

OUR SIDE OF THE TABLE #1 – April 7, 2011

Vernon Teachers' Association Negotiating Team

Today, the VTA Negotiating Team met with the Management Team for the first time. The only topic on the agenda at this point was to discuss a Protocol Agreement – basically, establishing the etiquette for our local bargaining process.

The VTA and Management introduced their respective Negotiations Teams as follows:

VTA: Kevin Bader, Lisa LaBoucane, Craig Leverman, Robyn Ladner & Bruce Cummings (spokespersons and lead negotiators)

Management: Bob Gardner, Randy Hoffman, Joe Rogers, Diane Rhenisch (spokesperson and lead negotiator)

The VTA began the meeting with our opening statement. We highlighted our positive history of working together with the School District, and how we're looking forward to bargaining in good faith to improve our Collective Agreement. After all, our working conditions *are* our students' learning conditions!

Teams exchanged their respective protocol proposals, and we started the process of combining them into one mutually agreeable protocol document.

The Management Team had to leave early, so the protocol discussions will continue at our next session. Our next bargaining session is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12th at 9:30. Our VTA Negotiating Team will continue to keep you updated as negotiations progress.