

WOODLAND JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Excellence for All"

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Human Resource Services

Leanee Medina Estrada
Assistant Superintendent
435 6th Street, Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 662-0201 / FAX (530) 669-5918

District Website: www.wjUSD.org

Tom Pritchard, Superintendent

WJUSD and Teacher Negotiations Update – November 6, 2020

The District and WEA bargaining teams met yesterday to continue negotiating the effects and impacts of the District's plan to initiate its Phase 2 of reopening, as approved by the Board on October 8, 2020. Phase 2 of reopening, as approved by the Board, will involve limited blended learning by expanding in-person instruction and services to special day class students, in-person counseling services, and providing additional in-person supports for select students (e.g., migrant, homeless, and foster care students and students identified for social emotional supports).

The parties met previously on October 19, 20, 26 and 29 to discuss Phase 2. On October 19, the District presented a proposal to amend the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Phase 1 to address the limited in-person instruction and counseling services referenced above. The proposal addressed health and safety, instruction and health screening and notification. On Tuesday, October 20 and Monday, October 26 WEA presented partial counter proposals noting that additional proposals would be submitted at a future session.

Yesterday's session began with an update from the District regarding plans for the delivery of meals to students attending in-person for Phase 2. The District also shared details on the schedule for the week of November 9 where staff needed for Phase 2 would participate in daily training on safety protocols and procedures and where teachers would be provided time to prepare their classrooms for students. Students identified to participate in person for Phase 2 would start on November 16.

Later in the session, the WEA team presented their comprehensive proposal for Phase 2. Yesterday's proposal included new language not previously included in WEA's prior proposals. New areas addressed in WEA's proposal were assignment, reassignment and transfer, defining limitations for in-person services including counseling and additional preparation time to complete special education assessments and documentation. A new and significant item was WEA's proposal to reduce instructional minutes for all students, effective in Phase 2, to the minimum number of instructional minutes currently allowed by the State of California as outlined in Senate Bill 98. As such, WEA rejected the instructional schedules proposed for the SDC classes that were developed in collaboration with SDC teachers in two separate meetings which provide more instruction time to students than the state's minimum. WEA's proposal also limits in-person interaction with students to no more than 2 ½ hours in the work day.

With the significant changes presented in yesterday's proposal from WEA, the District will need time to work with staff to thoughtfully consider the impact of proposed items on the instructional program for our students. The parties previously agreed on negotiations dates and the next session is scheduled for November 17. In light of WEA's new proposal, the District has postponed its plan for staff to return

on November 9 and students to return on November 16 as the District revises its reopening plans. Accordingly, the District has notified WEA as well as CSEA of the need to continue our commitment to bargain in good faith, with a sense of urgency, and that the start date for Phase 2 employees will be rescheduled to another date.

WJUSD Negotiations Team

Leanee Medina Estrada, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Lewis Wiley, Jr., Associate Superintendent, Business Services

Christina Lambie, Executive Director, Teaching and Learning

Shelley Friery, Principal, Lee Middle School

Eddie Gonzales, Principal, Freeman Elementary School