

Bargaining Update - 4/30/14

We are currently in reopener negotiations for the 2013-2014 school year. LACEA sunshined the following items for negotiations: Article X Vacancy, Reassignment and Transfer; Article IX Compensation; Article XII Class Size; Article VII Leaves of Absence and Vacation; Impact of the use of student surveys at McAuliffe School; and the impact of Local Control Funding Formula on programs and students. LACOE sunshined Article VI Hours of Employment and Article IX Compensation.

The teams have met 7 times and have exchanged proposals on Articles X, VI and IX thus far. No agreement has been reached on any of these articles yet. As to Article X, LACEA continues to maintain that seniority and credentialing must be considered when identifying members to be displaced or administratively transferred. On Article VI, our position has been to resist the Office's desire to lengthen our workday and increase the amount of instructional minutes in our workday. The Office has also proposed to get rid of compensation for extended instructional minutes and extended day. We have remained adamant in our opposition to these proposals. Finally, on Article IX, we have opened negotiations asking for an 8% salary increase and LACOE has countered. Obviously we will try to maximize the increase we receive.

Articles VII and XII and the impact items are still to be addressed during this round of negotiations. Also, LACOE and LACEA must come to agreement on what items are to be included in our current contract. Last year, many hours were spent by the LACEA and LACOE reps on creating a merged contract that integrated all TA's and MOU's entered since the last modification in 2006-07. We currently disagree with LACOE's position that items in the Appendix of our contract should be removed since they have not been negotiated to be removed. We have told LACOE that we intend to get this resolved during this negotiation so that we will have a current, single contract to use going forward. For now we are using the 2005-08 contract with modifications in 2006-07.

While we have found some contract language on which we can agree with LACOE, on the key issues in Articles X and VI, we are far apart. There is a real possibility that we may not reach agreement on these issues. Members must be aware that impasse is possible should we fail to agree on these items. We will continue to bargain in good faith to reach a deal, but will not compromise on the matters important to our members.

Our next session will be on May 15th. Updates will follow each bargaining session going forward. To increase our ability to communicate updates and other important union business to you, please send your personal email address and cell phone number (for instant text alerts) to Evelyn at laceaev@aol.com, Brian at lacea.bc@aol.com, or Michaela at moneill@cta.org. Also, check mylacea.com periodically for new information.