

Bargaining Update

November 16, 2009

Members of the District Bargaining Team: John Niederkorn, Randy Henry, Ed Santopadre, Tom Davis, Kim Forrest.

Members of the VTA Bargaining Team: Tim Yearshaw, Gary Masterson, Tim Sisson, Brenda Hensley, Kim Campbell, Kent Puddy.

The VTA Bargaining Team and the District discussed the progress of the Retirement Incentive Plan. The District indicated that the interest seemed good and that several individuals had scheduled to meet with the STRS representative after the Thanksgiving break. The VTA Team asked if information regarding payroll in January would be shared with the potential candidates for the Plan. The District indicated that they were composing an information sheet to be distributed to the potential participants and that that item could be added to the information. The District also said that if the number of participants (25) was reached they would inform everyone that the plan was a go, even if that occurred prior to the December 11th deadline.

The District discussed the continuing decline of monies the District could receive from the State. Mid-Year cuts of possibly five million dollars were indicated by the District. They also discussed the continuing decline of tax revenues and the possibility that the Federal stabilization funds to the State might be in jeopardy if California cannot meet the 05-06 funding levels. Funding in 2010-11 will be down again. The District said it would continue to look into how to offer programs for the students and gather input from the stakeholders concerning the potential budget shortfall.

The VTA Bargaining Team asked the District about establishing ground rules for negotiations. Last year the District was not willing to agree to ground rules. The VTA Team presented ground rules and asked if the District could agree. With a couple of modifications, the District and Association agreed and signed ground rules for negotiations.

The VTA Bargaining Team asked if the District would be willing to look at where both sides ended up last summer and see if there were items of common agreement that could be signed off as Tentative Agreements.

Both sides spent a majority of the rest of the session discussing the following items from last spring's sessions:

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| Article 7.5 | Reassignment of Itinerant Unit Members |
| Article 4.1.5.6 | Preparation time for Elementary Preparation Release Teachers |
| Article 16.3 | Language concerning Psychologists, Speech Therapists, Counselors, Nurses, Program Specialists |
| Article 9.5 | Elementary Preparation Release Teachers |
| Article 8 | Part-Time, Temporary, and Job Share |

Article 7.5 and Article 4.1.5.6 were read and both sides agreed to sign them as Tentative Agreements.

Tentative Agreement #1

***Between the
Vacaville Teachers Association
And the
Vacaville Unified School District***

The following shall become part of the Collective Bargaining Agreement upon ratification.

7.5 Reassignment of Itinerant Unit Members

7.5.1 Itinerant unit members are speech therapists, music teachers, elementary preparation release teachers, nurses, psychologists, resource specialists, and content area specialists.

7.5.2 Itinerant unit members shall be assigned according to District need.

7.5.3 Every effort will be made to limit the reassignment of itinerant unit members to only those reassignments necessary for the appropriate allocation of staff as determined by the designated administrator.

Tentative Agreement #2

***Between the
Vacaville Teachers Association
And the
Vacaville Unified School District***

The following shall become part of the Collective Bargaining Agreement upon ratification.

4.1.5.6 Elementary Preparation Release Teachers shall be provided three (3) forty-five (45) minute preparation periods per week during the student day.

Concerning Article 16.3, the District indicated that they needed more time to examine what this might mean.

Concerning Article 9.5, both teams discussed modifications to some of the language and the District indicated they would contact VTA with some draft language concerning one of the sub-Articles.

Concerning Article 8, the District said it needed time to further examine the language discussed last year due to the length of the article.

In looking ahead at other topics for discussion, the District said language concerns are being addressed and that it would like to move on to budget solutions. They said budget solutions are the crux of the District's interests in negotiations this year. The VTA Team said that it had other contract language it would like to address.

The Bargaining Chairs of each team agreed to talk about future dates for negotiations.