



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GUSD REACHES TENTATIVE AGREEMENT WITH GILROY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Gilroy, CA – On Tuesday, September 18, 2018, the Gilroy Unified School District reached a tentative agreement with the Gilroy Teachers Association on a new labor contract for certificated employees. Last Friday, September 14, an all-day hearing before a three-person panel that included an impartial State fact finder, was held. Both sides presented arguments and data supporting their positions, and bargained late into the evening. The two sides held another bargaining session today where the tentative agreement was reached.

“Today’s tentative agreement demonstrates the District’s deep and ongoing commitment to increases in certificated salaries and compensation,” said Board President Linda Piceno.

The agreement covers three years, with a term ending June 30, 2020, and provides for a 2% ongoing increase to certificated salary schedules effective July 1, 2017; a 2% ongoing increase to certificated salary schedules effective January 1, 2018; as well as a 2% ongoing increase to certificated salary schedules effective January 1, 2019. Additionally, the District agreed to an increase in contributions to health benefits, an increase to the hourly rate, and increase to extra duty stipends.

“We are pleased that both sides engaged in good-faith bargaining through the State’s impasse resolution process,” said Superintendent Deborah A. Flores. “We were able reach to common ground in a spirit of compromise and collaboration.”

In order to implement this agreement, the Gilroy Unified School District will need to cut \$5 million from its budget over a three-year period. The District has already made nearly \$1 million in budget reductions and will now identify an additional \$4 million in potential reductions over the next two years, which will be discussed at upcoming Board meetings. This tentative agreement continues a pattern of steady compensation increases for the certificated staff in recent years while ensuring the fiscal integrity of the District budget and reserves.

The Gilroy Teachers Association will submit the tentative agreement for a ratification vote of its membership within the next two weeks. The Board of Education is slated to ratify the new contract at an October Board Meeting.

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