FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
PURSUANT TO
GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 3548.1, et seq. (EERA)

SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT,
Employer

vs.

SAVANNA DISTRICT TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION
Employee Association

PERB CASE NO. LA-TM-4112-E

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF
THE FACTFINDING PANEL

Neutral Factfinding Panel Chair: Loretta van der Pol
District-Appointed Panel Member: Steven Andelson
Association-Appointed Panel Member: Dave Brown

Hearing Date: September 20, 2022

APPEARANCES:

For the Employer: Briana Schnitzer, Savanna School District and Mellissa Gallegos,
Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

For the Association: Brian Eldridge, California Teachers Association and Susan
Broscow and Carmen Garcia, Savanna District Teachers Association
BACKGROUND

The Savanna School District (District or Employer) and the Savanna District Teachers Association (Association or SDTA) are parties to a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA or contract).

The District is comprised of four elementary schools serving students from transitional kindergarten through the sixth grade, with an enrollment of just under 2000. Students reside in the cities of Anaheim, Cypress, Buena Park and Stanton, in Orange County.

The SDTA bargaining unit has approximately 116 members in the following classifications: Teachers (regular, special education and reading specialist), Speech and Language Specialists, District Nurses and temporary teachers who are employed for more than 60% of the number of days school is in session.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Prior to the issue in dispute, the parties met for several months in negotiations for a successor contract for the period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2023. Those negotiations concluded on December 2, 2021, with a Tentative Agreement (TA), which was subsequently ratified by the SDTA bargaining unit. See Exhibit A.

At the time the TA on the full contract negotiations was reached, SDTA was not aware that unit members in the classifications of Speech and Language Specialist (SLP) and Nurse had filed separate Decertification Petitions with the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB). Both petitions were withdrawn in mid-January 2022.

On or about March 2, 2022, the District asked SDTA to reopen negotiations on compensation for SLPs and Nurses. SDTA agreed and the parties met in April, reaching a TA on April 11, 2022. See Exhibit B.

On April 22, 2022, a ratification election was conducted by SDTA. The TA for the additional compensation for SLPs and Nurses was rejected by the majority. The District requested a return to negotiations but the parties were unable to agree to the scope of those negotiations. See Exhibit C.

The District declared an impasse and submitted a request to PERB for certification and a referral to mediation. Mediation did not resolve the impasse and the mediator released the parties to factfinding on August 5, 2022. The Factfinder was appointed on August 29, 2022.

The parties met in factfinding at the District’s office on September 20, 2022.¹

¹ The parties agreed to waive the statutory timelines.
STATEMENT OF THE ISSUES

On August 31, 2022, the parties agreed to the following Statement of Issues: "Additional compensation for Nurses and Speech and Language Pathologists."

FACTFINDING CRITERIA

This Factfinding is governed by the provisions of EERA, which provide in Government Code Section 3548.2(b) that the factfinders shall consider, weigh, and be guided by all the following criteria (boldface type added for emphasis as the bases for this matter in factfinding):

(1) State and federal laws that are applicable to the employer.

(2) Stipulations of the parties.

(3) The interests and welfare of the public and the financial ability of the public school employer.

(4) Comparison of the wages, hours, and conditions of employment of the employees involved in the factfinding proceeding with the wages, hours, and conditions of employment of other employees performing similar services and with other employees generally in public school employment in comparable communities.

(5) The consumer price index for goods and services, commonly known as the cost of living.

(6) The overall compensation presently received by the employees, including direct wage compensation, vacations, holidays, and other excused time, insurance and pensions, medical and hospitalization benefits; the continuity and stability of employment; and all other benefits received.

(7) Any other facts, not confined to specified in paragraphs (1) to (6), inclusive, which are normally or traditionally taken into consideration in making the findings and recommendations.

SCOPE OF FACTFINDING

This factfinding report and recommendations address only the sole issue at impasse, which is the additional compensation for the SLPs and Nurses. Negotiations for this additional
compensation was proposed by the District and agreed to by the Association. There was no agreement during the negotiations to include any other classifications.²

Position of the Employer:

The District has difficulty recruiting fully-credentialed Speech and Language Specialists and in recent years has had to hire interns. Research has shown that students who are economically disadvantaged and who attend schools in areas of poverty are adversely impacted by shortages of credentialed teachers and specialists. The Savanna School District student population is classified as 83% economically disadvantaged. Eleven percent are homeless, .03% are in foster care and 14% are special needs students. See Exhibits D and E.

The District is experiencing a greater need to retain skilled nurses with the CDPH COVID-19 pandemic guidelines required for the return to in-person instruction. Managing the medical needs of students, including those with diabetes who require monitoring, has added workload for nurses in the schools. There is competition with other districts and hospitals who have increased pay for skilled nurses. See Exhibits D and E.

The District surveyed comparable elementary school districts in the surrounding area for a total of five districts, including its own. The District's SLPs were found to be ranked lowest in salary. The District's nurses were ranked third.⁴

Implement the negotiated additional compensation for SLPs and Nurses as negotiated in the TA signed on April 11, 2022.

Position of the Association:

The Association was not aware of the Decertification Petitions being filed by the SLPs and the Nurses at or shortly after the time the successor agreement negotiations were nearing a close.⁵ Had it been aware, it might have affected the successor agreement negotiations differently. See Exhibits F and G.

