

WOODLAND JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Excellence for All"

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WJUSD and Teacher Negotiations Update – March 31, 2023

DISTRICT AND TEACHERS' UNION BEGIN CONTRACT REOPENER NEGOTIATIONS FOR 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

The District and WEA bargaining teams met on Monday, March 20 to begin reopener negotiations for the 2023-2024 school year. This was the first in-person negotiations since the pandemic.

In June 2022, the District and WEA reached agreement on a successor contract for July 2022 through June 2025. In that agreement, both the District and WEA agreed to reopener negotiations for the 2023-2024 school year where each party could reopen two (2) articles each (excluding salaries and benefits). The agreement closed negotiations for salary and benefits through the 2023-2024 school year.

WEA presented their initial proposal in open session at the January 19 Board meeting and chose to focus on Article 26, Special Education. The District presented their initial proposal at the February 9 Board meeting reopening Article 8, Grievance Procedures and Article 14, Assignment, Reassignment, and Transfer. At the conclusion of the successor negotiations in 2022, the parties agreed to address the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Impact of AB 130 on Current WJUSD K-8 Home Study and Independent Learning Center (ILC) Independent Study Models and the MOU - Comprehensive High School. These items in addition to school year calendars for the 2024-2025 through 2026-2027 school years were included as additional topics in the District's initial proposal for the reopener negotiations.

On March 20, the District and WEA did sign an agreement on the Ground Rules to guide these negotiations sessions. The District presented its proposal to extend the Comprehensive High School MOU for one year and discussed their plan to engage a work group including high school staff and WEA representatives to collect feedback on high school instructional schedules and the needs of our students and community. The District shared a plan for collecting feedback from staff in the K-8 Home Study and ILC programs on the instructional models for these independent study programs. The District presented a proposal to amend the professional development schedule for the coming school year with the goal of dividing up the five (5) days and presented two (2) options for student attendance calendars for each school year from 2024-2025 through 2026-2027. The District and WEA discussed an item related to the Career Technical Student Organization (CTSO) stipend and agreed to work collaboratively on a solution in an effort to negotiate in good faith. At the end of the meeting, WEA presented their proposal on Article 26. The District will present their proposals at the next session and the WEA team will inform the District of availability for a negotiations session in May. The next session is scheduled for April 28.

The District looks forward to working with WEA to reach agreement on reopener negotiations and other items included in this session's agenda.

WJUSD Negotiations Team

Leanee Medina Estrada, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Lewis Wiley, Jr., Associate Superintendent, Business Services

Christina Lambie, Executive Director, Teaching and Learning

Lore Carrillo, Director, College and Career

Eddie Gonzales, Principal, Freeman Elementary School

