



The VEA Bargaining team met with the District team on Wednesday, June 21st, to exchange counterproposals. The VEA team was hopeful that bargaining could have wrapped up yesterday and while some agreements and movement did result, unfortunately it was not enough to see an end to the interim bargain.



At last week's meeting, VEA shared counterproposals regarding Educator Evaluation, Special Educator/ESA exemptions, PLCs/Guiding Coalitions, and Chapter 14 (Layoff, Leave, and Recall Procedures) with the District bargaining team. Aside from salary, the VEA team was waiting on a response from the VPS team on all other proposals during yesterday's session.



Another Tentative Agreement (TA) Reached!

The VEA and VPS Bargaining teams were able to reach the third tentative agreement during this interim bargain. Yesterday's tentative agreement was around updated language regarding PLCs and Guiding Coalitions.

Professionalism Questioned

While VEA and VPS have found several areas of agreement regarding Special Educator/ESA exemptions, the VEA team continues seeking ways to honor educator professionalism and the need for increased flexibility around time and workload. The District, unfortunately, continues to present counter language that does not recognize the same need.



Substantial Language Re-Work = Hot Dumpster Fire



During Wednesday's session, the VPS Bargaining team provided VEA with a counterproposal regarding Educator Evaluations. Several misunderstandings have arisen during this last part of the school year, further highlighting a lack of clarity and understanding of the evaluation process for both educators and evaluators. VEA continues seeking increased clarity and transparency around the evaluation process in VPS.

After having shared multiple counterproposals on this topic throughout this interim bargain, the VPS team responded yesterday with substantially reworked language and formatting, pushing our two teams further away from reaching a tentative agreement.

What's Next?

Your VEA team has offered dates of availability during the last week of June and early August to return to the bargaining table and is now awaiting response from the VPS team regarding their availability.

Be sure to check your home email in mid-August for future bargaining updates!



Make sure VEA has your non-school contact information for subsequent bargaining updates! Send any changes to your home email to cbrown@washingtonea.org