

GARDEN GROVE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE



June 6, 2007

Both teams, GGEA and the District, have introduced and explained their Adopted Bargaining Goals for the 2007-08 school year. GGEA's list includes exploring ways to provide adequate preparation time for teachers, evaluating and making modifications in the collaboration language in the Contract as needed, establishing class size maximums for SDC, SWIM bands, ELD and physical education classes, allocating additional teachers to high schools in consideration of the number of students taking seven classes per day, returning to the 29:1 staffing ratio, maintaining earnings comparability across the salary schedule, modifying and creating extra compensation stipends, compensating for SST and IEP meetings and preparation, increasing dental coverage and providing partial coverage for hearing aids. The District's list includes examining district staffing ratios, considering revision of job share guidelines in light of declining enrollment, and exploring ways to maintain a comprehensive and cost effective health and welfare program.

In addition to reaching a tentative agreement for the 2007-08 calendar, the teams have had extended discussions about creating new stipends for elementary teachers and special education teachers. The interests of both the District and the Association have been analyzed. The teams have made lists of tasks that are being done at elementary schools outside of the teacher work day and that are not adjunct duties. Both teams agree that the tasks are not exactly the same from school to school. The teams have met on April 11, April 20, April 25, May 2, May 11, May 31, and June 4.

Since the State Budget has not yet been adopted, the teams have not been able to discuss salary increases for next year. The Governor's May Revise did project a 4.53% COLA for next year. However, declining enrollment will mean that the increase to the District will be less than 4.53%. The teams will reconvene on September 24 to resume bargaining on all issues, including salary increases.

GGEA's team members are Armon Akerboom, Spokesperson; Dave Brewer, Santiago; Chris Francis, Alamitos; Lucy Farmer, Peters Lower; Heidi Brown, Patton; and Judith Harrison, GGEA Executive Director.