



In Between...



Moreno Valley Education Association

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Editors: MVEA Negotiations Team
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NEGOTIATION UPDATE

The Association and District Negotiating Teams met on February 23, 26, and March 2 to continue bargaining.

The MVEA Team continues to focus on the Representative Council motion dated December 10, 2008. The District has agreed to the following reductions regarding the Association's position:

Deferred Maintenance	\$1,200,000
Defer Textbooks	\$5,000,000
Eliminate all non-mandated conferences	\$50,000
Eliminate out of district consultants not mandated by law	\$300,000

The Association has repeatedly attempted to elicit discussion on the 184 day CORE instructional program. According to Business Services, the District spends \$15,000,000 on contracts that exceed 184 days. The intent of the December 10 motion was to assess contracts that exceed 184 days and possibly reduce those days up to 1/3 for a savings of \$5,000,000.

The Contract allows the District to unilaterally increase primary class size to 32:1. When the Superintendent proposed in her district budget to raise class size to 27:1, the Association offered to explore class sizes of 22:1 in an effort to minimize class size increases at grades 1-3. The District had no interest in this class size proposal especially as it related to placing this language in the Contract.

On February 23, the two teams revisited the supplemental employee retirement plan (SERP), which the MVUSD School Board has since approved. If 96 bargaining unit members agree to the SERP the plan will be implemented. Employees would receive 75% of their final salary over a designated period of time. Those who are eligible for the SERP will receive informational packets at their mailing addresses. There will be two presentations regarding the SERP at TownGate Elementary School on March 9 and 10 at 3:45 P.M. STRS will also hold meetings for interested eligible MVEA members on April 6, 7, 8, and 9 at Sunnymead Elementary School, by appointment.

The Association has also requested budget data in an effort to verify the District's assertion that a \$6,000,000 deficit still exists. Currently, the Association has requested enrollment/ADA data to substantiate the District's \$5,000,000 loss due to an estimated declining enrollment of 1,000 students. The District, to date, has not answered the questions about enrollment/ADA.

The February 27, 2009 School Board resolution reducing programs and services cuts the number of layoffs from 358 to 282.5. However, this action still balances the budget at the expense of MVEA members only. All administrators on the previous list have been removed with the exception of three elementary assistant principals. As per the Press Enterprise article *Some Inland schools administrators use furloughs, cash donations to cut own pay*, administrators in neighboring districts are stepping up to the plate and offering furloughs and/or pay decreases to protect the CORE program (www.pe.com).

Considering all of the above, the MVEA bargaining team has found insufficient data at this time to agree to losses in compensation or Contract take-backs such as furloughs or increased class sizes.

Support your Bargaining Team and affected colleagues by attending the March 3 and 12 School Board Meetings. Take part in "Pink Slip" activities. Go to www.pinkfriday09.org for more information.