

Our Side of the Table #2 – April 2019

We had our second bargaining session in the afternoon of Friday, April 5th. The focus of the agenda was to discuss the list of items that both sides will be tabling during this bargaining round. Each party gave an overview of their intention with the articles, and we were able to identify a few items that we have mutual interest in discussing. We presented our interest in discussing items that are on the list of “provincial items”, but are no-cost issues where we have agreement through local letters of understanding; we would like to see the Collective Agreement updated to reflect our current practices and understandings. The district informed us that they would not be agreeing to discuss those items.

Our next bargaining session is a full day on April 16th, and both sides intend to table their specific language so we can begin the process of discussing and making counter proposals.

The district is planning to table language related to some of our joint committees (structure, number of meetings). Additionally, they want to discuss staff meetings, staff representatives, and personnel files.

For the session on April 16th, the VTA has committed to bring our language for these items: Staff Reps, Right to Representation, Budget Process, Principal and VP Selection, Staff Orientation, Professional Relations Committee, Fundraising and Handling Monies, Parent Concerns, and Long Service Leave.

Both sides have agreed to the plan to table and discuss language on post & fill, layoff/recall, and transfers at the bargaining session set for the end of April.

We have 7 further dates set in April and May, and we have agreed to set further bargaining dates for June at our next meeting.

In solidarity,
--- your VTA bargaining team