Presentation and Plating for Fine Dining: At the Table with Front Line Negotiations

Scenario One

Before and during bargaining, you are approached by Board members and Administration of reports that certain building administrators are not applying CBA work rules fairly or properly. You have heard this at the bargaining table also. What are your thoughts and suggestions?

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Scenario Two

The union proposes several "clarifying" changes to the CBA. In caucus, two members of your bargaining team say that the proposed changes all seem to make sense to them so the District should agree to them. What are your thoughts and suggestions?

Scenario Three

Your District administration and board are beginning next year's budgeting process next month. In addition, the district and the union have exchanged initial proposals. The union proposal includes 4%, 3%, and 5% on the salary schedule. The District proposal in 2%, 1.5%, 2%. In addition, in a bargaining executive session, the negotiating team has been authorized to go to 2.5%, 2.0%, 2%. Discuss the interrelationship and suggestions you would give the district regarding budgeting and negotiations.

Scenario Four

You have been bargaining since last spring and, as of July 1st, have been in a dynamic status quo. You are also in mediation with FMCS. Elections have just been certified and the board has been reorganized. Discuss the impact the reorganization has or ought to have on the bargaining process and bargaining proposals.

Scenario Five

The union proposal includes this little thing: a designated parking spot for itinerant teachers. The District bargaining team says no. This issue is raised by a board member in executive session as an example of how the District is being unfair and disrespecting the union. How would you approach this issue in the executive session?

Scenario Six

The District salary schedule has two primary factors: experience (Steps) and educational attainment (Columns). The union vehemently tells you that "Step" raises are not raises. How do you respond?

Scenario Seven

You are criticized directly and indirectly during public comment on non-agenda items. You hear phrases such as "not respecting the teachers" and "not negotiating in good faith." What should you do? What should the Board and Administration do?

Scenario Eight

Your board is an expressive and divided bunch in executive sessions on bargaining. In addition, you and the rest of the bargaining team reasonably suspect that there is a "leak" on the board. Information from executive sessions has ironically showed up at the bargaining table. How does this effect you? What would you do in this situation? What suggestions would you have?

Scenario Nine

The union suggests IBB (Interest Based Bargaining) and proposes that one of its Uniserve directors serve as the trainer and facilitator. There is board and administrative interest in this approach. What factors do you think are relevant and what are your thoughts, suggestions, and advice?