

January 22, 2017

School District and teachers union reach agreement on new three-year contract

School board approves agreement at January board meeting

The Gresham-Barlow School Board voted to approve the proposed 2017-2020 collective bargaining agreement between the school district and the teachers union at its January 4, 2018 meeting. Following the approval, representatives from the school board, school district, and teachers union signed the agreement.

The tentative agreement was reached in December 2017, after nine months of bargaining. The East County Bargaining Council approved the agreement prior to the school board vote.

“The agreement features key changes that are beneficial to student learning and to our teaching staff,” said Superintendent Katrise Perera. “These changes will allow us to continue to provide a quality education for our students.”

Highlights from the new contract:

- Provides flexibility that allows the school district to assign teachers additional paid days of work beyond the established work year. Days would be used for needed professional development.
- Provides the District the ability to provide opportunities for new teachers to participate in mentor program events.
- Provides a cost of living adjustment of 1.5% in years one and two of the contract and 1% in year three.
- Teachers will see an increase in the District’s health insurance premium contribution of \$25 a month in years two and three.

“The changes to the financial elements in the contract will allow the district to continue to offer a competitive employee compensation package within the limits of the district’s resources,” said Perera.

The contract will be posted on the school district’s website in the Human Resources section when it is finalized.