

Kitsap Sun

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Is SKSD board member looking to cut our pay?

Troy Grubb, Port Orchard

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During the South Kitsap school board meeting on May 20, board member Jeff Daily showed with two board referrals what appears to be his complete disregard for unions. In one board referral he is looking to have the board make a decision to open all union negotiations to the public. Mandating that would not be good-faith bargaining.

In Daily's other union-busting referral he wants to have the board vote to strip away all wage increases for SKSD employees from now through 2021. He gave no concrete reason for asking this other than citing what the governors in California and Washington are proposing. Would it not make more sense to wait and see how the cuts affect school employees before we proactively cut wages?

My name is Troy Grubb, I am the SKSD Chapter president of SEIU 925, and I will tell you what I think about that. I understand that I am a public employee and I have respect for the public's tax money. If the district wants to have a real good-faith negotiation, and explain why we should not receive any raises or COLA next year, let's have that conversation. But if the board votes to steal it from me rather than negotiate, we are going to have a real problem.

We have contract language around RIFs. We do not have language allowing the district to steal from us.

It looks to me like Mr. Daily wants to cut our wages even before job cuts happen. I am not sure why, but it worries me.

Troy Grubb, Port Orchard