

**UMFA bargaining update: Executive Council passes motion to set strike date**

October 19, 2016

Dear Colleagues,

We previously told you that the bargaining teams were set to meet today to continue negotiations. Last night, the administration wrote to our team stating that they were not ready.

This afternoon, UMFA Executive Council passed a motion that, should negotiations not produce a satisfactory result, a strike would begin on Tuesday, November 1 at 7:00 a.m.

Time is of the essence. We hope that the administration is truly taking this time to work on a set of proposals that will move us closer to an agreed upon settlement.

Our Members were clear in setting the priorities at the table, and the strong strike mandate from voters backs that up. To help us keep up the pressure, I once again encourage you to come out to the information picket happening THIS FRIDAY (October 21) at noon in front of the Administration building. Please encourage your colleagues, your friends, your students, and members of the broader community to come out to support this event. For resources such as templates for stickers, window signs, and a PowerPoint to help you talk to your students, please visit our [website](#).

Soon, an FAQ will be posted on our website to answer some of your concerns around a strike, but in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact the UMFA office or speak to your Board Rep.

We expect to meet again this Friday. We are taking this process very seriously, with every hope that the bargaining process will succeed. We will send you another update following the next meeting.

Sincerely,

Mark Hudson  
UMFA President