

Press Conference Janesville Education Association (JEA) April 3, 2008

Welcome & Introductions

Announce Ratification of Contract

Vote Result 59% Yes 41% NO

JEA Reactions:

1. Thanks to the public for its support.
2. We will now be able to focus on what we love to do—teaching.
3. JEA Bargaining Team worked very hard to reach a compromise that our membership can accept, but the JEA knows further work needs to be done:
 - All of our members appreciate the gains made by the bargaining team, but we realize 41% of JEA members are not satisfied with aspects of this contract
 - We encourage the School District of Janesville (SDJ) board and administration to begin work immediately with us on satisfying a higher percentage of its teachers
 - Bridges of trust need to be built between the school district and its teachers
4. Lots of positives have come out of these sometimes contentious negotiations
 - We have a better informed JEA membership
 - Challenging questions about the contract
 - Involvement in the JEA has increased
 - Rallies, websites, discussion forums, marches, meetings, contract questions
 - Over 80% voter turnout
 - Our members have lots of respect for the efforts of the JEA leaders
 - We have a better informed public about the challenges of funding public education
5. Encourage SDJ to adopt a more progressive management style
 - The SDJ needs to run its school district like our union
 - Need more collaboration, democracy, transparency, communication, & supportiveness
 - Janesville's teachers should be viewed as allies not adversaries of the district
 - The JEA will work on establishing formal JEA representation at school board meeting and an active voice in school discussions
 - Janesville teachers need a permanent seat at the leadership table and a voice in the process to design a better school district
 - The JEA will work on establishing a reconstruction committee with the SDJ to begin building bridges of trust
 - The district's consult, Quint Studer, advises that satisfied employees make better employees. We hope to move in this progressive direction.

Q & A Session