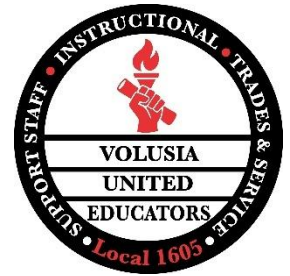




**Volusia United Educators
Trades & Service Professionals
Bargaining Update
3/25/26**



On Wednesday, the VUE Trades & Service Professionals (TSP) bargaining team met with Volusia County Schools for the second time to bargain a new contract. The session was especially important because there were TSP employees in the room ready to engage in the process.

When our members take the time to engage in the work of bargaining, it strengthens our position and our ability to influence change. It also gives members the opportunity to share their voice when important decisions are being made.

During the session, VCS presented counterproposals to the articles VUE initially passed on March 3rd including:

- Recognition of the bargaining unit and exclusions
- Definitions of terms
- Scope of bargaining
- Board management rights
- Changes in past practice/conditions of employment
- Fair practice

These articles contain shared language that is found in the instructional and support contracts. Establishing common language across all three contracts is important to ensure that the interpretation of the language is understood by all parties.

While this session focused on refining the foundation of the contract, the teams discussed the scope of the remaining work. The goal is to have the language articles completed by the end of the school year so when all stakeholders return to work in August, all that remains to be completed is compensation.

The VUE and VCS teams agreed that “sub-committees” made up of three (3) representatives from each employee group (VUE) and three (3) district representatives (VCS) will work together to develop recommendations on job role specific language which will be presented to the bargaining team. The sub-committees will work on items that include but are not limited to the following:

- Work Scheduling
- Work Days and Hours
- Working Conditions
- Language specific to Departments (Transportation, Maintenance, School Way Café, Guardians, etc.)

The teams also agreed to divide the remaining language articles and work to create proposals to be presented at the next meeting on April 21st.

If you are interested in watching the bargaining session, you can watch it here, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pIPxpssnEcE>

What Happens Next?

VUE and VCS will meet to bargain on Tuesday, April 21st at the VUE office from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Bargaining is a public meeting, and we encourage any TSP who can attend to be present during contract negotiations.

The more TSP employees who engage in this process, the stronger our voice becomes. Bargaining power doesn't come from the team members alone, it comes from a united membership.

This contract will impact every TSP employee, but only members have a voice in shaping it. If you want protections, respect, and a contract that works for you, you need to be part of the organization fighting for it.

Join VUE today, because sitting on the sidelines does nothing to get us what we need to live a better life. To join VUE, visit, www.ourvue.net/membership

As always, if you have any questions or if you need additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out.

In Solidarity,

Elizabeth Albert