

SEIU Local 140 Newsletter 4.13.23

Take Action!

- Come have lunch with fellow union members
Saturday 4/15 from 2 - 4pm at Hawthorne Asylum food carts, 1080 SE Madison St.
- Petition delivery at the school board meeting Tuesday 4/25 at 6 pm, Prophet Education Center 501 N Dixon St. We'll be delivering our petition for more pay and better staffing to the school board on the same night that the superintendent proposes the 2023-2024 budget! Please join us if you can. We need to fill the room to show them we are serious!
- Upcoming bargaining dates (All are welcome to attend as your schedule allows)
Friday 4/21 from 1 - 5pm at SEIU 503, 525 NE Oregon St.

Union Updates

Bargaining News

The bargaining team met with District representatives Friday for our first official bargaining session since agreeing to our ground rules on February 27. We were joined by two members who came after work to observe. We brought four of our own proposals to the bargaining table, however, the District did not bring any proposals. (A proposal is a suggested change to a specific article in our contract.) The district was represented by Roshni Sabedra, Whitney Ellersick, Frank Leavitt, and Attorney Chris Duckworth.

Note that we will be making lots of proposals over the course of bargaining including on the issues of wages and cost of living. The proposals we made on Friday included the following:

1. Moving to a twice a month pay schedule
2. Assigning workers to a building at the beginning of the school year to avoid disruptive and unnecessary transfers by management
3. Eliminating language that allows the district to contract out our jobs
4. Ensuring employees are paid to stay home during inclement weather days and custodians who report to work are paid double pay. Providing all employees with free TriMet passes.

After presenting our proposals, the district requested time to caucus, or meet in private. Both sides are allowed to caucus at any time and often do so to discuss making counter-proposals or working through ideas and concerns internally. In this case, the district decided they would rather use the remainder of the time in caucus rather than coming back to the bargaining table. We continued to work on additional proposals including improvements to the health insurance article.

Our next bargaining session with the district will be April 21 from 12-5 at the SEIU building (525 NE Oregon St.) Remember that those off the clock are welcome to come observe bargaining.

Lunch Gathering

We hope you can join us for an informal get-together at the Hawthorne Asylum food carts this Saturday from 2-4. If you need, other members are happy to help reimburse the cost of your meal! At its core, being a part of a union means caring for the well being of your coworkers and one of the best ways to do that is hang out and share a meal! Hope to see you there.

Local Labor Solidarity

Burgerville Workers Win James Beard Award as Corporation Continues Union Busting

This year, the Burgerville Workers Union (BVWU) was one of six groups to win a James Beard Foundation [leadership award](#) for their radical organizing work. The [BVWU](#) is currently facing ongoing repression from the company. If able, you can donate to their [strike fund](#) to show solidarity.

Beverage Distribution Workers Strike

Teamsters Local 162 members who work as drivers and warehouse workers for Maletis Beverage are on [strike](#) over the company's plan to cut retirement benefits, among other concerns. They have been walking the picket line at the distribution center near Swan Island. Check out this [interview](#) with two of these workers on Labor Radio on KBOO from before the strike where they talk about the circumstances leading up to the walkout.