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WUSD and WTA Begin 2017 Bargaining Cycle with Positive Collaboration

We are pleased to announce a successful start to collective bargaining with the Washington Teachers Association (WTA). Our current agreement sunsets on June 30, 2018, and our goal is to renew that agreement prior to that date.

The first negotiations meeting was held on Monday, October 23, 2017 bringing together teachers, principals, and administrators guided by an outside facilitator.

Both teams have been trained and have agreed on **Interest Based Bargaining (IBB)** to be the foundation of this year's cycle and hopeful that it will yield a speedy and amicable outcome.

While traditional bargaining is based on the passing of proposals that are based on a fixed position, IBB focuses on the mutual development of agreements based on the interests of both parties.

The first meeting was indeed productive and generated positive momentum moving forward. Collaborative discussion was had to establish ground rules, agree on logistics, and conduct preliminary discussions about the issues to be resolved through negotiations. The next scheduled meeting date is Friday, November 17, 2017 covering the following agenda items:

1. Check-in
2. Outstanding Issues
3. Review notes from 'sharing of articles'
4. Articles 3,23 & impact of Assembly Bill (AB) 119
(Review AB 119, current practice, and generating options to address items not currently in the contract)
5. Process check
6. Next steps
7. Present technical revision proposals
8. Build agenda for next session

[Interest Based Bargaining Overview](#)