Last week, members voted on the tentative agreement and of those who voted, the vote was unanimous - 100% of you voted yes! A special thank you goes to bargaining unit chair Kathy Souhrada and member-leader Sue Liong. Along with your labor representative Jocelyn Pitman, they spent several evenings and lunch hours doing research, going over bargaining tactics, encouraging co-workers to get involved, and much more.

The reason this small group was able to achieve a 3.5 percent wage increase, achieve lead/preceptor pay, increase education reimbursements, and make strides in contract language was due to increased membership and involvement in the union bargaining process, as well as regular meetings. We were able to achieve a lot, considering the state budget crisis that we are in!

Another thank you goes to Sue for regularly opening her home up to us so we could have successful meetings in private. Several of you attended and voiced your concerns, support and were very reasonable about your expectations. Member Ivette Torres kept us fed by ordering food for each meeting and submitting timely reimbursements.

The current contract is set to expire on June 30, 2017. All of the new agreements will go in place July 1, 2017.

You should see your raise on your second paycheck in July.

Any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Kathy, Sue or Jocelyn!