



Burbank Teachers Association
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NEWS FROM THE TABLE

December 10, 2021

Session 3

District Board Room

The BTA negotiating team comprised of BTA's Executive Director, Nathan Banditelli, Sue Conway (Luther), Brenda Kosbab (BHS), Adam Hochberg (JBHS), Heidi Lavitt (Stevenson), Rachel Zonshine (Edison) met with the BUSD team, comprised of Sarah Niemann (Asst. Sup. Human Resources), John Paramo (Asst. Sup. Ed. Services), Debbie Kukta (Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services), Paulette Koss (Director of Special Education), Jennifer Meglemre (Principal Huerta), Laura Flosi (Principal Edison)

BTA Proposals

1. Article 31: Special Education

- BTA proposed to repurpose Article 31 (Savings Provision) as a special education article.
- BTA's proposal includes language on caseloads, class size and composition, additional time for testing, IEPs, student observations, and meetings, and the use of instructional aides.
- BTA proposed to restore an extra conference period for secondary and additional time for elementary to complete their responsibilities as special ed teachers.
- The proposal also includes the memorialization of a committee that has been meeting periodically for the last several years, with BTA members and district personnel to address special education issues that arise throughout the year.

2. Procedures for Schedule Changes MOU

- BTA and the District continued to discuss the procedures for schedule changes. The District will counter at the next negotiations.

Hot Topics

1. Blowers on Campus

- BTA brought up the environmental and health hazard associated with using blowers on campus. The District will discuss the issue with maintenance.

2. Cleaning Classrooms

- The District is still hiring custodians and other positions. The District explained a bottleneck in the hiring process that slowed down the ability to hire custodians, but the bottleneck has been addressed and hiring should now be faster.

3. Open House

- Both the District and BTA will discuss with members about procedures for Open House if we decide to do Open House on campuses. BTA stated that a virtual Open House is ineffective.

4. Interview Procedures

- BTA brought up concerns about interview procedures for admin positions.
- The district will make more clear procedures in the second round of interviews.

5. Covid Shutdown Procedures

- If a class has to shut down, the procedures are on the District website. The District will send BTA the shutdown procedures and principals will review them at their site's next faculty meeting.

6. DEI Committee

- BTA and the District discussed the importance of establishing procedures for adopting supplemental materials and novels with BTA and teacher input.

7. PPE

- The District will look into purchasing materials to help stop the fogging of glasses while wearing masks (like Opti-plus) for both students and teachers.

Budget Update: First Interim

1. Debbie Kukta presented information on the District's First Interim budget report and the budget projections for 2022 – 2023 and 2023 – 2024. While the District projects declining enrollment, there is hope that the Governor will propose a 2022-2023 COLA that is higher than current projections.

- We will have a better idea of projections after the governor's budget proposal comes out in January.
- The District will counter our wages and benefits proposal after the governor's January budget proposal.

Next Negotiations: Jan. 21st