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Re: Touch Base | PASS



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Holmes, Ellen [NEA]

Sat 1/11/2020 3:00 PM

Rainey Hartford Swan <rhs@contactpass.org> 



Thanks Rainey!

This is helpful. The SEA "eye" contact has to do with some internal conflicts and nothing to do with me. There are currently 3 factions each working a little bit at odds with the others. Their organization has been through a very dramatic set of changes and they are all still working that out. Staff, executive leadership, internal leadership are doing a little storming until they norm again.

Micheal is correct that he must ask his leaders if they want me to proceed. He is actually bound by that in their bylaws. And as we discussed, I can't actually work on this until that happens-including Yvette's approval. If the answer is no, it is not about me, it is that they may be seeking a different path forward. I have confidence in Michael's ability to coalesce his leadership around a direction that he articulates is right for SEA. For them, this is about how to discuss with their members at those schools that there would be another process - and for those members, that will feel like they have been sold out by their own union. It is all about perceptions and ultimately that there is a lack of an overall system-level process for addressing issues in buildings where the culture has fallen apart.

Ellen Holmes

My pronouns: she/her/hers

Organizational Specialist

National Education Association

[207-660-5589](tel:207-660-5589) (text and voice)

From: Rainey Hartford Swan <rhs@contactpass.org>

Sent: Saturday, January 11, 2020 1:03 PM

To: Holmes, Ellen [NEA] <eholmes@nea.org>

Subject: Re: Touch Base | PASS

Hi Ellen,

Thank you so much for taking the time to so concisely and thoughtfully lay out those narratives. You absolutely nailed each perspective. I knew you were the right person to help us!

We had a successful start to this effort yesterday. Starosky, Tamayo, Yevette, Wyeth, Clover, Ted Howard and I attended.

There was real, candid conversation and I was happy to watch everyone lay out their individual concerns in a way that was open and non-accusatory. Clover and Yevette had to leave prior to the meeting end however, while they were there the issues and concerns that you so perfectly captured were presented with real stories behind them. The opportunity to dispel some of the "rumors" was capitalized on and we each realized that there is a fair amount of lack of clarity around intentions and behaviors between each