

MSUAASF Pre-Meet and Confer
09/17/2021

Present: Tracy Rahim, Tania Schmidt, Rachel Sherlock, Sandi Sibley Gerick, Jill Quandt, Jay Lee, Christian Breczinski, Lori Wynia, Kristy Modrow, Tom Boylan, Debra Schulz, Tom Reburn, Katie Jackson.

Tracy would like to ask more about the 20-million-dollar supplemental budget request that will likely go towards campus support. We want to help support that effort in the next legislative session.

Tracy plans on asking Bill Maki about state allocations since the portion of state dollars is currently based on enrollment on a three-year wave. Tracy is wondering if there will be a softening of the reductions of state allocations, especially for St. Cloud since there have been no drastic upticks in enrollments at other locations.

Tracy hopes that the board will help discuss the vaccine and testing requirements. Christian would like us to discuss the cost of testing since campuses are currently being asked to foot the bill and it is a significant financial burden that will hurt local campus budgets. Tracy would also like to discuss concerns with safety, privacy, etc. The group discussed testing at various campuses. Tom stated that Moorhead does not have a formal plan yet, Tania stated Winona learned of a potential testing plan yesterday with testing kits. Tania noted that the logistics of testing kits are unrealistic with the time requirements and mailing. Katie noted that St. Cloud does not have a testing plan yet. Jay noted Metro will be doing testing every Tuesday and Wednesday. Deb noted Mankato started testing at Student Health Services for employees and student workers. Off-campus individuals can pick up a testing kit from security. So far only two campuses have a set plan of testing out of the seven campuses. The next rollout will be for students required to test. There will be a lot of logistics that need to be in place for student athletes, students in residence halls, and students in extracurricular activities.

We also need to discuss what individuals need to do if they are on a paid leave. Tracy also raised the concern of an employee being told they could only take vacation for an asymptomatic quarantine. Jim Jorstad confirmed that quarantined employees can take sick leave, regardless of symptoms. Jay raised the concern of if the quarantine occurred due to exposure at work. Tracy answered that she would push for worker's comp in that situation. Jill also discussed the concerns of reduced staff and increased workloads for our members without additional pay, since you only get additional pay if you take on work from an unclassified position at an equal or higher range.

Tracy would like to ask if a campus can create their own teleworking policy outside of the MMB policy. The board would like to discuss equity across campuses since some decisions are from university cabinets and some are supervisor decisions. The board discussed the pros and cons of having the decision with the cabinet or the supervisor, including the benefits of having a framework in place to make that decision. Tracy also asked what the process is for an ADA telework appeal across campuses since it is not well advertised.

Regarding the other agenda items, some campuses may continue to use the central HR payroll for processing IFO payroll. Tracy will ask what campuses have switched to campus processing. The board will also ask about updates for NextGen, 2030 Updates, etc.

Tom is going to send out an updated draft next week based on the feedback he received. Lori offered to coordinate with Tom regarding the upcoming survey to combine requests since we have the

SurveyMonkey tool that can be used. Tom met with Rafael Espinoza, the new organizer for teamsters, and he is excited to talk about strategies to increase our membership. He recommended we call nonmembers potential members.