

Bill Green explains MPS contract impasse

Written by Bill Green □ Superintendent of Schools
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This letter, which is going out to all district parents, is intended to be the first of several communications to keep you apprised of the changes we propose to make to advance and improve the district for the benefit of students and the community as a whole. □□ We have spent many months at the bargaining table with the Minneapolis Federation of Teachers (MFT) talking through issues related to raising academic achievement for our students and creating the changes we need in our system. Unfortunately, we have been unable to reach a final agreement with MFT on the July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011 contract. This is despite our best efforts to reach an agreement that would enable us to make next year the most successful year yet for your students. □□ I am writing to you now to outline the changes the Board of Education and I believe we need to make in order to better educate our students to achieve academic excellence. Simply stated, we are trying to put in place three major priorities:

Reform to support school improvement

Stabilize and improve our instructional teams: this means getting Interview and Select into our teacher contracts permanently and

Negotiate a fiscally responsible and sustainable financial package

For further details, please be sure to visit the district's website at <http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/> to get further updates on contract negotiations with the teachers' union. We are working hard to be certain the community is kept up-to-date on how our negotiations have been progressing. More information on each of these topics will be coming your way in the next week. □□ I hope and trust you share our belief that these priorities will benefit your own child, as well as all of the students in our district. Please talk with your fellow parents and community members about these issues and feel free to send us your feedback at feedback@mpls.k12.mn.us