WOODLAND JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Excellence for All"



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UPDATE ON LABOR NEGOTIATIONS – July 29, 2019

This communication is to provide an update for our parents, staff and community on the District's negotiations with the Woodland Educators Association (WEA).

Post-mediation talks continue with WEA

The bargaining teams for the District and WEA have been in negotiations since May 2018 in efforts to reach an agreement for the 2018-2019 contract year and beyond. Between May 31, 2018 and January 15, 2019, there were six negotiating sessions. Although the District and WEA were able to reach tentative agreements on contract language relating to grievance and evaluation procedures, discussions continued regarding salaries and benefits.

In January of this year the parties jointly declared impasse and began meeting with a neutral mediator to reach agreement on outstanding items. While there was some movement during meditation, the Mediator concluded that further talks might not be productive and released the parties to move forward with the final stage of the state's dispute resolution process... fact finding.

Summer bargaining sessions held

Neither management nor the union has asked the state to proceed to fact finding at this point. Instead, we appreciate that members of the WEA bargaining team were open and available to meeting with the District during the summer break. Two post-mediation bargaining sessions were held in June and July and although the parties traded proposals, we were unable to reach a settlement agreement. Further efforts between the parties have been deferred to after school resumes.

The District looks forward to continuing our work with WEA to reach an agreement that represents our collective values, supports our students and their achievement, respects our staff and the work they do with our students, and maintains a positive and sustainable budget where the District can maintain the programs and services we provide all students. We will keep our community informed as this process continues.