

Bargaining Update – January 11, 2019

The twenty-sixth set of bargaining sessions between Munson Medical Center (MMC) and the MNA occurred on Thursday and Friday, January 10 and 11.

The collective bargaining teams spent both days discussing meal and rest periods, low census, and wages, including the annual wage increase.

Both sides understand that wages are an important issue for nurses. We continue to make progress. We discussed whether or not to grant a general wage adjustment in January to bargaining unit nurses while we continue negotiations. MMC and the union agreed to first try to reach an overall agreement that would include this issue. If we cannot do so by next month, we agreed that nurses in the bargaining unit would still receive a general wage adjustment retroactive to the payroll period that begins January 13, the same date that other employees are scheduled to receive wage adjustments.

We reached a tentative agreement on language for meal and rest breaks that continues MMC's commitment to help ensure that nurses have the ability to take their meal and rest breaks. The length of meal and rest breaks is not changing.

Finally, we reached a tentative agreement providing that both parties will work to replace any language in the agreement that is declared invalid by future legislation. No one anticipates this, but this allows us to address that issue should it arise.

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 21 and 22.