



FACT SHEET

Are you going to go on strike?

We hope not. We were disappointed that the BOE negotiating team decided to walk away from the negotiating table. We are ready to return to the table to negotiate a fair contract.

What do you mean by “A fair contract?”

A fair contract means an agreement that is affordable for the district and recognizes the district’s need to attract and retain high-quality teachers.

A fair contract includes a compensation package that is comparable to that received by teachers in other New Trier feeder districts.

We want to keep Wilmette a destination, not a “stepping stone.”

Can the district afford a fair contract?

Yes. The district currently has a multi-million dollar surplus in the education fund. The district can offer the teachers a fair and affordable contract and still maintain a substantial surplus.

The District says that it is proposing a very competitive salary. Is this true?

No. Teachers in all of the New Trier feeder schools are required to obtain additional education in order to get additional compensation. It takes Wilmette teachers twice as long to receive the same compensation as other districts. In addition, Wilmette teachers pay more out of pocket for additional education.

The district says it proposed an insurance package that is comparable to that available to teachers in New Trier feeder districts. Is this true?

No. Wilmette teachers or teacher candidates who want the option of a health plan that allows them the freedom to choose their own doctors, will have to pay thousands of dollars more out of pocket than teachers in surrounding districts for the same PPO offering. While the BOE is offering to pay the same amount as surrounding districts in the first year of their proposal, teachers will be required to pay \$600 per month more to continue the coverage in the remaining 4 years of the contract.

Are the teachers offering anything back in exchange for the compensation adjustments they are seeking?

Yes. The teachers proposed extending the elementary school day to be in parity with the surrounding districts.

How does a “fair contract” benefit the community?

According to realtors, District 39’s high quality public schools are a major reason so many families want to live in Wilmette, which has a very positive impact on property values.

A fair and affordable contract will allow District 39 to continue to compete with Glencoe, Kenilworth, Winnetka and other area districts for the finest teachers.