



JUST THE FACTS...



The VTA/CTA/NEA 23-24 Bargaining Update

Issue #6

June 6, 2023

The VUSD and VTA bargaining teams met for 3.5 hours on June 6, 2023.

VUSD Team Members: Manolo Garcia, Sasha Begell, Ali Eeds, Kelly Burks, Colleen Moe, Cathy Bozzini, and Lynn Benevides

VTA Team Members: Brenda Hensley, Megan Morris, Sofia Calderon, Becky Wylie, Tracy Begley, Kim Campbell and Todd Blanset, VTA President

We began the session with some legal information regarding placement on the salary schedule. Both VUSD and CTA attorneys concur that we have two options:

1. Place only new hires with up to 24 years of experience
OR
2. Place new hires with up to 24 years of experience and move any current employees with more years of experience than credited on the salary schedule to an updated step next year.

VTA is advocating for Option #2; we have asked for calculations to be done to determine the cost of moving everyone. To help that arduous process along, please fill out this survey **ONLY IF** you have more years of experience in the last 27 years than you have been given credit for on the salary schedule. <https://forms.gle/srMmAZqk8k4UzJ9c8>

We plan to revisit this topic in August.

We signed an MOU for RSP/SDC Secondary Class Caps. They are not what we know classes should be at, but we wanted to make sure we had hard caps for those classes going into the fall. Without the hard caps, Secondary RSP and SDC classes could be much higher (35+). There is a lot of uncertainty with being able to hire special education teachers and more students qualifying for these programs. We felt these were the best numbers we were going to get to establish caps and offer some protection for our members.
(see attached).

We spent the rest of the time discussing options for recruiting and retaining Speech Language Pathologists and School Psychologists. We were not able to reach agreement, mostly because the District only wanted to give more hours (with additional pay) to SLPs and not Psychs. Both groups work very hard and we didn't feel this was the best deal we could make for our members at this time.

We plan to reach out to the District in early August to begin bargaining again.