ONA Moves Forward with Our Proposals, Awaits Management Responses

Nurses are fired up!

Fifteen more nurses stopped by negotiations Friday, April 19 to not only make sure our bargaining team feels supported, but more importantly, to show management how critical these negotiations are to every nurse at our hospital.

We have been surprised and honored to have so many nurses stepping forward to wear buttons, black scrubs and jumping forward to help plan many upcoming actions.

We hope every nurse has a voice in our next contract, and takes part in some way to make that happen.

Our Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) bargaining team met with the CMH management team for the third time on April 19.

The previous evening, our nurse leaders worked late into the night to hammer out detailed proposals, so we were able to bring proposals and counterproposals on seventeen articles. We met in the morning to present our proposals to management and engaged in discussions.

Management spent the afternoon preparing counterproposals that we anticipate seeing at our upcoming negotiation session on May 9.

Our ONA team worked very hard to get us closer to agreement on four or five articles. We suggested to management that we could potentially reach tentative agreements on several articles.

A tentative agreement is where we take one article, and both sides sign off that it is acceptable pending ratification vote of all nurses on the entire contract.

Our Contract Action Team is asking every nurse to pose with a white board sharing a message about what is most important to you in these negotiations so we can show management how widespread support is for a strong contract. See example photos on page 1 and 2.
ONA Moves Forward with Our Proposals… continued from page 1

Most of the articles we think we might be close to tentative agreements on involve very small changes that both parties were largely in agreement on during discussions.

Management declined to meet again in the afternoon, so we’re hopeful to move things forward at our next bargaining session.

In addition, our nurse leaders are moving forward to win a strong contract in so many other ways! Watch for signs in cars and in local businesses in support of our nurses.

We have an entire week of nurse appreciation events being planned for May 6 through 10. Be sure to chat with your contract action team members about how you can help with upcoming actions. Together we can make our hospital a place everyone can be proud of!

Quote from Becky Lewis, RN about attending today’s bargaining session:

Becky Lewis, RN

"I attended today and it has been way different this year having nurses attend the bargaining sessions. They (management) can't argue about what is important to the nurses when a whole bunch of us are sitting right there confirming what our team says is important to us. It was very interesting. It makes management feel uncomfortable to try to take things away because management has to say it directly to the people it affects."