The Association also conducted a survey of local school districts, including one elementary school district that differed from the District's, and two high school districts.⁶

² The negotiated successor CBA for the period of July 1 through June 30, 2023, Article VII Wages, second paragraph in Section 7.1 2023-26 School Year contains contingency language for a possible wage reopen for the full bargaining unit.
³ California Department of Public Health
⁴ The District and the Association do not have an agreed-upon list of comparable school districts.
⁵ The two petitions were filed on different days and appear to have required modifications, as there are two different date stamps on each petition.
⁶ There was overlap between the SDTA and SSD comparison surveys. SDTA did not dispute the District's data, so there is not exhibit of the SDTA's comparison's included with this report.
When the TA on the additional compensation failed to ratify by the bargaining unit, SDTA was not given a sufficient amount of time to respond to the District's request to re-enter negotiations before an impasse was declared by the District.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chair recommends that the parties accept the District's proposal, consistent with the Tentative Agreement reached on April 11, 2022.

The unique nature of this impasse - a failed ratification on an agreement reached on a single issue - made it difficult to find any common ground to try and resolve the matter through discussions in the Factfinding hearing.

The timing issues and circumstances surrounding the successor negotiations' TA and the subsequent reopener requested by the District on additional compensation for the SLPs and Nurses are difficult for the Association's unit members to accept. This is understandable.

The reopener negotiations involved only this wage benefit and there was no agreement to proceed on a general wage reopener for the entire unit. While there was a reference made to the contingency language in the new CBA about a general wage reopener, there was no information provided by the Association that its intent had been to exercise that provision or delay the District's requested reopener and include the additional compensation for the two classifications in those negotiations. The information presented by the District in Factfinding included email correspondence that was included as an exhibit to PERB for the certification of an impasse, and there was no mention of the general wage reopener in that correspondence. See Exhibit C.

The reopener negotiation specific to additional compensation for the SLPs and Nurses resulted in a TA. When it failed to be ratified, the District offered to reopen negotiations, but there was no agreement to expand the proposed benefit to other classes. The provisions of the EERA Section 3548, et seq., were followed. There is no additional obligation on the part of the District to re-enter negotiations once all of the statutory provisions have been used and there continues to be no agreement.

CONCLUSION

The Chair is hopeful that this recommendation does not impede or impair the ability of the parties to have productive negotiations going forward.
Respectfully submitted September 23, 2022,

Loretta van der Pol, Chair of Factfinding Panel

______________________________
Steven Andelson, Panel Member for the Employer  
X  Concur  
.  Dissent (Attached)

______________________________
Dave Brown, Panel Member for the Association  
  Concur  
  Dissent (Attached)
Respectfully submitted September 23, 2023,

Loretta van der Pol, Chair of Factfinding Panel

Steven Andelson, Panel Member for the Employer

Dave Brown, Panel Member for the Association

Concur

Dissent (Attached)

Concur

Dissent (Attached)
IN FACTFINDING PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT
CODE SECTION 3548.1 et seq. (EEERA)

IN THE MATTER OF:

SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND
SAVANNA DISTRICT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION,
SDTA/CTA/NEA

Case No. LA-JM-4112-E
Savanna School District

September 23, 2022

CONCURRENCE AND DISSENT OF
FACTFINDING PANEL MEMBER FOR
SAVANNA DISTRICT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION,
SDTA/CTA/NEA

As noted in the Factfinder’s Report, an impasse under these circumstances—a failed ratification vote on an agreement reached on a single issue, specifically increased salaries for seven unit members among a group totaling approximately 116—provides little basis for compromise at hearing. I concur.

The Chair’s findings are clear and well-stated. However, I must note my dissent on one issue: the recommendation that the parties accept the District’s proposal.

The Association has an obligation to listen to ALL of its members. The ratification vote for the negotiated Memorandum of Understanding was thirty-six (36) votes in favor and fifty-nine (59) opposed. The vote was taken after members had the opportunity to attend an online informational meeting, listen to a presentation by the Speech & Language Pathologist whom the Association had added to its bargaining team specifically for these negotiations, and ask questions. A 62% vote against a proposed MOU cannot, and should not, be ignored by either party. The reasons behind those votes must be explored and considered by both parties as they determine how to move forward.

With the conclusion of the factfinding process, the District will now have the right to unilaterally impose the rejected MOU upon the Association’s membership. Although no individual employee will suffer irreparable harm, an imposition could cause significant damage to its relationship with the Association. Nothing in the evidence presented at hearing indicated the Association had acted in bad faith at any point during this process. As indicated by its tentative agreement to the MOU, the chapter’s leadership and bargaining team believed it was an appropriate settlement. And, as pointed out in the hearing, it was the Association that initially proposed additional compensation for the nurses and SLPs on December 2, 2022, prior to the
close of negotiations on its successor agreement. In that instance it was the District who rejected the overture.

Democracy is a core value of this nation. Teachers work to instill that value for their students on a daily basis. For that reason, imposition—ignoring the vote of the Association’s membership—would be the wrong thing to do. I would instead recommend that the parties return to negotiations and address SLP and Nurse compensation as part of the existing salary reopener for 2022-23. Doing so would allow the parties to negotiate terms for which both the District’s Board of Education and the Association’s membership can show majority support.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Dave Brown
Association Panel Member
EXHIBIT A

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND
SAVANNA DISTRICT TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION

JULY 1, 2021
through
JUNE 30, 2023
ARTICLE VII - WAGES

7.1 2021-22 School Year

Provide a 2% salary schedule increase to all bargaining unit members effective July 1, 2021 to all bargaining unit members employed by the District as of October 1, 2021.

