

8.1.19 WVEA Counter Proposal.

On June 14, the Willapa Valley School District proposed, in part, to increase class sizes and student support by eliminating the current requirement that the District hire all of the teachers that the state funds.

In other words, even if the state funds 24 teachers the district doesn't want to hire 24 teachers. The district wants to hire fewer teachers and increase class sizes and caseloads.

6.14.19 District proposal:

~~The District shall cause to be employed certificated staff members at or above the funded level of the state, unless the District is in a reduction in staff status due to loss of enrollment and/or lack of funds.~~

The teachers of the Willapa Valley Teachers' Association reject this proposal because we know that small class sizes and caseloads are good for our kids and are one of the reasons we choose to live in a small, rural district. **We don't want huge classes like Seattle, Tacoma, and other big cities.**

The district also proposed that teachers take a pay cut by increasing their hours but not increasing their salaries. The district proposal does not increase student contact time. This means that our teachers would take a yearly pay cut of between \$6,400 dollars and \$12,000.

Given that our teachers are already paid less than teachers in Raymond and South Bend, and that the district had enough money in tax-payer funded "savings" at the end on 2018/19 to run for more than three months without any revenue, we can't agree to a pay cut.

We believe Willapa Valley students deserve small class sizes and caseloads. We believe Willapa Valley students deserve great teachers, and that our teachers should earn a fair salary compared to Raymond and South Bend.

WVEA rejects the district offer to increase class sizes and decrease our pay, and we resubmit our 7.14.19 offer. We believe our students deserves small class sizes and caseloads, and that our district should offer salaries that are competitive with the local market.