

Lemon Grove School District

8025 Lincoln Street, Lemon Grove, CA 91945 Phone: 619-825-5600 Fax: 619-303-8573

May 8, 2018

Contract Negotiations

Dear Staff and Community,

Contract negotiations between the Lemon Grove School District ("District") and the Lemon Grove Teachers Association ("Association") have reached an impasse. The District and Association jointly requested the Public Employment Relations Board ("PERB") to assign a State Mediator to assist the parties in reaching an agreement. In response to the joint request, a State Mediator was assigned by PERB on April 27, 2018 to assist the parties. The District looks forward to working with the State Mediator and remains optimistic that mediation will result in a mutually acceptable resolution of the impasse. This meeting is forthcoming on May 14th.

The obligation to "participate in the impasse process in good faith" is set forth in the Educational Employment Relations Act. Both parties therefore have a statutory obligation to participate in the impasse process in good faith.

We value our educational professionals, and like so many other districts in the state, we are facing increased pension and health care costs and other budgetary challenges. We are continuing to work through these challenges to find a viable solution.

Our Lemon Grove learners come first, and I know our teacher's association and our District and Board of Trustees are committed to working together to ensure this. I met with our LGTA Union President and Vice President during our regularly scheduled weekly problem solving meeting this afternoon to share your inquiry, and they completely agree that we are in a good place to finish up negotiations in an amicable way with a positive outcome for all.

On May 8th our Board of Trustees will honor several of our schools, students and teachers. We are recognizing our Vista La Mesa Academy students and teachers for accomplishments in the MESA competition. We are recognizing our Mount Vernon School for International Baccalaureate (IB) Achievement. We are honoring San Miguel Elementary for implementing the Leader in Me. Finally, we are honoring Sue Bruner, a teacher, for receiving the Legoland Teachers are Heroes award.

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Yours in Education,

Kimberly M Berman

Dr. Kimberly Berman

Superintendent