Provide a 1.5% one-time off-schedule payment to all bargaining unit members employed by the District as of October 1, 2021.

2022-23 School Year

Provide a 1% salary schedule increase to all bargaining unit members effective July 1, 2022. In the event the District’s LCFF (Local Control Funding Formula) Base Grant Revenue for 2022-23 exceeds the District’s LCFF Base Grant Revenue in 2021-22, the parties agree to reopen negotiations for wages only.

Provide a 1.5% one-time off-schedule payment to all bargaining unit members.

7.2 Units for Advancement - Units for advancement to Class II, III, and IV may be taken without prior approval but must be upper division or graduate units in courses directly related to elementary teaching. Specific lower division courses may be acceptable, with prior approval, provided they are directly related to elementary education and would be acceptable toward a degree in an accredited institution*. Proof of completion of said units (verifying transcripts or report cards) must be furnished the District before classification may be changed.

Time of Payment - A unit member who qualifies for a salary increase shall be paid the increased salary not later than three (3) regular pay periods or three (3) months, whichever is longer, after the employee files proper documentation where required for the salary increase. The District shall additionally pay the employee daily interest on the amount owed to the employee calculated from the date that the employee was entitled to the salary increase if the school district does not pay the employee his or her salary increase within three (3) regular pay periods or three (3) months, whichever period is longer, after the employee files proper documentation where required for the salary increase. All amounts due the employee resulting from the salary increase and not paid to the employee at the time that the employee actually receives the salary increase shall be paid to the employee within twenty (20) business days of the data that the employee actually received the salary increase. The District shall additionally pay the employee daily interest on the amount owed to the
EXHIBIT B

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND
SAVANNA DISTRICT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The Savanna School District (District) and Savanna District Teachers Association (Association) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and agree as follows:

Credit for Outside Experience: Nurses

Nurses hired by the District after July 1, 2021 shall be placed at Step 2 on the Certificated Teachers Salary Schedule. Nurses employed by the District prior to July 1, 2021 shall receive a one-time salary step increase of one step. All Nurses, presently employed and future hires, shall receive credit for prior nursing experience in a hospital or public school while possessing the required credential and/or license for a maximum of five (5) years, subject to verification of employment by the Superintendent or designee.

Speech Pathologists

Effective July 1, 2021, Speech Pathologists shall be placed on the following Speech Pathologist Salary Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steps/Yrs</th>
<th>MS/MA</th>
<th>BS/BA</th>
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<td>20 Yrs.</td>
<td>113,540</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Yrs.</td>
<td>118,824</td>
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All other sections of Article VII-Wages shall remain in full force and effect.

Date: April 11, 2022

Briana Schnitzer
Assistant Superintendent
Savanna School District

Susan Brosow
Savanna District Teachers Association Co-President

Carmen García
Savanna District Teachers Association Co-President
EXHIBIT C

PERB Received
05/04/22 11:44 AM

Steven J. Andelson

From: Steven J. Andelson
Sent: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 4:07 PM
To: "Garcia, Carmen"
Cc: Schnitzer, Brian; Johnson, Sue; Brosow, Susan; Brian Eldridge; Linden, Kasey; Guillen, Gracela; Glynn, Lisa
Subject: RE: [External E-Mail] Re: [EXTERNAL] MOU Tentative Agreement [AALRR-Cerritos.005083.00048]
Attachments: SDTA signed SLNurse MOU.pdf

Hi Carmen,

Based on your email, it appears we are at impasse with SDTA. The District engaged in negotiations with SDTA to address increased compensation for the Nurses and Speech Pathologists. The attached tentative agreement was reached and signed by both the District and SDTA on April 11, 2022. Now SDTA is indicating it does not have the collective support of its members and cannot make any guarantees of progress. SDTA is also changing the manner in which it has negotiated in the past as well as the scope of the current negotiations issues.

We will be requesting approval of impasse from the Public Employment Relations Board and the appointment of a mediator from the State Conciliation and Mediation Service.

Sincerely,

Steve

--- Original Message ---
From: Garcia, Carmen [mailto:carmen.garcia@seved.org]
Sent: Monday, May 2, 2022 9:28 AM
To: Steven J. Andelson
Cc: Schnitzer, Brian; Johnson, Sue; Brosow, Susan; Brian Eldridge; Linden, Kasey; Guillen, Gracela; Glynn, Lisa
Subject: Re: [External E-Mail] Re: [EXTERNAL] MOU Tentative Agreement

[EXTERNAL MESSAGE]

Good morning Steve,

SDTA is always open to further negotiations for the benefit of our members. However, for this particular matter, we do not have the collective support of our members. After meeting with members and receiving feedback, SDTA cannot make any guarantees of progress.

If the district is interested in moving forward, we would like to request that the conversation include ALL members and a potential increase for all. If that agreement can be reached with good faith negotiations in mind, we would be willing to meet at a later date.

Thanks,

Carmen

> On Apr 28, 2022, at 4:19 PM, Steven J. Andelson <SAndelson@sealr.com> wrote:
> Hi Carmen,
In light of the ratification vote on the April 11, 2022 MOU not passing, the District is requesting continued negotiations in an effort to reach an agreement. The District team is available on May 6 from 2-4 pm; May 8 from 8-11; or May 9 from 8-10. Please advise which date/time works best for your team.

