“Our bargaining team, led by vice chair Rex Payne and accompanied by other nurses, presented the petition to our chief nursing officer and the corporate human resources director.”

Samaritan Pacific Bargaining Update from June 14

Thanks to the 20 nurses who observed bargaining on Monday, June 14, our largest single-day turnout! To date, 33 nurses (one-third of our bargaining unit) have attended at least one of our four bargaining sessions. Your presence has moved the employer on more than a dozen differential rates, including ten differentials we increased by 50 cents or more!

Also, 80 nurses (80% of our bargaining unit) signed our petition in support of our team. The petition statement says: “We, the undersigned Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital nurses,
support our bargaining team’s efforts to improve compensation and benefits to recruit and retain experienced nurses.”

The employer was shocked and surprised when our team walked the petitions over to them. They cordially and politely listened as Rex said, “We want to be very clear. We are bargaining in good faith. The nurses of PCH bargaining unit are behind us. We have the signatures of 80% of our bargaining unit. This hospital was built by a community bond. We are committed to providing quality patient care for this community. To do that, we need competitive wages and benefits to recruit and retain experienced nurses.”

In bargaining at the table, both sides moved closer to a final agreement. However, we remain apart on two issues: wage parity and order of cut / shift cancellation. Follow our work on our webpage, especially see our Bargaining Documents.

While the 33 nurses who attended bargaining and the 80 who signed our petition moved the employer, it was not enough to move them on the two remaining issues. We need your help to show our unity in a more visible way. We are asking each nurse to send a selfie with a brief statement of their support for our proposals.

We need them before our final scheduled bargaining session, which is scheduled for June 23, Wednesday. Click here for bargaining login details.

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