The BTA team of Lori Adams, Kim Anderson, Les Cohen, Sue Conway, Colleen Flores, and Sonya Lowe-Tsujimura met with the District's team of Anita Schackmann, David Jaynes, Laura Flosi, Tom Kissinger, and their lawyer Steve Andelson for the first negotiations session on September 28, 2016 at the District Office. We discussed ground rules, Lina Sola joined us for a budget update, and articles to be negotiated this year.

The Unaudited Actuals once again show a healthy Ending Balance and student enrollment is up, however, the district explained the need to account for the end of one time money from the state, the possibility of Prop. 55 not passing, allocated funds that have yet to be spent and two years of our pay increase. BTA requested the actual amount of the pay increase after all checks have been distributed. Both sides agreed that it would be best to address salary and benefits in January when we will know the fate of Prop 55 and Governor Brown's budget proposal.

This year the entire Collective Bargaining Agreement is open but we specifically mentioned the need to address two topics that have been discussed extensively in the past but not settled. These topics include class size and issues in special education. We will be seeking input from members before our next session so please be prepared to share your thoughts when the time comes.

We will meet again on October 28th, November 29th and January 19th.