



JUST THE FACTS...



The VTA/CTA/NEA 21-22 Bargaining Update

Issue #1

December 15, 2021

VTA and VUSD met for 2 hours on December 15, 2021.

VUSD team members: Chris Hulett, Manolo Garcia, Kelly Burks, Nicole Chaisson, Ali Eeds (Sasha Begell absent)

VTA team members: Brenda Hensley, Tracy Begley, Kim Campbell, Megan Morris, Annaliese Vasquez, Todd Blanset (President)

VTA and VUSD did introductions of all members and discussed and signed off on our bargaining ground rules.

We had a lengthy discussion regarding calendars.

We have previously bargained the 2022-2023 calendars for all grade levels. We are looking to adjust the following for those calendars in the following ways:

-Move 10/10/22 School Holiday to 12/23/22

-Put in a late start minimum day for the first day back after Winter Break (1/9/23) for prep time for all levels before classes start; we need to research some instructional minutes to see what is possible

-Designating Hazard Make Up days for school closures. Looking at a combination of days during the February Break, the Friday before Spring Break and the end of School. There are pros and cons associated with those blocks of times and how many days we would need to make up.

-Eliminating practice of elementary teachers having to schedule parent conferences for all students in the fall; possibly condensing some minimum days in November (but not reduce conference time; we will have to check instructional minutes to see if possible).

In discussing the 2023-2024 calendars, VTA has member survey data that shows we support the calendar we have, but there may be some changes we could make to it (and some other related issues) that would help with workload and mental health. There is no perfect calendar that 100% of people will ever agree on. But, our idea is to come up with an alternative calendar with some of the following ideas and have a "This or That" survey of members before agreeing to a 2023-2024 calendar.

Some ideas include:

- moving elementary to quarter grades instead of trimester (2 progress reports and 2 report cards a year); possible online gradebook requirement, not sure about online component for TK-3

- eliminating progress reports for secondary (possible online gradebook requirement)

- October Break/Start one week earlier in August

- Discontinue February Break/Add 2 three-day weekends in February

- Move Spring Break to End of the 3rd quarter (mid-March) (not tied to Easter)

- Monday Holiday after Easter

Our next Bargaining Dates are set for 1/12/22 and 1/26/22.