

C. J. O'Donnell <c.j.odonnell@comcast.net>

11/6/2018 11:53 AM

Re: Commissioner's Letter

To Carlos Santiago <csantiago@dhe.mass.edu> Copy Murray, Michael (DHE) <mmurray@dhe.mass.edu> • Robert Donohue <vicepresident@mscaunion.org> • James Roberta <rjames@massteacher.org>

Commissioner,

I am not one to use intermediaries to communicate with you, I see it as creating an unnecessary delay. Feel free to use whoever you feel is necessary to communicate with me. I will keep Mike Murray copied on my responses.

I feel the need to address your misrepresentation of the facts regarding your original request to meet that you have now put in a public record.

It was in fact your office that refused to meet with me after I responded to your original request to meet with a number of dates and times. For the record, I have attached those emails to this email.

As a follow-up after the dates that I offered expired and neither you or Mr. Murray responded regarding those dates, I asked Mr. Cox at a meeting of our Employee Relations Committee on September 28, 2018, "Are we going to meet or not?" to which Mr. Cox responded "You are not going to meet."

It was my assumption based on the tone that this meeting would not be held because the MSCA filed a charge with the Department of Labor Relations regarding the Board's failure to submit the funding request to the governor within 30 days as the law requires.

I would like to know, do we now have a common recollection of the facts regarding your original request to meet?

With regard to your new request to meet "to explore together a mutually agreeable process to resolve the current contract dilemma that centers on the estimated cost of the bargaining agreement," the BHE has not indicated to the MSCA in writing which cost items are at issue. I need that information in advance of agreeing to meet.

I would also like to be clear as to the intent of your request. Are you asking that we meet to discuss ways to reduce the cost within the terms of the agreement – which the MSCA has already offered to do, but that the presidents rejected – or are you asking that the parties renegotiate what has been agreed to?

CJ

On October 31, 2018 at 3:08 PM Murray, Michael (DHE), wrote:

Hello CJ,

Attached please find a courtesy copy of a letter that the Commissioner has sent you today via mail. We hope that you will agree to meet to discuss the parties' present situation in order to find some resolution.

Mike