



Press Release

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YOSEMITE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
Modesto Junior College & Columbia College

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Board Statement on YCCD Contract Negotiations

MODESTO, CA – The Yosemite Community College District and the Yosemite Faculty Association have been in contract negotiations for nearly three years. In April 2018, the District delivered its last best offer, which was rejected by the union. An impasse was declared. On September 17-18, the two sides met with a three-member fact-finding panel authorized by the state Public Employees Relations Board. A fact-finding report is expected soon.

At Wednesday's YCCD Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Board Chairman Darin Gharat read the following statement:

The District has provided a settlement offer to the YFA during the impasse negotiations process in another attempt, among several, to amicably resolve this ongoing labor dispute. Wednesday at 2 p.m., YFA finally responded with a counterproposal to the District's settlement offer that specifically sets forth the increase to the salary schedule YFA is demanding.

We cannot discuss the specifics of the District's offer or YFA's counterproposal. The District has been negotiating with the YFA for three years and YFA had never previously put in writing the exact percentage salary increase it is demanding from the District. Three years is a long time. The District, taxpayers and the public have a right to know what salary increase YFA is demanding and its potential impact on the District's budget. It is unfair for the community and students we serve to live in fear of a potential walkout by faculty and the damage that action could cause when no one knows what salary increase YFA is demanding. How can the District reach a settlement with YFA when the community has no information as to the fiscal impact such a settlement could have on the institution?

At this time, the District calls upon YFA to publicly disclose the specific percentage increase to the salary schedule it is demanding in the interest of transparency and fiscal responsibility. The constraints of confidentiality and the applicable collective bargaining statutes do not preclude in any way YFA's ability to share the specific percentage increase to the salary schedule with the public and the financial costs associated with this demand.

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