Thanks very much,

Steve Andelson

On Apr 22, 2022, at 3:08 PM, Carmen Carmen <carmen.garcia@seved.org> wrote:

The ratification votes have been collected and counted and the ratification vote DID NOT pass with members.

-SDOA Bargaining Team

This email was scanned by Bitdefender
Bargaining History Regarding SLPs and Nurses

11-30-21 District receives a Petition for Decertification filed with the Public Employment Relations Board by the SLPs and Nurses to remove their classifications from the SDTA bargaining unit based on a belief that SDTA was not representing them fairly in negotiations.

12-2-21 Tentative Agreement reached between SDTA and the District, which excluded additional compensation for SLPs and Nurses.

1-14-22 Decertification Petition was withdrawn by SLPs and Nurses with the expectation that added compensation would be addressed by SDTA in ensuing negotiations.

3-7-22 Negotiation session scheduled with SDTA and the District for 3-16-22 to address SLP and Nurse compensation.

3-14-22 Planned negotiations session for 3-16-22 was cancelled by SDTA at 3:23 pm. In response, the District sends its proposal to SDTA to increase compensation for SLPs and Nurses.

3-16-22 The District's Initial Proposal for increased compensation for SLPs and Nurses was sent to SDTA via email (attached hereto as Attachment G).

4-11-22 SDTA and the District met to discuss the District's proposal for increased compensation for SLPs and Nurses. At 8:45 am, SDTA submitted its Counterproposal. The District and SDTA subsequently exchanged drafts of the Memorandum of Understanding that would ultimately result in the Tentative Agreement between the parties. Copies of SDTA's Counterproposal and drafts of the Memorandum of Understanding exchanged between the parties at 10:00 am, 11:10 am, and 11:40 am are attached hereto as Attachment H.

4-11-22 Tentative Agreement was reached on the District's proposal, signed by Assistant Superintendent Schnitzer and SDTA Co-Presidents Broscow and Garcia (see Attachment B).

4-22-22 The District received an email from SDTA Co-President Garcia that the signed Tentative Agreement failed ratification.

4-29-22 The District requested SDTA to continue negotiations due to failure of ratification.

5-2-22 SDTA Co-President Garcia emailed the District indicating that SDTA was willing to negotiate with the District if all bargaining unit members were considered for a salary increase and not just SLPs and Nurses.
5-4-22  Request for Impasse Determination/Appointment of Mediator filed with PERB (see Attachment D).

5-10-22  PERB approved the District's request for mediation and Gerry Adams was appointed as mediator (see Attachment E).

5-20-22  Mediation date confirmed.

6-7-22  During mediation, Gerry Adams gave SDTA a strict three-week timeline to solicit feedback from their members and draft an informational flyer to re-solicit a new vote. The mediator was going to communicate progress to the District. The District indicated the importance of resolving this issue before the new school year began for recruitment and retention purposes. The informational flyer did not go out and voting did not take place.

7-19-22  The District and SDTA again met to review the commitments made by SDTA during the 6/7/22 mediation.

8-4-22  In light of no progress in mediation, the mediator agreed to release the parties to factfinding and notified PERB on 8/5/22 (see Attachment F).
August 31, 2022

VIA PERB E-FILE

Yaron Partovi, Regional Attorney
Public Employment Relations Board
425 W. Broadway, Suite 400
Glendale, CA 91204-1269

Re: Case No. LA-IM-4112-E
Savanna Elementary School District and Savanna District Teachers Association
Parties’ Joint Statement of Issue

Dear Mr. Partovi:

This is to confirm that the parties in the above matter have jointly agreed to the following issue to be submitted to the Factfinding Panel:

Additional compensation for Nurses and Speech and Language Pathologists

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to call me directly at (310) 386-4044.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Atkinson, Anderson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

Steven J. Anderson

cc: Brian Eldridge, CTA (via email)
    Dave Brown, CTA (via email)
    Loretta van der Pol, Factfinding Panel Chairperson (via email)
    Mellissa Gallegos, Esq. (via email)
    Dr. Sue Johnson, Superintendent (via email)
    Briana Schnitzer, Assistant Superintendent (via email)
PROOF OF SERVICE

(CODE CIV. PROC. § 1013A(3))

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18
years and am not a party to the within action; my business address is 12800 Center Court Drive
South, Suite 300, Cerritos, California 90703-9364.

On August 31, 2022, I served the following document(s) described as PARTIES’
JOINT STATEMENT OF ISSUE (LA-IM-4112-E) on the interested parties in this action as
follows:

Yaron Partovi, Regional Attorney
Public Employment Relations Board
425 W. Broadway, Suite 400
Glendale, CA 91204-1269
Telephone: (818) 696-6345
(VIA E-FILE: ePERB PUBLIC PORTAL)

Brian Eldridge
California Teachers Association
281 N. Rampart Street, #A
Orange, CA. 92868
Telephone: (714) 978-8861
Email: beldridge@cta.org
(VIA EMAIL)

☐ BY MAIL: I caused to be placed a true and correct copy of the document(s) in a sealed
envelope for collection and mailing following the firm’s ordinary business practices. I
am readily familiar with the firm’s practice for collection and processing
correspondence for mailing. On the same day that correspondence is placed for
collection and mailing, it is deposited in the ordinary course of business with the United
States Postal Service in a sealed envelope with postage fully prepaid.

