

Union ★
Update

OPEIU
Local



For Local 8 Members at City of Ellensburg and Ellensburg Library

February 3, 2023

Bargaining Update

Negotiations

Your Bargaining Team: Brandon Ambrose, Shannon Johnson, Regina Tipton Llamas, Pyper Stever, and Renee Moore are amazing! We have had two sessions with management and are moving through many proposals that have been brought forward. Our team has prioritized the needs and concerns brought forward through using the surveys that many of you filed out. We had very few proposals that we brought forward to Management as you have a mature and good contract with solid language. We are focusing on Wages, Compensation, and Benefits as our main priorities. Management has taken a much different approach and brought forward many proposals with a few things that we consider to be “take aways” meaning that they are proposing to remove or limit a benefit or right that you currently have. This is always concerning, but part of the process and I have faith that we will work through this and have a positive outcome in the end.

Membership

We need you! We need people to sign up to be Union Members to show Management that you have a strong unit that needs to be taken seriously! If you are not currently a member, please take a moment to join: <https://www.opeiu8.org/get-involved/membership-application-2/>

Current Contract

While the dates of your current contract have expired, the contract itself is still very much in force. Your contract remains in force for 12 months after the expiration dates have passed. The Public Employee Relations Council (PERC) governs Public Employer

contracts and has very specific rules around negotiations and opening the contracts. We have rules that limit when we can open a contract for negotiations and when we can start the formal process of exchanging proposals. Between those rules, the holidays, and an unexpected health emergency we were unable to meet as many times in December and January as we had hoped to do so. We are scheduled to meet every Thursday in February and I am confident that we will reach an agreement within that timeframe.

Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available!

If you have any questions, contact your Union Representative, Angie Wedekind, at (509) 306-0586, angie@opeiu8.org



OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 8
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