

# MVWSD's Negotiations News

May 17, 2019

District's Negotiations  
with MVEA

To promote transparency and open communication with the community, employees and other stakeholders, the Board of Trustees of the Mountain View Whisman School District has asked its team to provide accurate, factual and timely updates about its negotiations with the Mountain View Educators Association soon after each session.



This is the District's first Negotiations News regarding 2019-2020 bargaining.

## **First Session— May 14, 2019**

The teams met earlier this week at the District Office.

The teams will be negotiating what's called a successor agreement to replace the current collective bargaining agreement that expires on June 30, 2019. The teams will be negotiating substantive and "cleanup" changes to a number of different articles.

## **Team Introductions**

The session began with welcomes and team introductions. There are a number of new members on each team.

## **District to Regularly Communicate with Stakeholders about Negotiations**

The District team shared that it will continue to publish factual written updates soon after each negotiations session. The updates will be shared with employees, community members and other interested individuals, and posted on the District's website soon after each session.

Through this effort, the District team intends to share information, promote transparency and open communication.

## **Bargaining Teams**

### The District

*Carmen Ghysels, Chief Human Relations Officer*

*Swati Dagar, Principal, Theuerkauf School*

*Acantha Ellard, Coordinator, Special Education*

*Ryan Santiago, Assistant Principal, Graham Middle School*

*Jon Pearl, Legal Counsel, Dannis Woliver and Kelly*

### The Association:

*Melanie Hibbs, Teacher, Crittenden School*

*Teresa Coughlan, Teacher, Stevenson School*

*Kirstin Solorzano, Teacher, Graham Middle School*

*Lisa Silberman Kafka, Teacher, Graham Middle School*

*Sami White DeSilva, Instructional Coach, Mistral Elementary*

*Nate Williams, California Teachers Association Representative*

Both teams expressed support for increased communication and transparency. Both teams believe that factual communications will be helpful to all. The Association indicated that it will also be communicating with its members during negotiations.

### **Teams Addressed Initial Proposals, District Finances, Ground Rules and Next Steps**

The teams reviewed their initial proposals, discussed District finances and the State's budget approval process, and considered how best to work together to professionally, productively and efficiently negotiate.

Interim Chief Business Officer Ron Wheelehan shared information about the District's budget and the State's budget approval process. More definitive information about the State budget and its impact on the District will be known in the months ahead, but he shared concerns about deficit spending and the ongoing impact on the District's reserves.

The teams also agreed to written ground rules as to how negotiations will be conducted and how best to complete negotiations. The teams scheduled six sessions that will focus on the following articles and issues: Hours, Evaluation, Resignations, Assignments and Transfers, Organizational Security, School Year Calendar, Class Size, Leaves and Professional Growth and Development. The teams will also be negotiating Compensation and Benefits.

### **Next Session— October 3, 2019**

The teams have scheduled a number of sessions in October and November, 2019. The next session is set for October 3, 2019.