☒ BY EMAIL: My electronic service address is mneedham@aahrr.com. I sent such
document(s) to the email address(es) listed above or on the attached Service List. Such
document(s) was scanned and emailed to such recipient(s) and email confirmation(s)
will be maintained with the original document in this office indicating the recipients’
email address(es) and time of receipt.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the
foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on August 31, 2022, at La Mirada, California.

[Signature]

Michelle L. Needham
ATTACHMENT B
Signed Tentative Agreement

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND
SAVANNA DISTRICT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The Savanna School District (District) and Savanna District Teachers Association (Association) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and agree as follows:

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Longevity

15 Yrs. 109,435 105,057
20 Yrs. 113,540 108,998
25 Yrs. 118,824 114,071

All other sections of Article VII—Wages shall remain in full force and effect.

Date: April 11, 2022

[Signatures]
Briana Schnitzer
Assistant Superintendent
Savanna School District

Susan Brusow
Savanna District Teachers Association Co-President

Carmen García
Savanna District Teachers Association Co-President
Hi Carmen,

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We will be requesting approval of impasse from the Public Employment Relations Board and the appointment of a mediator from the State Conciliation and Mediation Service.

Sincerely,

Steve

Steven J. Andelson | Senior Partner
Alkonston, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo
12800 Center Court Drive, Suite 300, Cerritos, CA 90703
Main: (661) 653-3200 • Direct Fax (661) 653-3723 sandelson@aalrr.com | vcard | bio | website | subscribe | blog

--- Original Message ---
From: Garcia, Carmen [mailto:carmen.garcia@eavcd.org]
Sent: Monday, May 2, 2022 9:28 AM
to: Steven J. Andelson
Cc: Schnitzer, Briana; Johnson, Sue; Broscow, Susan; Brian Eldridge; Linden, Kasey; Guillen, Gracida; Glynn, Lisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: [EXTERNAL] MOU Tentative Agreement

[EXTERNAL MESSAGE]

Good Morning Steve,

SDTA is always open to further negotiations for the benefit of our members. However, for this particular matter, we do not have the collective support of our members. After meeting with members and receiving feedback, SDTA cannot make any guarantees of progress.

If the district is interested in moving forward, we would like to request that the conversation include ALL members and a potential increase for all. If that agreement can be reached with good faith negotiations in mind, we would be willing to meet at a later date.

Thanks,
Carmen

> On Apr 29, 2022, at 4:18 PM, Steven J. Andelson <SAndelson@aalrr.com> wrote:
> Hi Carmen,
In light of the ratification vote on the April 11, 2022 MOU not passing, the District is requesting continued negotiations in an effort to reach agreement. The District team is available on May 5 from 2 - 4 pm; May 6 from 8 - 11; or May 9 from 8 - 10. Please advise which date/time works best for your team.

Thanks very much,

Steve Andolson

On Apr 22, 2022, at 3:06 PM, Garcia, Carmen <carmen.garcia@asvd.org> wrote:

The ratification votes have been collected and counted and the ratification vote DID NOT pass with members.

-SOTA Bargaining Team

This email was scanned by Bitdefender

This email was scanned by Bitdefender
# ATTACHMENT D

## REQUEST FOR IMPASSE DETERMINATION/APPOINTMENT OF MEDIATOR

---

**NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE:** Case No: [Blank]

**Date Filed:** 05/04/2022

---

**INSTRUCTIONS:** A request for impasse determination must be filed with the appropriate regional office (see PERB Regulation 32075). A request which is not jointly filed must be served on the other party as required by Regulation 32792(b). Proof of service must accompany the request. Attach additional sheets if more space is required.

---

1. **The employer of the employees in the established unit is an employer within the meaning of the:**
   - ❏ Educational Employment Relations Act (EEERA) (Gov. Code, §§ 3540-3549.3).
   - ❏ Ralph C. Dills Act (Dills Act) (Gov. Code, §§ 3512-3524).

---

### 1. EMPLOYER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Savanna School District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>1330 S. Knott Avenue Anaheim, CA 92804</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Agent to be contacted:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Steven J. Anderson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Attorney</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Agency/Law Firm:** Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>12800 Center Court Drive South Suite 300, Cerritos, CA 90703</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(562) 653-3200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**E-mail Address:** sandelson@aslr.com

---

### 2. EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Savanna District Teachers Association</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>281 N. Rampart Street Suite A, Orange, CA 92868</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Agent to be contacted:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Brian Eldridge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Regional UniServ Staff Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Agency/Law Firm:** California Teachers Assn.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>281 N. Rampart Street Suite A, Orange, CA 92868</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(714) 978-8861</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**E-mail Address:** boldridge@cta.org

---

### 4. DESCRIPTION OF ESTABLISHED UNIT

**Shall Include:**

- See Article II, Recognition, attached hereto.

**Shall Exclude:**

- See Article II, Recognition, attached hereto.

