

8/28/07 News Release

Shoreline Education Support Professionals Association / Shoreline Education Association
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Threatened Shoreline educators file state complaints against school district

Educators in the Shoreline School District have filed two unfair labor practice complaints with the state over threats and other illegal actions by district administrators during contract negotiations.

Earlier this month, Shoreline School District administrators acting on behalf of the Shoreline School Board threatened to withhold voter-mandated cost-of-living adjustments for school support staffers unless they agreed to a new contract by Aug. 31. District negotiators also proposed cutting stipend pay by \$330 per employee after earlier offering to maintain stipend pay at current levels.

In separate negotiations with the teachers' union, administration negotiators admitted they had guaranteed the school board they would force the union to accept contract cuts, putting a pre-condition on any settlement.

Under state law, those actions constitute bad faith bargaining by the district. On Aug. 22, attorneys for the Shoreline Education Support Professionals Association (SESPA) filed an unfair labor practice complaint against the district. The Shoreline Education Association filed a similar complaint on behalf of teachers on Aug. 27. The state Public Employment Relations Commission is now investigating the cases.

Both unions will be meeting for a joint general membership meeting Aug. 29 at 4:30 p.m. at the Shoreline Center. They will be voting on potential job actions. School is scheduled to start Sept. 5.

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