



Volusia United Educators Support Bargaining Update 10/8/2025

Today your union met with the district to bargain for support staff for the fifth time.

The meeting took less than 45 minutes including time for each side to caucus. The sole focus was salaries.

Last week, we sent a survey to all office specialists and paraprofessionals in the district asking for feedback and direction on how to proceed with the salary offer. The data we received is below.

- Accept the original salary offer from the district (2% increase & 1% bonus) – 28% YES
- Propose a counteroffer of a 2% increase, keep the current longevity supplement and provide a one-time non-recurring 2% bonus – 72% YES

The survey data was clear and therefore we proposed the counteroffer. The district took a brief caucus and returned to the table to reject the proposal. They then reverted to their original offer. We took a short caucus and overwhelmingly, the members of the bargaining team agreed to stand our ground.

Our union does what our members tell us to do. Your voice was clearly heard through the survey. A 1% bonus is not enough. Heck, a 2% bonus is not enough but it is better than where we started.

After our caucus, there was a brief conversation about taking the counter proposal back to the members of the board, and again the district team refused to have another conversation with the board. They stated that they have provided their best and final offer and that is all they can do.

We ended the meeting without any future meeting dates. At this point, it would not be a surprise based upon their actions with the instructional unit, if they declare impasse with support. We hope that it does not happen, however we must prepare ourselves for an impasse situation.

What's Next?

We are planning a rally at the District Administration Complex (DAC) on Tuesday, October 14th beginning at 4:30 pm. This is the night of the full school board meeting, and we need to take advantage of this opportunity to let the members of the board know that we will not accept such disrespectful treatment. VCS does not function without us. We, the employees, need to become their priority! We cannot remain silent. Now is the time to stand together and take action. We are calling on instructional and support staff to commit to at least one hour at the rally. You can stay for the entire meeting if you prefer, and if you are interested in speaking to

the board, we can make those arrangements. We have to use the momentum from bargaining to let our voices be heard.

We are posting additional information on our Facebook page and will be sharing information through our stewards. If you are interested in attending Tuesday's "**Demonstration at DAC**," please let us know by completing this short survey, <https://forms.gle/WunVuuzTgf5dxE17>

If you are interested in watching the bargaining session the link to the video of today's bargaining session is [HERE](#).

In Solidarity,

Elizabeth Albert