

Good Morning Trustees, Colleagues, and Community Members,

Despite record new revenues, it is now abundantly clear the district had no intention of bargaining in good faith when we met for only our second negotiations session on June 22. Our only question, is why bother scheduling a meeting and disrupting everyone's summer calendars? Your premature declaration of Impasse could have been sent via email.

ETA members believe in collective bargaining as the legal method to protect our rights and ensure the best education for our students. We will deal with the current dysfunctional situation, including the inappropriate statement placed on the district's web site which amounted to bargaining in public. After all, we've been here before.

Thankful, PERB recognized the validity of ETA's position and has required the Evergreen School District to return to the negotiations table. We look forward to continuing this important process, and hope we can reach a satisfactory conclusion in the near future.

However, one of the casualties of the district's impulsive decision is the possibility of instituting Interest Based Bargaining in the near future. I've contacted my counterparts in CTA and informed them of this unfortunate development.

While I'm not available to join you this morning, I am willing to meet with each of you individually to attempt to improve and possibly rectify the present sad state of affairs.

Thank you.

B. Wheatley