

Joint Communique #9
From the RCTA and RUSD Interest-Based Bargaining (IBB) Team
March 12, 2026

Special Education Workgroup

The IBB team agreed to the following Tentative Agreements, pending ratification by the union and board approval:

1. [Tentative Agreement - Article X - Hours of Employment -Special Education](#)
2. [Tentative Agreement - Article XII - Class Size - Special Education](#)
3. [Tentative Agreement - Miscellaneous Salary](#)

At the April meeting, the IBB Team will be provided an update from the Special Education Work group per the MOU. Additionally, RCTA shared with the bargaining team the reflections from RCTA members.

School Psychologist Workgroup

The IBB team continued discussions on the information that was provided by the School Psychologist Working Group.

Budget Update

The IBB team was provided an update of the Second Interim Budget.

This communication is an overview and not intended to be detailed. Specific information will be provided when MOUs and Tentative Agreements are reached.

The next scheduled date for negotiations will be April 2, 2026

IBB RUSD/RCTA Negotiation Team	
Bridgette Bodine (Facilitator)	Katie Breyer
Sean Browning	Laura Boling (Guest)
Michelle Cortés	Teresa Clark
Lisa Koss	Monic Dugan
Erin Power	Fernando Hurtado
Dan Sosa	Jason McPhail
Hector Valdez	Vanessa Reno
Kyley Ybarra	Justin Arnold (Labor Representative)

TENTATIVE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
RIVERSIDE CITY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION AND
RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
February 6, 2026

This Tentative Agreement (“TA”) has been reached between the Riverside Unified School District (the “District” or “RUSD”) and the Riverside City Teachers Association (“RCTA”), collectively, (“the parties”).

ARTICLE XII – CLASS SIZE

Section 5 – Special Education

A. The District will examine individual caseloads to determine what additional staff support or other assistance is needed should site averages exceed these maximums:

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Elementary Special Day Class: | 13 |
| 2. Middle School and High School
Moderate to Severe Class: | 15 |
| 3. Elementary Resource Specialist:
with waiver) | 28 (29 - 32, |
| 4. Middle School Mild/Moderate (SDC) and RSP | 20 |
| 5. High School RSP and Mild to Moderate Special Day Classes: | 25 |
| 6. Designated Instructional Services: | 60 |
| 7. Preschool Speech Language Pathologist: | 40 |

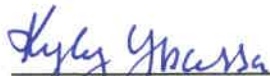
B. The District will provide monthly special education enrollment reports for class size and caseloads to the Association.

C. Should individual class size significantly exceed site class averages, the District and Association will determine whether support or other assistance is needed.

D. Initial IEPs will count toward total caseload for Elementary RSP Teachers. Once at 28, the teacher will have an option to increase their caseload up to 32 with additional compensation. Total compensation paid will be one (1) hour per day at the Miscellaneous Salary Schedule - Supplemental Special Education rate of pay. The additional compensation includes a caseload increase from 29 through 32.

This Tentative Agreement (TA) is subject to approval of RUSD's Board of Education and ratification by Riverside City Teachers Association.

FOR THE DISTRICT



Kyle Ybarra
Assistant Superintendent, Personnel
Riverside Unified School District

FOR THE RCTA



Fernando Hurtado
Bargaining Chair, RCTA

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**ARTICLE X – HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT
PRESCHOOL – TWELFTH GRADE CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES**


Section 12 – Special Education Teachers

In order to fulfill their professional duties with their special education caseload, the District shall provide **up to ten (10) days up to six (6) days** of release time to elementary special education teachers **in the classroom with an assigned roster**. ~~and substitutes will be provided. The District shall provide up to seven (7) days of release time to middle school and high school special education teachers.~~ Substitutes will be provided. This release time shall be taken in half or whole day increments. This release time cannot be scheduled to conflict with staff, team or department meetings. The teacher will plan on-site release time to address special education caseload. The release time will be scheduled with reasonable notice to and mutual agreement of the site administrator.

School sites will receive up to five (5) days of substitute time to use for general education teachers to attend IEPs. These days can be utilized in whole, half, or period increments as needed by the special education team and mutual agreement of the site administrator.

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FOR THE DISTRICT



Kiley Ybarra
Assistant Superintendent, Personnel
Riverside Unified School District

FOR THE RCTA



Fernando Hurtado
Bargaining Chair, RCTA

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Under the Miscellaneous Salary Schedule add **Hourly Supplemental For Special Education at \$46.21 rate.**

[Click here to see salary schedule](#)

Under the Extra Duty Annual Stipend add **4% stipend for Special Education teachers in the classroom with an assigned roster. For Secondary Special Education Teachers, this stipend will be prorated for teachers who have less than five (5) rostered sections assigned to them.**

[Click here to see salary schedule](#)


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FOR THE DISTRICT



Kylee Ybarra
Assistant Superintendent, Personnel
Riverside Unified School District

FOR THE RCTA



Fernando Hurtado
Bargaining Chair, RCTA