



JUST THE FACTS...



The VTA/CTA/NEA 08-09 Bargaining Update

Issue #9

June 2, 2009

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

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

The District and Association discussed several items. The VTA Bargaining Team asked about the progress of the displaced member pool. The District said that the job information along with the date (Wednesday, June 3 @ 3:00) and location (Jepson Library) of the displaced teacher pool was being sent out today to the displaced members.

The VTA Bargaining Team inquired about the District plans as a result of the defeat of the Propositions on May 19th. The District indicated that they were considering further reductions in staff and other areas. If they were to proceed with further reductions in staff, notifications would be sent out after the June 18th Board meeting. For those members requesting a hearing with an Administrative Law Judge, the hearing would likely take place in early to mid-July (depending on ALJ scheduling by the District). Final layoff notices would be sent after the ALJ decision (prior to August 15th).

The VTA Bargaining Team asked about the status of Federal Bailout monies. The District indicated that they had yet to receive any monies at this time.

No proposals by either the District or Association have been signed as Tentative Agreements for the contract at this time.

The District asked for a response to their last proposal from the May 14th session. The VTA Bargaining Team informed the District that their settlement package was not acceptable. The Bargaining Team indicated that it wished to pursue working with the District on language proposals and get responses from the District on VTA proposals yet to be responded to by the District.

The VTA Bargaining Team asked the District for their response to previous proposals concerning calendar, combo and Spanish immersion prep language, adjunct duties, and meeting hours. The District said it wants to proceed with the single calendar previously agreed to for 2009-10 and 2010-2011. The District indicated that it would not want to increase the prep time for Combination teachers/Spanish immersion teachers to 45 minutes due to the potential lack of flexibility in prep scheduling at sites. The District did not want to decrease any time associated with adjunct duties or meeting hours.

The following language proposals were presented by the VTA Bargaining Team as amended components to the VTA package for settlement of the 2008-09 contract:

Concerning Elementary Preparation Release Teachers:

Last District proposal:

9.4 Elementary Preparation Release Teachers

- 9.4.1 Class sizes for elementary preparation release teachers including, but limited to, physical education, general music, instrumental musical, choral music and computer lab specialists shall not exceed forty-five (45) students.
- 9.4.2 Elementary preparation release teachers shall be assigned up to twenty-nine (29) sections per week.
- 9.4.3 Sections shall consist of fifty (50) minute blocks for forty-five (45) minute preps or be arranged such that elementary preparation teachers

have time between classes in which to use facilities and prepare materials and/or equipment for varying grade levels.

Current VTA proposal

9.5 Elementary Preparation Release Teachers

9.5.1 Elementary preparation release teachers are defined as physical education, general music, instrumental musical, choral music and computer lab specialists providing preparation time for regular classroom elementary teachers.

9.5.2 Elementary preparation release teachers shall be assigned up to twenty-nine (29) sections per week.

9.5.2.1 A section is a single 1st through 6th grade class. The number of students per section shall not exceed the number of students registered in the class for which they are providing preparation time. (Any Special Day student who regularly attends that class is excluded from the limit.)

9.5.2.2 If a member is required to travel to different sites in a day, the member shall have their number of sections per week reduced by one (1) section for each additional site to which the member travels.

9.5.2.2.1 Every effort shall be made to limit the number of unit members required to travel to other sites within a year.

9.5.2.2.2 If itinerant unit members must travel between sites, members at the affected site shall be asked to volunteer. If there are no volunteers, the least senior member shall be selected to travel.

9.5.2.2.3 Members shall be reimbursed at the IRS rate for their mileage to travel to each additional site within a day.

9.5.3 Sections shall consist of fifty (50) minute blocks for forty-five (45) minute preps. They shall be arranged so that elementary preparation teachers have time between classes.

Concerning Class Size:

Current VTA proposal

9.4.1 Prior to the scheduling of students for the next school year, Human Resources and the VTA President will draft a communiqué concerning the educational distribution of special needs students. It will be presented to Principals and they in turn will share it with counselors, if appropriate, in an attempt to balance the work load of the unit members.

Concerning work load during leave or a vacancy.

Current VTA proposal

16.3 Psychologists, Speech Therapists, Nurses, Counselors, Program Specialists

16.3.1 When a unit member in Article 16.3 is on leave (***Industrial (i.e. work related), Non-Industrial (i.e. Health, Child rearing)***) for more than ***fifteen (15)*** consecutive contract days during any one school year, the District will make every effort to hire a long term substitute to provide those services.

16.3.2 ***When a vacancy exists for a position in Article 16.3, the District shall take immediate action to fill the vacancy.***

16.3.3 ***Other unit members shall not do the workload of the members in Article 16.3 on leave unless they consent. Those that consent shall be compensated for the extra work. Compensation shall be on a per diem basis. (Speech Therapist caseload: Article 9.1.3)***

16.3.4 Current part-time, qualified unit members in Article 16.3 shall be given priority to substitute for the above members on leave. They shall be compensated at their per diem rate of pay.

16.3.5 The district will make every effort to maintain a list of qualified individuals in the categories in Article 16.3 available to work on temporary basis.

Further discussion about District language concerning temporary, part time, and job share employment also took place.

No new proposals were presented by the District.

A date of June 9th was set for the next bargaining session.

Subsequently, a limited additional session was requested by the VTA Bargaining Team to present a package for the District Team to give to the Board at their June 4th meeting. The additional session will take place on June 2nd.