

# Key Communicator

**Questions: If a taxpayer who resides in Troy School District send their child(ren) to another school district, will the taxpayer still have to pay taxes for Troy School District? If the Troy School District closes, will Troy residents still have to pay taxes for a School District?**

Answer: Yes. Troy taxpayers will have to pay taxes for Troy School District even if their children attend school in another town. They will also have to pay taxes for another district if the Troy School District closes. If Troy School District closes then Moscow and/or Deary will have to change their boundaries to include Troy. Troy taxpayers will then pay taxes to the respective district(s).

**Questions: Do all teachers have extra-curricular stipends and why do some have the privilege and some do not? Do some teachers get more than their regular contract and is this common across the state of Idaho?**

Answer: Supplemental contracts for 2014-15 school year totaled \$31,351 (see the list below)

## CLASS ADVISORS:

Senior or Junior Class	0.037	1,090	(each)
Freshmen or Sophomore Class	0.027	795	(each)
Junior High Classes	0.027	795	(each)

## OTHER ADVISORS:

Annual/Yearbook Advisor	0.034	1,002	
Senior High Cheerleader	0.065	1,915	
Junior High Cheerleader	0.030	884	
FFA	0.110	3,241	

BPA	0.090	2,652
Junior High Science Fair	0.022	648
Spirit Club	0.041	1,208
Drama Club	0.071	2,092
Honor Society	0.024	707
ID Drug-Free Youth	0.035	1,031
THS Quiz Bowl Advisor	0.060	1,768
Student Council Advisor	0.035	1,031
Concessions	0.100	2,946
Senior Projects Advisor	0.080	2,357
Mars Rover Advisor	0.050	1,473

The supplemental and extended contracts were cut from the 2015-16 school year budget and the Troy School Board will determine which contracts will be reinstated if the August Supplemental Levy passes.

Not all teachers had extra-curricular stipends, but those who did have supplemental contracts and extended contracts did get paid additional money (see the amounts above). Listed above are the supplemental positions that were available for the 2014-15 school year and the pay for each contract. It is very common in every school district across Idaho and across the Nation to

have supplemental contracts. The School Board determines which supplemental contracts are needed for the district and personnel can apply for the supplemental position(s) and/or be asked to fill the positions by the administration. The supplemental contract amounts were negotiated between the district and the Troy Education Association. There are also extended contracts which are days past the regular teaching year that are contracted for teachers to work in the summer by certain programs/teachers. The salaries for the extended days were based on the teachers' regular salaries. These extended days are established through negotiations and by need identified by administration.

The Troy School District had three extended contracts for the 2014-15 school year (total cost of \$19,342 for the district):

- 1) 8 extended days for the High School Counselor
- 2) 5 extended days for Business Education
- 3) 40 days for Ag Education

**Question: I noticed that in the negotiations minutes there was discussion about time-sheets for the supplemental contracts. Do the teachers have to account for all of the extra time? If not, Why not?**

Answer: During negotiations for the past several years, the School Board has asked that the employees complete time-sheets for the supplemental contracts. The reason the School Board has asked for this is due to the School Board wanting to get an idea of how much time each extra duty involves in order to determine if the salary amount dedicated to each position is appropriate. It is not typical in school districts for employees to keep time-sheets for these positions. In most districts the district outlines the duties and responsibilities for each position and the employees are then paid a stipend amount (like the Troy School District is currently doing). However, there may be times when the School Board would like the information regarding the time needed for each supplemental contract in order to reassess the needs of the district. The Troy Education Association has requested that time-sheets not be required because they are time consuming and not typical for these positions. The Troy School Board has determined within their negotiations that time-sheets would not be required. However, since the Supplemental Levy has not passed these positions/contracts are not in place. The School Board will determine which positions will be reinstated if the August Supplemental Levy passes.

**Questions: Does the \$250K paid to certified staff above state reimbursement (mentioned in the negotiation minutes) include all of the extra-curricular stipends? Does this include all of their perks? How about some facts on what the teachers really make compared to other schools and not just base salaries?**

Answer: Yes, the \$250k paid beyond what the state reimbursed us included supplemental contracts, extended contracts and benefits. Troy School District was ranked number 15<sup>th</sup> in the state for the percentage of local taxes needed to make up the difference in salaries.

**Question: Thank you for the community input activity. I believe it is a step in the right direction. However, I felt we should have been able to identify more than six priorities. Will there be opportunity for more input?**

Answer: The reason we asked you to only identify your top six priorities is because we still have a large amount to cut in order to get our budget healthy again and to maintain a lower levy in the future. With fewer dots, we can see where the highest priorities lie within the community. The School Board will determine at tonight's meeting (August 3<sup>rd</sup>) whether they need more input to make their decision regarding which programs will be reinstated if the August levy passes.

**Question: What is the \$2250 going into a BPA Endowment Fund?**

Answer: The \$2250 BPA Endowment Fund was donated by a business, Mann & Stanke, to our Business Education Program for scholarships. This money can be used only for the purpose specified in the donation. Our students are very fortunate they have these scholarship opportunities available to them.

**Question: Was Beyond Textbooks approved by the Troy School Board?**

Answer: Yes, Beyond Textbooks was approved by the Troy School Board. We have implemented the training for Beyond Textbooks during the 2014-15 school year and teachers will begin using the program during the school year 2015-16. This does NOT mean that students will be receiving their instruction online. Teachers will have their curriculum calendars and maps online and they will be able to access lesson plans online.

Beyond Textbooks was created by the Vail School District in Vail, AZ. They are not a corporate or a company, in fact, they are a public school district. Vail School District is not making money by allowing us access to their program, they are actually losing money, because they have provided the program at a huge discount to Troy School District. The Vail School District is simply sharing their resources and they have traveled to Troy School District to train our teachers.

It will cost the Troy School District a total of \$5000 for the 2015-16 school year. This will be paid from the state funding that we receive for curriculum and instruction.

**Question: What is Beyond Textbooks?**

Answer: Beyond Textbooks is a nationally recognized, collaborative framework for implementation of Idaho Core Standards. Beyond Textbooks has a web based curriculum calendar and map for the teaching of the Idaho Common Core Standards. It has a bank of more

than 29,000 resources to help teachers with developing lesson plans aligned with the Idaho Common Core.

It is a systematic approach to teaching the Idaho Common Core and ensuring that all students are assessed and retaught standards they have not mastered, and to provide enrichment activities for those students who have mastered the essential standards. Beyond Textbooks is a new way of planning and collaboration.

Draft Starting Points for BT Goals for:

1. Essential Standards
2. Unwrapped Documents
3. Curriculum Calendars
4. Specific Materials
5. BT Wiki
6. Formative Assessments
7. Reteach and Enrich

With Beyond Textbooks, we will all have the knowledge of: what it is we want all students to learn, how we know when each student has acquired the essential knowledge and skills, what happens in our district when a student does not learn, what happens in our school when a student meets proficiency.