



Facts from the Table

A Report from the Long Beach Unified School District Negotiating Team ■ March 9, 2006

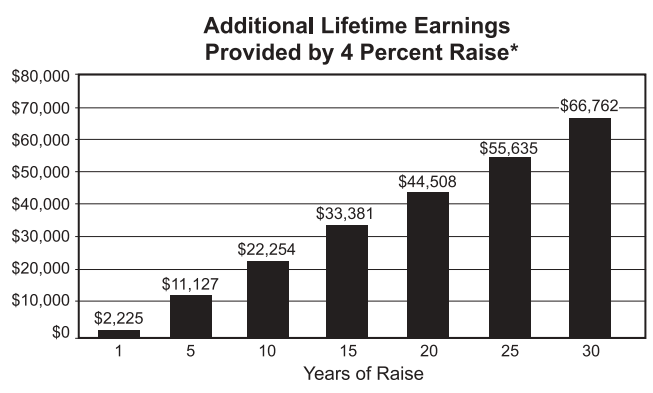
Still on the Table:

Immediate, Permanent 4% Raise With No Cap on Health Benefits

The school district continues to offer the teachers' union an immediate and permanent 4 percent raise that would remain on salary schedules forever, in addition to any future raises or step and column increases. The most experienced teachers would receive even more pay, including a proposed 30-year annual career increment of \$2,500 and a \$2,000 annual stipend for a doctorate.

The school district's proposal does not contain a cap on district-paid health and welfare premium contributions. The 4 percent raise would remain on salary schedules this year and always. This allows the school district to recover from the state's recent suspension of Proposition 98 funding guarantees, while banking on an improved state budget in future years.

The school district continues to deal with the fiscal challenges of declining enrollment, and with the state requirement to increase reserves from 1 percent to 2 percent, an approximate cost of \$7 million. Substantial funds have already been allocated to pay for regular step and column increases on the salary schedule.



*Based on average teacher. Not including substantial, additional increases due to further raises and natural step and column progression on the salary schedule.

The school district's proposal would immediately boost each teacher's paycheck by at least 4 percent and would significantly increase lifetime earnings. Under the proposal, the average teacher would earn \$57,860 in annual salary. Teachers can reach this salary level starting with their sixth year on the job. Illustrated above is the impact of the permanent 4 percent raise on this average teacher's lifetime earnings.

Meeting of March 7

Special Education Proposals

The meeting focused on TALB proposals related to special education. The district did not accept TALB proposals to put additional constraints upon special education class sizes, caseloads or student contacts. The contract currently limits sizes of Special Day Classes and speech/pathologist caseloads.

With the changing student population and with needs to comply with special education mandates, the district responded that such limitations, particularly those upon student contacts, could endanger compliance and inhibit the necessary flexibility when trying to respond to special education student needs.

The parties also noted that receipts from Medi-Cal, which has funded some additional special education instructional supplies and materials, are scheduled to be substantially reduced over the next few years.

The next meetings are March 16 (District Office), March 21 (TALB Office) and March 27 (District Office).

What Others Say

- TALB's claim that Long Beach is the 39th of 40 districts in comparative pay is simply wrong.

— *Grunion Gazette Page 1 News Story*

- The salary of experienced teachers entering the Long Beach Unified School District ranks **number one** among 47 Los Angeles County school districts.

— *Source: Annual Independent Survey of Salaries and Fringe Benefits in Los Angeles County, published by the Los Angeles County Office of Education.*