



Science in Action

Wisconsin Science Professionals Local 3732

Supplemental June 1, 2009

Furlough Update

The Office of State Employment Relations (OSER) has issued a FAQ on the furlough situation.

<http://oser.state.wi.us/category.asp?linkcatid=666&linkid=29>

The FAQ does answer some questions but doesn't answer or address them all. Below are a few of those unaddressed issues:

- The FAQ talks about “furloughs” or “temporary reductions in work hours” however our contract does not contain that language. Whatever plan OSER ultimately comes up with will have to conform to section 8/1 in our contract which talks about “temporary layoffs of 21 days or less”.
- The FAQ talks about vacation carryover but it does not address expanding sabbatical rules to accommodate those people that cannot use all their time given the 8 extra days.
- Nowhere in the OSER FAQ does it mention contractors or whether they will be taking furloughs too.

The five locals in the State Employees Council of AFT-Wisconsin hope to meet with OSER later this week to discuss the “furloughs” and try to get some important questions answered. We will be reporting out again after that meeting. It is unclear when the Agencies will get their official guidance.