---

### 5. APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES IN THE UNIT:

117

### 6. DATE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE WAS RECOGNIZED OR CERTIFIED:

04/13/1976

### 7. TYPE OF DISPUTE

- [ ] Initial Contract
- [ ] Successor Contract
- [ ] Reopener(s) in Existing Contract
- [ ] Effects of Layoff
- [X] Other (describe)

---

### 8. PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

**Date exclusive representative’s initial proposals presented to the public:**

- Los Angeles Regional Office
  - 425 W. Broadway, Suite 400
  - Glendale, CA 91204
  - (818) 551-2822

- Sacramento Regional Office
  - 1031 18th Street
  - Sacramento, CA 95811-4174
  - (916) 322-3198

- San Francisco Regional Office
  - 1330 Broadway, Suite 601
  - Oakland, CA 94612-2514
  - (510) 622-1016

---

[PDF] 1510 (07/19)  Page 1 of 2
9. HISTORY OF NEGOTIATIONS/MEET AND CONFERENCE

Date of first negotiation session: 05/03/2022

Approximate total number of hours spent in negotiations to date: 4

Total number of negotiating sessions to date: 1

10. STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS/MEET AND CONFERENCE

Date impasse was declared by a party/parties pursuant to PERB Regulation 32792(a):

05/03/2022

Number of issues on which the parties have reached tentative agreement:

1

Issues on which tentative agreement has been reached:

See MOU Tentative Agreement attached hereto.

Total number of unresolved issues which remain in dispute:

1

Issues which remain in dispute:

Increased compensation for Nurses and Speech Pathologists

11. STATEMENT OF FACTS

Provide a clear and concise description of the negotiations which have occurred, including the extent to which the parties have made counter-proposals and have discussed the issues which remain in dispute. Identify the facts which indicate that future meetings without the assistance of a mediator would be futile.

See Statement of Facts attached hereto.

DECLARATION

I declare under penalty of perjury that the statements herein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: Steven J. Anderson

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: /s/ Steven J. Anderson

Title: Attorney

Date: 05/04/2022

PERB-1510 (07/19)
ARTICLE II - RECOGNITION

2.1 The District confirms its recognition of the Association as the exclusive representative for that unit of certificated employees voluntarily recognized by the District at its April 13, 1976 regular meeting comprised of the following certificated positions:

   Regular Classroom Teachers
   Special Education Teachers
   Reading Specialist Teachers
   Speech/Language Specialists
   District Nurse
   Temporary Teachers under contract and working for 50% or more of the number of days school is in session

and excluding all other positions not designated, including but not limited to:

   District Superintendent
   Assistant Superintendent
   Principals
   Assistant Principals
   Psychologists
   Curriculum Resource Coordinator
   Coordinator of GATE Program
   School Counselors
   Day-to-Day Substitute Teachers
   Temporarily short term teachers under contract and working for less than 60% of the number of days school is in session.

2.2 The District agrees to notify the Association concerning the unit placement of any newly created position classification.
11. STATEMENT OF FACTS

A tentative agreement was reached between the District and SDTA on April 11, 2022, on increased compensation for Nurses and Speech Pathologists. (See MOU Tentative Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit 1.) Subsequently, on April 22, 2022, the District was notified that SDTA failed to ratify the Tentative Agreement. In response, on April 29, 2022, the District requested that SDTA continue negotiations on increased compensation for Nurses and Speech Pathologists. On May 2, 2022, SDTA, in turn, responded by rejecting the District’s request to negotiate increased compensation for Nurses and Speech Pathologists by conditioning further negotiations on providing a compensation increase for all members of the bargaining unit and requiring all bargaining unit members to be present during negotiations. (See email chain attached hereto as Exhibit 2.)

Not only is this evidence of bad faith negotiations by making predictably unacceptable proposals and engaging in regressive bargaining, but SDTA’s position reflects a clear rejection of any willingness to address compensation increases for Nurses and Speech Pathologists. This untenable position by SDTA has resulted in impasse between the parties which would require the assistance of a mediator.
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND
SAVANNA DISTRICT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION.

The Savannah School District (District) and Savannah District Teachers Association (Association) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and agree as follows:

Credit for Outside Experience: Nurses

Nurses hired by the District after July 1, 2021 shall be placed at Step 2 on the Certificated Teachers Salary Schedule. Nurses employed by the District prior to July 1, 2021 shall receive a one-time salary step increase of one step. All Nurses, presently employed and future hires, shall receive credit for prior nursing experience in a hospital or public school while possessing the required credential and/or license for a maximum of five (5) years, subject to verification of employment by the Superintendent or designate.

Speech Pathologists:

Effective July 1, 2021, Speech Pathologists shall be placed on the following Speech Pathologist Salary Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steps/Yrs</th>
<th>MS/MA</th>
<th>BS/BA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>79,580</td>
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<td>83,151</td>
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<td>86,395</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>104,107</td>
<td>99,080</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lump Sum:

15 Yrs. 109,435 105,057
20 Yrs. 113,540 108,998
25 Yrs. 118,824 114,071

All other sections of Article VII-Wages shall remain in full force and effect.

Date: April 11, 2022

[Signatures]

[Signatures]
Hi Carmen,

Based on your email, it appears we are at impasse with SDTA. The District engaged in negotiations with SDTA to address increased compensation for the Nurses and Speech Pathologists. The attached tentative agreement was reached and signed by both the District and SDTA on April 11, 2022. Now SDTA is indicating it does "not have the collective support of [its] members" and "cannot make any guarantees of progress." SDTA is also changing the manner in which it has negotiated in the past as well as the scope of the current negotiations issues.

We will be requesting approval of impasse from the Public Employment Relations Board and the appointment of a mediator from the State Conciliatory and Mediation Service.

