

## Here's News!

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> Teachers' Union Tells District It Will Ask For Declaration of Impasse District Team Wants to Continue Negotiations

The Alameda Education Association (AEA) negotiating team ended Thursday's session with the Alameda Unified School District (AUSD) by announcing that it plans to ask the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) to declare that contract negotiations between the two are at an impasse.

The two teams have met nine times this year to address approximately 10 of the 29 articles contained in the current contract. They have reached tentative agreements on many significant portions of the contract, including areas such as evaluations, the handling of complaints, and special education. The AUSD team had made its first presentation of a salary and benefit proposal at the March 29 negotiations session.

The district negotiating team does not believe that the negotiations process is at impasse.

"We were surprised by AEA's request because there was no discussion of our proposal and no response by AEA," said Brandon Krueger, the district's chief human resources officer. "We are hopeful that we will have the opportunity to discuss our proposal with AEA and that we will be back at the table soon to continue negotiating an agreement."

The state's Public Employment Relations Board has the authority to determine whether or not AUSD and AEA are at impasse. If PERB declares that negotiations are at impasse, a mediator will be appointed to mediate between the two teams. If PERB determines that AUSD and AEA are not at impasse, both teams will return to the table.