

Negotiation Team Changes Interim Co-Chairs Named

Following news that our Bargaining Chair Hallie Scott will be on FMLA leave for an undetermined amount of time, we have established Co-Chairs to keep negotiations on track.

Our Vice-Chair Sam Farrow will be joined with Bobbie Turnipseed, our Grievance Chair, and will serve as Co-Chairs of the Negotiating Committee. Collectively, they will continue to lead the negotiating team in the direction the nurses have consistently directed us to go.

Due to an increased demand to fill-in for scheduling holes in several departments, our team has been challenged to get enough team members off work to set mediation sessions. Originally, Sue Lzicar, from Surgical Services, was elected to the negotiating team but opted to step back in a more supportive role. Sue has graciously agreed to step back in, and cleared her schedule to attend mediation sessions with the team.

Sue is receiving all the materials needed and Becky McCay is working with her to catch her up on the Tentative Agreements we have to date. Sue will be a great addition to the team, and the diversity of adding a Surgical Services team member will help to balance our team and still provide enough coverage on the units while we're in Mediation.

Mediation Dates Set!

We finally have mediation dates set!

Our team will be meeting with FMCS Mediator, Julie Kettler and the hospital's team December 7, 8, and 13. Additionally, your Co-Chairs Sam Farrow and Bobbie Turnipseed, along with Becky McCay will be meeting with Susan Bundgard, Brenda (Tanabe) Muncy, and Nancy Greer in a sub-committee on November 16.

The sub-committee agenda will be to further discuss some practice issues that we've continue to disagree on; specifically, the "rotation" language, following-up on the Bureau of Labor and Industry's wage and hour requirements for payment of nurses specifically related to SANE nurse exams, and we will also be addressing the recently proposed influenza/masking policy.

Demand To Bargain filed over Influenza/Masking Policy

The hospital's influenza/masking policy that was recently implemented has now been revised until we can bargain the agreed upon changes.

Specifically this policy included the mandatory requirement that all non-vaccinated nurses would have to wear a mask or may be disciplined. This change falls into the category of a mandatory subject of bargaining. We have communicated directly with the hospital regarding our desire to bargain this issue, and the hospital has agreed to recommend masking without any threat of discipline until we can come to an agreement on an acceptable policy.

With flu season quickly approaching, we encourage everyone to be extra precautionous! Our intent is to provide safe, quality care to our patients while keeping ourselves healthy as well.