Good evening AMU members,

Today the bargaining team met with Green Dot for the first day of negotiations for the 2023-2024 contract.

Last week Ambar Ramirez, from Animo Legacy, had to step down as our Bargaining Chair. The bargaining team will miss her at the table and thank her for her years of service.

Stephanie Foard from Animo Inglewood applied for the Bargaining Alternate position earlier this month and attended today’s bargaining session as the alternate and will be continuing on the bargaining team moving forward. As a result, the Bargaining Alternate position once again needs to be filled. If you wish to apply for the Bargaining Alternate position you may apply by clicking here.

This year your Bargaining Team is:
Jeremy Zuniga, AMU President
Hector Vega, AMU Vice President and History Teacher at Alain LeRoy Locke High School
Yvonne Pruitt, History Teacher at Oscar de La Hoya Animo
John Kannofsky, Art Teacher at Animo Venice
Stephanie Foard, Math Teacher at Animo Inglewood

This year we will not have a formal Bargaining Chair. If you have questions about Bargaining, please reach out to myself or our Vice-President, Hector Vega.
Today we met in person and established bargaining norms including protocols for exchanging counter proposals.

AMU presented our proposal on Article 15 (Class Size and Counselor Caseload). We proposed allowing amelioratory measures to kick in based on the organization wide class average size, or the standard 33 students (or 27 for intervention classes), whichever is lower. AMU also proposed placing a cap on class size for ID (intellectually disabled students) and Special Education Classes. We also proposed that amelioratory measures for both teachers and counselors be proportional to the amount they are over the class size or case load limit.

Green Dot and AMU each presented initial proposals on Article 17 (discipline). Green Dot proposed adding an additional just cause provision regarding the use of derogatory language. AMU proposed updating old language related to positions that no longer exist and removing the word “serious” to clarify that any discipline without progressive discipline should only involve an egregious offense as defined by the California Education Code.

Our next bargaining session is scheduled for Friday, March 10th. Also, while we are thrilled that Green Dot has chosen to extend the internal Covid leave (including retroactively for the two weeks it was not in effect) we want to be clear that every time there has been an internal Covid leave it has been initially proposed by AMU. With that being said we agree with Cristina de Jesus that extending the internal leave until the end of the year is the right thing to do.

If you have any questions please respond to this email or reach out to your AMU President or Vice-President.

Have a good evening.

In Solidarity,

Jeremy Zuniga
He/Him/His
AMU President
310-361-0750