



# The Professional Committee



*ProCom is a joint committee of  
the Lincoln Public Schools and the Lincoln Education Association*

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**PROCOM  
Joint Statement  
March 10, 2008**

The charge given to Pro Com in the 2006-2008 negotiated agreement was to study the workload of certificated staff and publish a report. The original timeline called for a report by January of 2008, but Pro Com extended that deadline in order to allow the group to continue to work. We believed we were making progress and additional time might allow us to produce a more useful product outside formal negotiations.

During the 2006-2007 school year Pro Com held a series of meetings. The meetings were spent listening to presentations from the LEA and the LPS administrative members of Pro Com. LEA presented the results of their Workload Study and identified factors impacting the workload of teachers. The administrators brought the curriculum implementation timeline, a list of district efforts underway that addressed some of the workload issues identified by staff, and a philosophical response to the issue of workload. All Pro Com members realize that the work of educators has changed and that the impact of working in a growing district without a comparable increase in budget is challenging.

For 2007-2008 Pro Com members decided to increase the amount of time spent together and to lengthen the meetings to a half day each to allow for more in-depth discussions about the issues identified. In addition, Pat Shafer, former NSEA UniServ Director, was asked to facilitate the work and draft the report.

The addition of a third party to draft the report and lead our discussions has been productive and positive. Pro Com members are encouraged with the progress we are making and optimistic that we will produce a report that will inform and educate our audiences, as well as provide some direction for the district and LEA members to address workload issues.

The 2007-2008 LEA Pro Com members are: Arlene Rea, Jim Rea, Jenni Absalon, Doreen Ainslie, Marcia Benner, Matthew Hoffman, Daniel Ross, and Resa Wiltse. The 2007-2008 LPS Administrator Pro Com members are: Susan Gourley, Nancy Biggs, Bill Bucher, Pat Hunter-Pirtle, Marilyn Moore, Dennis Van Horn, and Ruth Ann Wylie.