

TO: Members of Local 3758

DATE: July 5, 2011

FROM: WSCCCE Council 2 / AFSCME Local 3758

Rich Park's recent email to all Union members on the Library email system regarding union negotiations is quite ironic considering that the Timberland Regional Library forbids the use of Library email for Union issues, but conveniently and consistently uses it for their own purpose to paint a rosy picture of their negotiation methods.

Rich states that TRL Management and the Trustees believe that "employees should be able to decide if they join the Union or to pay a fee to the Union", but what that really means is that the Library does not believe that the Union membership's vote to affiliate with AFSCME was valid to begin with even after many full discussions regarding the goal of Union Security. That is why TRL fought the affiliation through PERC and lost – they don't believe you. Now they are trying to hold the Union Security clause hostage because of their previous failure to prevent affiliation and because they continue to try to weaken your Union's voice at the bargaining table.

Union Security is the mainstay of a strong and effective Union. Remember that out of 280 plus local public union contracts in this state, no employer has refused to negotiate Union Security into their contracts. We cannot allow anyone to start eroding this basic tenant of a strong union now.

We have kept everyone updated since our last meeting on April 29th. Unfortunately since that date, we have had no new Tentative Agreements or other changes in the status of negotiations.

We appreciate your support and we will continue to answer questions and keep you informed as soon as new developments occur. Thank you.