



JUST THE FACTS...



The VTA/CTA/NEA 08-09 Bargaining Update

Issue #1

February 18, 2009

Kent Puddy, Bargaining Chair
Joanne Baker, Bargaining Team Member
Gary Masterson, Bargaining Team Member
Tim Yearnshaw, Bargaining Team Member

Members of the District Bargaining Team: Burton Crinklaw, John Niederkorn,
Randy Henry, Kari Fisher-Gibson, Tom Davis, Bill Hausler.

Members of the VTA Bargaining Team: Tim Yearnshaw, Gary Masterson,
Joanne Baker, Kent Puddy, and President Brenda Hensley.

The VTA Bargaining Team has been in discussions with the District. During this time the talk has primarily focused on:

- The Federal Stimulus package and its potential impact on the VUSD.
- The State Budget crisis and its potential impact on the VUSD.
- The District short and long term issues concerning its budget and operations.

The implications of the above led to VTA questions and District explanations of the Board Budget workshop presentation on February 3, 2009. The District explained how it must cut its operational expenses in the short and long term and possible ways to accomplish it through reorganization, program cuts, layoffs, etc. The District emphasized that any final decisions would not take place until after the passage of the Federal Stimulus Plan and the State Budget, and after they have had the opportunity to examine the impacts of each on the District.

The VTA bargaining team presented a concept to try and save jobs and monies through a 3 year Retirement Incentive Plan. It was expressed to the District that over the next 3 years there would potentially be about 300 current VTA members that would be eligible for retirement. A healthy Retirement Incentive could allow some of those members to retire and create the need not to lose so many of our current members. The VTA Team requested that the District meet with the Board to see if they had an interest in a Retirement Incentive Plan to help save jobs and create other monies to redistribute.

The VTA team also initiated discussions concerning the affects of layoffs and the implications to members.

Further discussions will take place at our next session.