Sincerely,

Steve

Steven J. Andelson  | Senior Partner
Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo
12600 Center Court Drive, Suite 300, Cerritos, CA 90703
Main: (562) 653-3200 • Direct Fax (562) 653-3723 sandelson@aalrr.com | voard | bio | website | subscribe | blog

——Original Message——
From: Garcia, Carmen [mailto.carmen.garcia@seved.org]
Sent: Monday, May 2, 2022 9:28 AM
To: Steven J. Andelson
Cc: Schnitzer, Briana; Johnson, Sue; Brosnow, Susan; Brian Eldridge; Linden, Kasey; Guillen, Gracela; Glynn, Lisa
Subject: Re: [External E-Mail] Re: [EXTERNAL] MOU Tentative Agreement

[EXTERNAL MESSAGE]

Good Morning Steve,

SDTA is always open to further negotiations for the benefit of our members. However, for this particular matter, we do not have the collective support of our members. After meeting with members and receiving feedback, SDTA cannot make any guarantees of progress.

If the district is interested in moving forward, we would like to request that the conversation include ALL members and a potential increase for all. If that agreement can be reached with good faith negotiations in mind, we would be willing to meet at a later date.

Thanks,
Carmen

> On Apr 29, 2022, at 4:19 PM, Steven J. Arndelson <SAndelson@aalrr.com> wrote:
> HI Carmen,
In light of the ratification vote on the April 11, 2022 MOU not passing, the District is requesting continued negotiations in an effort to reach agreement. The District team is available on May 5 from 2-4 pm; May 6 from 8-11; or May 9 from 8-10. Please advise which date/time works best for your team.

Thanks very much,

Steve Andelson

On Apr 22, 2022, at 3:08 PM, García, Carmen <carmen.garcia@savesd.org> wrote:

The ratification votes have been collected and counted and the ratification vote DID NOT pass with members.

SDTA Bargaining Team

This email was scanned by Bitdefender
PROOF OF SERVICE

I declare that I am a resident of or employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of 18 years. The name and address of my Residence or business is Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo, 12800 Center Court Drive, Ste. 300, Cerritos, CA 90703.

On May 4, 2022, I served the Request for Impasse Determination in Case No. PERB Case No., if known).

Appointment of Mediator. (Description of document(s) continued) on the parties listed below by (check the applicable method(s)):

☐ placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope for collection and delivery by the United States Postal Service or private delivery service following ordinary business practices with postage or other costs prepaid;

☐ personal delivery;

☐ electronic service - I served a copy of the above-listed document(s) by transmitting via electronic mail (e-mail) or via e-PERB to the electronic service address(es) listed below on the date indicated. (May be used only if the party being served has filed and served a notice consenting to electronic service or has electronically filed a document with the Board. See PERB Regulation 32140(b).)

(Brian Eldridge)
Regional UniServ Staff Member
California Teachers Association
2811 N. Rampart Street, #
Orange, CA 92868

Email: beldridge@cta.org

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on May 4, 2022, at Cerritos, California.

Michelle L. Needham

(02/2021)
May 10, 2022

Steven J. Andelson, Attorney
Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo
12800 Center Court Drive, Suite 300
Cerritos, CA 90703

Brian Eldridge, Regional UniServ Director
Magnolia Educators Association, CTA/NEA
281 N. Rampart Street, Ste. A
Orange, CA 92868

Re: Savanna Elementary School District and Savanna District Teachers Association
Case No. LA-IM-4112-E
MEDIATION APPROVAL LETTER

Dear Interested Parties:

The Public Employment Relations Board has determined the existence of an impasse in the above case. The State Mediation and Conciliation Service (SMCS) will assign a mediator who will contact you shortly.

Please contact SMCS at (916) 322-7638 if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Yaron Partovi
Senior Regional Attorney
PROOF OF SERVICE

I declare that I am a resident of or employed in the County of Sacramento, California. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within entitled cause. The name and address of my residence or business is Public Employment Relations Board, Sacramento Regional Office, 1031 16th Street, Sacramento, CA, 95811-4124.

On May 10, 2022, I served the Impasse/Mediation Approval regarding Case No. LA-IM-4112-E on the parties listed below by

___ I am personally and readily familiar with the business practice of the Public Employment Relations Board for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service, and I caused such envelope(s) with postage thereon fully prepaid to be placed in the United States Postal Service at Sacramento, California.

___ Personal delivery.

___ Electronic service (e-mail).

Steven J. Andelson, Attorney
Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo
12800 Center Court Drive, Suite 300
Cerritos, CA 90703
Email: sandelson@aaир.com

MAIL AND EMAIL
Brian Eldridge, Regional UniServ Director
Magnolia Educators Association, CTA/NEA
281 N. Rampart Street, Ste. A
Orange, CA 92868
Email: beldridge@cta.org

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on May 10, 2022, at Sacramento, California.

Michelle Bacigalupi
(Type or print name)
August 5, 2022

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BOARD
Los Angeles Regional Office
425 W Broadway, Suite 400
Glendale, CA 91204-4118

Re: Savanna School District & Savanna District Teachers Association
LA-IM-4112-E

Dear PERB:

Negotiators of Savanna School District and Savanna District Teachers Association have not reached agreement using the mediation process. Therefore, I certify this case to Fact Finding in accordance with Section 3548.1 of the Educational Employment Relations Act.

