

9-13-17

1. Due to unforeseen circumstances the district negotiating team had to cancel our scheduled session for this week. We have no update regarding the proposals on the table.
2. The UTSWC and District 833 were able to come to an agreement about step advancement and negotiations. For this contract, 2017-19, step advancement will be withheld until a new collective bargaining agreement is ratified like we have done in the past. Starting with the 2019-21 contract negotiations we will receive our step advancement right away. In other words, we will see our step advancement noted at the beginning of the school year and will not have to wait until negotiations are completed.
3. There has been word that some district administrators have been saying the union is not supporting the upcoming levy. That is false information. We do support the levy. Thank you to those members who contacted UTSWC leadership to let us know this was happening. WE speak for our union! Also, it is important to note that while at work and on duty time we can provide facts about the levy but not persuade people to vote yes or no. On your non-duty time you can share your opinions on the levy with family, community members, etc.

Before we began negotiations we expressed the desire for this round of bargaining to be done, or at least 99% done, by early fall because of the upcoming levy. If you read the first negotiation update you can see that it now appears we will be spending more time and resources on negotiating. There is also the upcoming school board election. At this time we will not be allocating money and resources to the Vote Yes campaign. We do not have unlimited resources. If something changes we will let our members know as soon as possible. As mentioned in an email to list-all teachers last week, we encourage you (if you live in our district or know people who live in the district) to start communicating with friends and neighbors about the levy. We are also handing out information from the district about the levy at the UTSWC community event Thursday, September 14th.

In Unity,
UTSWC Negotiators