

Bargaining Update for March 11, 2009

Hello Everyone;

District began the session by stating their intentions to tackle the state budget crisis.

The district began by presenting a three year agreement with the status quo in 2008-09 and 2009-10. However, in 2010-11 they proposed a permanent 5% salary reduction for all teachers. The district stated, "Salary reduction is one option, but we are considering other possibilities."

The Bargaining Team inquired about budget certification (the 3yr budget report required by the County Office of Education). The district stated that it doesn't see how it can file a positive report unless layoff projections or other projections are filed. The district decided to plan how to fill the budget gap and not file a negative report by implementing a 5% salary reduction.

Why 5% - "It saves the district \$9 million."

Why \$9 million - "That is our projection."

After some more discussion about student growth, the bargaining team requested a recess.

The Bargaining Team then agreed with the district on Calendar Days for 2009-2010. Teachers will be voting through email, by this Friday.

There was some counters by the association and by the district that were exchanged. The two teams agreed to meet to clean up some of the minor differences in some of the language, with two representatives each.

There still are major differences in PLC language, RTI language, and grading. The bargaining team agreed to schedule the next session after convening next week. It is the hope of the bargaining team to meet with each site before Spring Break. Please plan on attending for updated information and a chance to ask questions.

Thanks, Matt Johnson
MTA Negotiations Chair