

**REPORT TO FTA REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL:  
FUSD's UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF IMPASSE**



To: Fresno Unified School District Board of Education

Date: February 20, 2014

From: Eva Ruiz, FTA President

Re: Bargaining Request

**COPY**

This is to request that you, the Board of Education for the Fresno Unified School District stand up to the latest shenanigans of your Bargaining Team.

You are the ultimate over-sight of this District and responsible to the Fresno community for the smooth operation of their school district. We, your teachers and other providers of educational services to the children of Fresno, ask that you immediately order your Bargaining Team back to the negotiations table so that this process may end quickly and peacefully.

**The ultimate insult in bargaining is to meet with your opponents at the table, when they have absolutely no intention of reaching an agreement. That is the exact description of the behavior of your Team last Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.**

For the first time in many sessions, some of your proposals actually addressed concerns that your teachers have voiced since the beginning. Your FUSD Team was finally presenting adjustments to several of the more onerous take-backs and punitive proposals, giving the FTA Team a reason to believe that the two parties might be able to make some progress that day. We were prepared to stay as long as it took to keep moving in the direction of a settlement.

But that was not to be.

**Your Team and its advisors, rather than keeping the focus on the bargaining work before them, had already prepared to abandon the process.** With the Fresno news media contacting FTA "about the District's media conference regarding the Impasse" within minutes of the FUSD Team scurrying away from the bargaining table, the game was revealed!

This isn't a game. This is serious business, affecting all of your employees and 77,000 Fresno students. Every ounce of energy should be trained on getting this bargain completed as quickly as possible. Please. Send your Team back to the table, with the authority to get the deal. Remove the interference of 3<sup>rd</sup>-party requirements that have not been authorized by any Board action, and bring the negotiation talks back home, where they belong. **Your Teachers and Students are depending on you to step forward and do the right thing.**

CC: FTA Members via CONNECT  
Building Trades  
CSEA 125  
CSEA 143  
SEIU

**SPECIAL FTA REP COUNCIL MEETING — FEBRUARY 20, 2014  
BARGAINING UPDATE**

[www.fresnoteachers.org](http://www.fresnoteachers.org)