McKenzie-Willamette Bargaining Update

Thanks to the 75 nurses who showed up for bargaining Thursday and the 42 on Wednesday! In total, 140 different nurses have attended at least one session since we began bargaining in January. That’s 36% of our bargaining unit!

Your attendance is appreciated by our team and noticed by the employer! Your effort has paid off. We made more progress this week with a few non-financial proposals remaining on the table.

However, we remain far apart on wages. The employer increased their offer from their original 2.25% annual wage increases to 2.5% on Thursday. At that rate, we will fall even further behind our comparators. We’ll need close to double that rate to remain competitive in the nursing labor market.

We need to show our employer that we aren’t going to accept the lower wage increases they are proposing. We need nurses to stand up together!

Please participate in one or both activities:

- **Beginning Monday, March 1, we are asking nurses to wear an ONA button to show support for our team and our wage proposal.** Our leaders will be distributing buttons to each unit this weekend. Please begin wearing them on Monday so that “a thousand flowers bloom” all at once! And keep wearing them until we get a decent offer from our employer. Wearing a union button while at work is a protected activity under federal law.
• **We are collecting selfies and/or group photos accompanied by a handwritten personal sign of support.** For example, "We need to recruit and retain experience nurses, because …" or "I support our wage proposal, because …" Show our unity by posting these photos on Facebook and on our unit’s bulletin boards. (Please take the photo when you are off work or one of your breaks, not while "on the clock.") Send a copy to our labor rep before Monday via text 503-444-0690 or email Aguiar@OregonRN.org.

Watch for our newsletter with more bargaining details next week.

If you have any questions, please contact your ONA labor representatives, Gary Aguiar at Aguiar@OregonRN.org.