October 25, 2018

DISTRICT PROPOSES ZERO DOLLARS ON-SCHEDULE FOR THIS YEAR
And Zero Dollars more for Health Benefits

The bargaining team met again today and received the district’s proposal on salary and benefits. The district is not offering any increase in salary for this year and nothing on benefits. They have offered a 2% off-schedule increase for 2018-19. Their only on-schedule proposal is for a 1% salary schedule increase beginning July 1, 2019.

The only rationale offered is that the school board wants a balanced budget by 2020. The district will receive $5 million more in on-going funds this year, but somehow can only afford less than $1 million over two years, for all district employees. (The district continues to insist on looking at the cost of PVFA proposals based on all district employees, as if we are bargaining for all district employees).

Clearly we have our work cut out for us. New school board members will be elected next week, so our efforts will focus on the new school board. We will once again be calling on you to attend school board meetings and make our case to the body that consistently appears to treat teacher salaries as an afterthought. Each year we hope it will be a different story, and each year we are wrong.

Other items:
We signed tentative agreements on Article 2 (the term of the agreement- 3 years), and on Article 4 (Association Rights- removing fee payer language), and on Article 14 (Safety – about reporting of unsafe working conditions).

Also discussed were evaluation forms, class size (district rejected a PVFA proposal), hours (having to do with professional development hours), and leave provisions (a few unresolved issues but a tentative agreement on parental leave language).

Finally, we discussed calendar quite a bit. The district is currently asking PVFA to give up all minimum days except for conference days and the day after Back to School nights. The bargaining team is pretty sure we know how you feel about that 😊, but giving input to your reps who will bring it to Rep Council would be helpful.

The next bargaining session is scheduled for December 11, 2018 at the District Office.

Your PVFA Bargaining Team,

Becky Gallagher, Chair
Nic Anikouchine; Kelly Baranick; Tim Coleman; Louis Harley; Kathleen Sullivan