



STEAMBOAT SPRINGS



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JOHN F. RUSSELL/STAFF

Veteran school bus driver Jim Stockton chats with students while waiting to pick up more students at the high school Monday afternoon. The Steamboat Springs School Board voted Monday night on whether to give "hard-to-fill" positions in the school district a pay increase next year. Some of the positions that have been difficult for the district to fill include bus drivers, custodians and maintenance staff.

Divvying up the pie

Bargaining agreement gives \$210K in raises to district staff

Mike McCollum
 PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

A Collaborative Bargaining Team agreement approved Monday by the Steamboat Springs School Board will put an additional \$210,000 into the pockets of teachers, administrators, support staff and hard-to-fill positions.

The proposal, which also was approved last week by Steamboat Springs School District staff,

is the result of an unexpected enrollment increase of about 100 students this year that infused more than \$400,000 in state funds into the school district.

The Colorado Department of Education uses final enrollment numbers as of Oct. 1 of each school year to determine how much funding each district receives per student, often referred to as per pupil operating revenue, or PPOR.

The Collaborative Bargaining Team proposal is retroactive

to the beginning of the 2007-08 school year and builds upon an agreement approved by the School Board in June that granted \$475,860 for better salaries and benefits to certified and classified staff.

The new agreement provides an additional 1 percent salary increase to all certified staff, including teachers and administrators. Classified staff received a 2.5 percent increase, while hard-to-fill support staff positions, such as bus drivers, severe

needs aids, custodians and maintenance staff, received a 5 percent increase. Staff will see the pay increase beginning with March paychecks.

"I would hope that the additional money for hard-to-fill positions works toward providing a better wage for these people who are very important in our district," said School Board President Robin Crossan, who was part of the negotiations.

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SKI TOWN USA SNOW REPORT

Steamboat Ski Area

New snow — Mid-mountain*	2 in.	Total snow†	382 in.
New snow — Summit	2 in.	Trails open	165/165
Base — Mid-mountain	71 in.	Lifts open	16/18
Base — Summit	91 in.	Conditions	Packed powder

*24-hour snowfall as of 12:30 p.m. previous day; † total snow beginning Oct. 18 as measured at mid-mountain FOR UP-TO-DATE ROAD CONDITIONS, INCLUDING RABBIT EARS PASS, call 511 or visit: www.cotrip.org



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