

Our Side of the Table



Local Meeting - April 9, 2013

Vernon Teachers' Association Negotiating Team

Today, the VTA Negotiating Team met with the Management Team for the first time during this new round of local bargaining. The main items on today's agenda were to determine a Protocol Agreement – basically, establishing the etiquette for our local bargaining process -- and to set a schedule of bargaining dates.

The VTA and Management introduced their respective Negotiations Teams as follows:

VTA: Kevin Bader and Andrew Affleck (lead negotiators / spokespersons), Craig Leverman, Emily Fraser (note taker)

Management: Diane Rhenisch (spokesperson and lead negotiator), Randy Hoffman, Joe Rogers

Opening Statements:

Management gave us copies of their Guiding Principles. The VTA began the meeting by acknowledging the Okanagan Territory and presenting our opening statement. We highlighted our intention *"to work towards improving teachers' working conditions through new language, improvements in existing language, and by updating outdated language to reflect current practice. We want our Collective Agreement to reflect the professionalism of teachers and support their health and well-being."*

Protocol:

Teams exchanged their respective protocol proposals, we combined them into one mutually agreeable protocol document, and signed off!

Future Dates:

We scheduled nine full-day meetings through April, May, and June.

You can post feedback and comments to the Facebook group: **"VTA Bargaining Page."**

-your VTA Negotiating Team