COMMUNICATION (as presented to the Personnel Committee on Nov. 1, 2006)

Community coalitions:

- Build relationships with parents and community members
- Better working relationships with police agencies
- Better understanding of Beacon Light's and other agencies' roll in our schools (do these agencies know our needs and do we understand the duties of their aides)
- Act 1

Discipline problems:

- Do all instructors/administrators understand the discipline policies?
- Do all instructors/administrators understand the discipline codes under IDEA?
- Do teachers have unified definitions of infractions?
- Are infractions being handled the same way throughout the district?
- Concerns exist that our current discipline policy is not working.
- Education does not take place in a disruptive classroom, and the teacher/administrator may not have the resources to deal with the problems.

Alternative education:

- Where is the data to support that Alt. Ed. is working in the WCSD?
- What are some alternative solutions:
 - o Cyber school
 - o Stand-alone building
 - o Separate faculty
 - o Other agencies involved
 - o Alternative placement for mental/emotional needs

Inclusion:

- Where is the data that inclusion is working? The fact that 54 WAHS freshman did not earn sophomore status concerns me.
- Alternative solutions; i.e. reverse inclusion
- Are we in agreement of the legal interpretation of the LRE?

Teacher's mental/physical health:

- No data available, but by the number of phone calls and discussions with teachers, stress is over the top. And it is only the beginning of November!
- Has the number of teacher absences increase? Are more teachers resigning? Is the stress the result of:
 - o Lack of discipline in some of the schools?
 - o Increased class size due to reduction in teachers?
 - Number of classes and different preps the faculty teach?
 We have to address that which is CAUSING the stress, not treat the stress on a temporary basis.
- What can we do to help substitute teachers?

When would you like me to start working on this? Unfortunately, I won't be able to without the release time. Since the district is hiring a half-day Social Studies teacher, this teacher would be able to teach the three computer tech classes at WAHS. Total increase would be \$13,000, or \$2.58 per student for the year.