

## The More You Know — September 16, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

Attached is a weekend edition of *The More You Know*. As you already know, fact-finding has been scheduled with the State's Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) for Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Normally, I try to get each week's edition of *TMYK* out on Friday. But as you can imagine, the YFA negotiating team and our legal counsel spent numerous hours getting ready for fact-finding with PERB. Last Friday was EXTREMELY busy finalizing last-minute details, but we ARE ready for "Prime Time" on Monday.

YFA negotiators are expected to work VERY long hours late into the evening during the fact-finding process which, we hope, will result in a Tentative Agreement (T.A.) which can be sent for ratification to the faculty. If that does not occur, then we will continue forward in the impasse process as you have already been informed *ad nauseum*.

As you already know, you can review your weekly *TMYK* newsletters from me and the YFA's impasse page posted on the YFA website (<http://yfa.sites.yosemite.edu/>) to answer the numerous questions surrounding this process. You can also review the very detailed emails that Sarah Curl sent after EVERY negotiation meeting that YFA had with the District.

This week's edition of *TMYK* is a quick reminder of YFA's efforts to keep all faculty informed through EVERY step of negotiations, impasse, mediation, fact-finding, and our current vote regarding the authorization to strike if necessary. Both the frequency and volume of information that YFA has provided to faculty make it impossible for anyone to claim s/he is unaware of what is going on and why we are preparing to strike—if and ONLY if—it becomes necessary and is in the best interest of the faculty. We have waited, exhausted, and prolonged all other options as a result of the District's unwarranted disregard of the faculty. Our current vote to authorize a strike, if approved, will permit the YFA to begin the necessary planning stages required to strategically prepare for such action. It would be impossible to plan for such an event at the last minute and with limited time.

Nevertheless, YFA HOPES to reach an agreement during fact-finding or, at the latest, before the fact-finding report has been received (which could be 2-3 weeks) AND the State required 10-day waiting period has been exhausted. I know I am being redundant, but settling the contract is STILL (and always has been) the YFA goal.

But it would be irresponsible to not plan for the unfortunate worst-case scenario in a methodical and strategic manner. So, the current vote (which ends at 5:00pm this Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>) is important for YFA to know what options and authorizations it does (or does not) have available.

Your continued support (and positive "vibes" while we are in fact-finding) is/are appreciated.

All my best,

***Stay informed. Stay engaged. Stay united.***

*Jim Sahlman*