



WPSD RE-2  
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## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### WPSD Announces Settlement With the WPEA - Update

**Woodland Park, CO - 11/02/2023** - The legal dispute between the Woodland Park Education Association (WPEA), its President, Nathaniel Owen, and the Woodland Park School District (WPSD) and the Board of Education has concluded with a resolution that both parties have agreed upon.

WPSD is delighted with the outcome reached on Tuesday, October 31. WPEA and WPSD settled the lawsuit following mutually agreed adjustments to the language of policy KDDA. Parties have agreed that the policy's new language addresses the concerns raised by both sides during the dispute.

“In what was a big win for teachers but a loss for the teacher’s union, we are also able to continue to provide free professional liability insurance to all of our teachers as a benefit, which the union tried to take away from our educators,” stated Ken Witt, superintendent, “and we are happy that the KDDA policy language changes preserve our ability to hold staff accountable for professional communications conduct while overcoming the union pretense that it infringes on free speech.”

Importantly, WPSD will maintain its position of not negotiating with the WPEA while agreeing that the WPEA president has a monthly opportunity to meet with Superintendent Witt as a mechanism to have WPEA concerns heard.

WPSD is committed to continuing its practice of seeking input and perspectives from educators directly rather than through union organizations. This approach reflects the school district's dedication to engaging in open dialogue with its valued educators.

#### **About the Woodland Park School District Re-2**

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