



Yesterday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, the VEA Bargaining team met again with the District team. In an effort to close the gap in our salaries compared to other local school districts and to make VPS more competitive, our VEA bargaining team shared an initial salary proposal with the VPS team. The proposal incorporated the 2023-24 IPD (3.7%) plus an additional percentage amount.

## Shared Interest – Still Room to Move

In our meeting with the VPS team, our VEA bargaining team recognizes a renewed sense of collaboration and congeniality. While VPS has expressed some shared interest in some of VEA's proposed language regarding PLCs, we do not yet see eye to eye on language pertaining to supports needed for Guiding Coalitions to be most effective. Similarly, VPS acknowledged some need for Special Education teachers/ESAs exemptions, but VEA believes more movement is needed from VPS on this topic.



## The Back and Forth Begins!

VEA also provided counters to VPS' proposals around PIR Placement and Staffing Sequence and updates to Chapter 14 (Layoff, Leave, and Recall Procedures).

## What's Next?

Teams will meet again next week, May 17<sup>th</sup>, to exchange counterproposals.

## 2023 Bargaining Teams

The 2023 VEA interim bargaining team consists of Kari Van Nostran, Jamie Anderson (Bargaining Chair), Amy Spofford, Andrew Wicklas, Keith Lloyd, Sunny Selders, Phil Harding (Interim Executive Director), and Graham Picklesimer (Executive Director). The 2023 District interim bargaining team consists of Jeff Fish, Kris Janati, Brett Blechschmidt, Kristie Lindholm, and Moorea Wilson.

**Future bargaining dates include: May 17, May 25, May 31, & June 9**



We invite and encourage our members to wear your **VEA #BetterTogether** t-shirts on future bargaining dates to show solidarity with your VEA Bargaining team. ***Don't have the t-shirt yet? Request one from VEA today!***

In addition, please make sure VEA has your non-school contact information for subsequent bargaining updates!

Send any changes to your home email to [cbrown@washingtonea.org](mailto:cbrown@washingtonea.org)