafi@gov.sc.gov>
Packard, Clark <ClarkPackard@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 8/11/2014 4:07:32 PM
Subject: RE: Teacher Forum with Governor Haley, 7/30 at 1 pm

OK, thanks – we put it on the list for next year's items...and actually, I think we'll let her know tomorrow that this issue has arisen, too.

CLS

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Deputy Chief of Staff

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From: Webb, Beth
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 11:03 AM
To: Soura, Christian
Cc: Nolan-Abrahamian, Rafi; Packard, Clark
Subject: FW: Teacher Forum with Governor Haley, 7/30 at 1 pm

FYI

From: Rachel Toole [<mailto:teacher2le@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 11:00 AM
To: Webb, Beth
Subject: Re: Teacher Forum with Governor Haley, 7/30 at 1 pm

Good morning Beth. First, I would just like to thank Governor Haley for inviting teachers and the PSTA organization into discussions about education. People are always asking 'how the meeting with the Governor went' and I respond by saying, "She listens, she takes notes, and evidently, takes action".

As I introduced myself Monday as a new Reading Coach, Governor Haley responding by saying she wanted me to keep in touch so she would know how it's working. So, I'm writing this to inform, not complain, of my first encounter in this role. After speaking to my Human Resource Director this week, I found that Reading Coaches would not be receiving the \$275.00 teacher supply money that is given to teachers to offset some initial costs of the school year. The reasoning behind this is that Reading Coaches will not have regular classes, therefore will not be needing supply money. Though it is true a RC will not have a regular class, we will still be serving students...even more students than a regular classroom teacher. Not only will we be serving students, but teachers, as well. We are responsible for attending training and providing training. I'm sure Reading Coaches will need 'supplies' for this. Most districts no longer have supply money set aside for teachers to order materials (or so they say), so whatever is purchased for the school year is purchased with the \$275.00. I had already begun making a list of materials I felt I would be needing as I begin my new role as Reading Coach...charts, Post Its, markers, folders, printer ink (because the schools no longer provide ink for the classroom printers).

I must say, **rather than feeling empowered by this new challenge that has been set before me,**

I'm feeling less valued as an educator. Had this position included a salary increase, I could live with no 'extra' from the government, but I got no increase (which I didn't expect, by the way) and no stipend. Not just me....all Reading Coaches. This will affect us all.

Again, I am not complaining...only informing. I know Governor Haley wants the Read to Succeed to be successful in every way, and the only way she will know how and what teachers are feeling and experiencing is that she is informed. I realized, after the four opportunities I have had to meet with her, how truly shocked she has been to learn of what teachers are experiencing. I am so grateful that she is listening and trying to make a difference.

Thank you for your time, Beth and allowing me the opportunity to 'vent'. I realize there may be little or nothing Governor Haley can do about this. I just wanted her to know how my first week as Reading Coach played out.

Have a blessed day!

Rachel Toole
Sandy Run K8
Calhoun County
PSTA Board

On Tuesday, July 29, 2014 11:03 AM, "Webb, Beth" <BethWebb@gov.sc.gov> wrote:

Teachers,

Thank you all for your willingness to participate in the Teacher Forum tomorrow with Governor Haley. The Forum will begin at 1 pm and will be held in Room 252 of the Edgar Brown building. The Brown building is located within the Statehouse complex, at the corner of Sumter and Pendleton Streets.

We have reserved spaces for you in our Visitor Parking Lot located across the street from the Statehouse. The parking lot is located at corner of Assembly and Pendleton Streets. The entrance and exit to the Visitor Parking Lot is on the 1000 block of Pendleton Street. Enter the Security Gate Code, **2187**, on the keypad at the entrance to gain access into the lot. You may park in any available space in the lot.

I have attached a map for your reference with parking lot information. The Brown Building location is marked on the map as well.

Please call my cell phone tomorrow if you have any trouble locating the parking lot or the meeting space. I can be reached at 803-609-8583.

I am looking forward to seeing you all tomorrow!

Best,

Beth Webb
Commerce Liaison and Special Projects
Office of Governor Nikki Haley
Office: 803-734-6059
Cell: 803-609-8583