

Bargaining Update – January 4, 2019

The twenty-fifth set of bargaining sessions between Munson Medical Center (MMC) and the MNA occurred on Thursday and Friday, January 3 and 4.

The collective bargaining teams spent both days discussing wages, the BSN requirement for nurses, and management of low census situations.

We had positive dialogue regarding wages and what is important to each party in addressing wages. We continue to make progress.

An agreement was reached on MMC's existing BSN requirement. MMC proposed that an additional grace period be established for those nurses who have not secured their BSN within previously established timeframes.

Although most nurses have met that requirement, there are some whose circumstances have not allowed them to complete their BSN. MMC proposed, and the union agreed, that it is in the best interest of the Health Care Team and the patients we serve to provide those nurses with an adjusted timeframe so that they may remain employed. We will be communicating details to the nurses affected, including the new deadlines for completion.

Nursing leadership greatly appreciates the effort that so many of our nurses have put forth to obtain their BSNs, and we look forward to helping as many nurses as possible achieve their BSN degrees.

Both parties shared proposals regarding how to manage low census situations. Although we made good progress, we did not reach a final agreement.

MMC continues to bargain in good faith for a contract that is fair to nurses and the entire Health Care Team.

The next collective bargaining sessions will be held on January 10 and 11.