
From: Nightingale, Stephanie
Sent: Saturday, October 14, 2023 2:08 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Thank you

To everyone for all their support, hard work, determination, and dedication for and in half of the teachers of the WCSD.

Stephanie Nightingale
Special Education Teacher
Marvin Moss ES

From: Eckerman, Amanda
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 12:26 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Contract Approval

To the Board of Trustees,

Thank you so much for your support as our amazing union has worked hard to advocate for teachers in WCSD. This contract is a monumental move for our district to recruit, retain, and celebrate teachers. I have personally spent my own time and money traveling California trying to recruit teachers to join our music department because I am so passionate about the support we receive for the arts here in Washoe County, but I have not been successful in bringing teachers to WCSD because of our pay scale. That has been the stopping point every time. With this pay increase, as well as the other amazing benefits our union negotiated for us, teachers (like myself) who have considered leaving WCSD will be able to stay and teachers who have already left may consider returning. This contract will make our salaries competitive with the surrounding areas and put us in a position not only to have every allocation filled, but to be able to hire the best among a pool of candidates.

I think it is safe to assume that you joined the Board of Trustees because you care about education. Caring about education means caring about our kids, so we must also care about the adults who are tasked with caring for, guiding, and educating our precious children. Adults who don't have to work multiple jobs, who know they'll be able to pay rent or put food on the table, and who feel appreciated as professionals will be better equipped to provide the excellent education our children deserve.

Thank you for your support of this contract.

Musically yours,

A board-certified, highly-effective mentor and teacher leader who is relieved to be able to stay in this amazing district.



Amanda Eckerman, NBCT

Intermediate General Music Teacher 🎵

General Music Mentor Teacher

Fine Arts Technology Committee

Fine Arts Standards & Assessment Committee

From: Kaiser, Tiffany E
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 2:41 PM
To: Public Comments <PublicComments@WashoeSchools.net>
Subject: Contract Approval

Thank you to everyone on the negotiations team at WEA and the Board of Trustees that listened to our needs and concerns, advocated, and negotiated on behalf of all WCSD teachers.

Tiffany Kaiser
5th Grade Teacher
Glenn Duncan ES

From: Koger, Paula
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 10:45 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Teacher Contract & Frozen Step

Dear Trustees,
Thank you for reading my email.

I am incredibly grateful for the contract presented to you tonight and for you to approve this without reservation. One specific detail in the contract that is so important to me personally is the ***reinstating of the 2010 frozen step***. For years, I have been one step behind on the salary schedule because of this issue and decision made during the recession. It has been a compounded inequality to teachers who have stayed committed to the Washoe County School District. For the past 20 years as a WCSD teacher, I have dedicated my life and service to teaching kids. Recently I thought many times, this just isn't worth it anymore and I think I should do something different. Especially with a salary scale that had be unfairly behind many of my colleagues hired after me. Previous contracts never addressed this issue. That was heartbreaking. This has been a huge unfair issue that cost many of us thousands of dollars these past 13 years. Finally a contract that corrects this issue brings tears to my eyes. 😊

Thank you for voting to APPROVE this contract. This contract is incredible and supports us teachers to show how much we are truly valued by increasing our salary significantly- and especially to us veteran teachers who deserve to be equally paid for our years of service.

This amazing contract allows me to provide more for my family and long term for my retirement—and also keeps those thoughts of leaving the profession altogether at bay.

Thank you again for VOTING Yes to this contract! 😊

Sincerely,
A very grateful WCSD teacher
Paula Koger



From: kristenirene
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 4:35 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 3.04

Dear Trustees and Dr. Enfield,

I apologize that I am unable to be there in person to give this comment.

I wanted to thank you all for showing up for teachers and staff at rallies, at the legislature, and with what you do each day. Part of having a wonderful district is how we all work together to lift each other up which in turn shows how we lift up students. Working together is so important.

I was so pleased to see our support staff getting a really good contract. I can't do my job without my assistant. She is worth her weight in gold. Our support staff work incredibly hard every single day. Thank you for approving their contract.

I am very pleased with the contract for certified staff. When I first started as a member of Empower Nevada Teachers, I wasn't totally convinced we would truly get some of the things that teachers need. The raise in pay is huge for my family. With two WCSD graduates in college, some months are a struggle. This will give us a little more wiggle room to breathe. One of the parts of the contracts that makes me most happy is the return of the step that was taken away in 2009. I was a substitute in 2009, so the return of it doesn't affect me or my pay, but it DOES affect so many teachers with whom I have worked. They have deserved that step back for a really long time.

As a special education teacher, I am really glad to hear that when IEPs go 1/2 hour after contract hours, ALL CERTIFIED STAFF will receive 40.00. It is rare for IEP meetings to be completed in 1/2 hour or even 45 minutes. I'm glad that it is all of us who will be compensated. I hope that with the MOUs this extends to MTSS and 504s and any other meetings that might take longer.

I also hope that WSPA receives a well deserved good contract. This goes back to working together. We cannot do our jobs effectively as teachers without the support of our Principals, Assistant Principals, Specialists, Directors and Assistant Directors, Coordinators, Lead Psychologists, Program Administrators, and Site Administrators (I apologize if I missed anyone).

We are always better together. We all work with our students first and foremost in our minds.

Respectfully,
Kristen De Haan