

President's Report

April 2024

April 14, 2024



SEA members,

I hope this message finds you relaxing, resting, and enjoying the tail end of the weekend.

On Tuesday of this week, it was brought to the attention of SEA leadership that a plan for merging Independent Study with Options Secondary School was presented at FAC for IS. The district has purview to implement aspects of programs and sites, as long as they are within guidelines of the CDE and follow EdCode. They can present plans and inform those affected. What they cannot do, is speak for SEA, nor imply that SEA is in agreement with their plan. **The Association has the right to bargain the impacts and effects of any changes brought about by said plan's implementation.**

I want to make it clear that the plan that was presented to IS was not shared with SEA leadership beforehand. It was not supported by SEA. As a matter of fact, during bargaining when language was put forth for the combining of FAC for IS and OSS, SEA stated that they were two separate programs and was not in support of joining the FAC's (this is why there is no language joining the two FAC's in the TA). The only change was the wording "OSS and its associated programs" (which can be done without bargaining—see above paragraph—the district can name things as they choose).

When SEA became aware of the plan, the Association responded in the following ways:

- 1) **Emailed the district and expressed displeasure** over not being informed of the plan and for not being given the courtesy of a heads up. The email also **expressed anger** regarding the presentation's implication that not only did SEA know about the plan, but seemed to be in agreement with it (see above—because not true).
- 2) **Cancelled weekly collaborative meeting** set for the next day, because the plan and its presentation did not exemplify collaboration.
- 3) **Contacted Dr. Aguirre** to reiterate SEA's position.
- 4) **SEA BoD met with CTA staff** and reviewed and **discussed next steps** regarding the plan.
- 5) **Demand to Bargain was written and submitted** to the district on Friday.

The rights of our members are at the center of SEA. Ensuring that rights are protected and proper processes are followed are always at the forefront of SEA leadership.

In Unity,

Lucy Ugarte

President

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