This letter does not relieve the parties of their obligation to notify each other of their intent or of their responsibility to contact the regional PERB office so that a fact-finder can be appointed to hear their case.

Please note that, pursuant to section 3548.4 of the EERA, I will continue as mediator for this case should the Fact Finding stage fail to reach a settlement. I am ready to assist if the parties wish to meet again prior to the dates of the Fact Finding, should they jointly request my help.

Thank you.

[Signature]
Gerald C. Adams
Mediator
California State Mediation and Conciliation Service
ATTACHMENT G
Savanna School District Initial Proposal

Sent via email on: March 16, 2022

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND
SAVANNA DISTRICT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The Savanna School District (District) and Savanna District Teachers Association (Association) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and agree as follows:

Credit for Outside Experience: Nurses

Effective July 1, 2021, Nurses employed by the District shall receive credit for prior nursing experience in a hospital or public school while possessing the required credential and/or license for a minimum of five (5) years, subject to verification of actual experience by the Superintendent or designee.

Credit for Outside Experience: Speech Pathologists

Effective July 1, 2021, the beginning wage for Speech Pathologists, regardless of experience and/or prior units, shall be at Class IV, Step 6 on the certificated salary schedule. Unit members employed by the District as of October 1, 2021 shall receive additional credit for years served in the District.
ATTACHMENT H
SDTA Counter Proposal

Presented in person on: April 11, 2022

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND
SAVANNA DISTRICT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The Savanna School District (District) and Savanna District Teachers Association (Association) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and agree as follows:

Credit for Outside Experience: Nurses

Effective July 1, 2021, Nurses employed by the District shall receive credit for prior nursing experience in a hospital or public school while possessing the required credential and/or license for a minimum of five (5) years up to five (5) years, subject to verification of actual experience by the Superintendent or designee.

Credit for Outside Experience: Speech Pathologists

Effective July 1, 2021, the beginning wage for Speech Pathologists, regardless of experience and/or prior units, shall be at Class IV, Step 5 on the certified salary schedule. Unit members employed by the District as of October 1, 2021 shall receive additional credit for years served in the District.

Recommended Salary Proposal:

Effective July 1, 2021, Speech Pathologists and Nurses, shall receive the following salaries:

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<tr>
<th>Steps/Yrs</th>
<th>Proposed MS/MA</th>
<th>Proposed BS/BA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>76,396</td>
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<td>86,905</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>128,824</td>
<td>114,071</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Drafts Exchanged Between the District and SDTA

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND
SAVANNA DISTRICT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
April 11, 2022
10:00 am

The Savanna School District (District) and Savanna District Teachers Association (Association) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and agree as follows:

Credit for Outside Experience: Nurses

Effective July 1, 2021, Nurses employed by the District shall be placed at Step 2 on the Certificated Salary Schedule and shall receive credit for prior nursing experience in a hospital or public school while possessing the required credential and/or license for a minimum of five (5) years, a maximum of five years, subject to verification of actual experience by the Superintendent or designee.

Speech Pathologists

Effective July 1, 2021, Speech Pathologists shall receive the following salaries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steps/Yrs</th>
<th>Proposed MS/MA</th>
<th>Proposed BS/BA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>4</td>
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</tr>
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<td>25</td>
<td>118,824</td>
<td>114,071</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All other sections of Article VII-Wages shall remain in full force and effect.
Drafts Exchanged Between the District and SDTA (continued)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND
SAVANNA DISTRICT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
April 11, 2022
11:10 am

The Savanna School District (District) and Savanna District Teachers Association (Association) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and agree as follows:

**Credit for Outside Experience: Nurses**

Effective July 1, 2021, Nurses employed prior to July 1, 2021 shall be placed at Step 2 on the Certificated Salary Schedule. Nurses employed after July 1, 2021 shall be moved up a single step on the Certificated salary schedule starting in the 2021-22 academic year. All Nurses, presently employed and future hires, shall receive credit for prior nursing experience in a hospital or public school while possessing the required credential and/or license for a minimum of five (5) years, subject to verification of actual experience by the Superintendent or designee.

**Speech Pathologists**

Effective July 1, 2021, Speech Pathologists shall receive the following salaries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Proposed BS/BA</th>
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All other sections of Article VII-Wages shall remain in full force and effect.
Drafts Exchanged Between the District and SDTA (continued)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
SAVANNA SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND
SAVANNA DISTRICT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
April 11, 2022
11:40 am

The Savanna School District (District) and Savanna District Teachers Association (Association) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and agree as follows:

Credit for Outside Experience: Nurses

Nurses hired by the District after July 1, 2021 shall be placed at Step 2 on the Certificated Teachers Salary Schedule. Nurses employed by the District prior to July 1, 2021 shall be moved up a single step on the Certificated salary schedule starting in the 2021-22 academic year receive a one-time salary step increase of one step. All Nurses, presently employed and future hires, shall receive credit for prior nursing experience in a hospital or public school while possessing the required credential and/or license for a maximum of five (5) years, subject to verification of employment by the Superintendent or designee.

Speech Pathologists

Effective July 1, 2021, Speech Pathologists shall receive the following salaries be placed on the following Speech Pathologist Salary Schedule:

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<tr>
<th>Steps/Yrs</th>
<th>Proposed MS/MA</th>
<th>Proposed BS/BA</th>
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<tr>
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<td>90,814</td>
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