

AN EXCLUSIVE
TWICE MONTHLY
REPORT FOR

UNION PROUD

UFCW 655
a VOICE for working America

UFCW 655
MEMBERS &
THEIR FAMILIES

www.ufcw655.com

Will Schnucks hear your message?

It remains to be seen.

By DAVID COOK, President



COOK

Last month, our hard-working partners at Schnucks rejected a proposal offered by their employer that was beyond standard. This proposal would have lowered their standard of living. 89 percent of them voted to reject it and authorize a strike.

As I've said before, a strike is never the goal when bargaining. It is a last resort, a final option when workers simply cannot come to a reasonable agreement with an employer.

That's why we went back to the negotiating table with Schnucks.

WILL 'CLEAR MESSAGE' BE HEARD?

Our hope was that this strike vote would send a clear message to the company that their thousands of employees were prepared to fight for a better deal. Since that vote, as of last Monday we've had six more meetings with Schnucks as we continue to fight for the better deal you've earned.

I know that many at Schnucks, as well as employees at our other two largest employers — Shop 'n Save and Dierbergs, would like detailed updates on these negotiations. While it would not be productive to tell you day-to-day what happens in those meetings, we have tried to keep you as updated as possible on the general flow of negotiations.



TEXT TO KEEP INFORMED

I urge you to sign up for texts from Local 655 by texting the word JOIN to 738674. It

is the quickest way for you to receive updates.

We have heard you loud and clear that the time is at hand to bring these negotiations to an end.

Next week we will be meeting with members from Schnucks to determine our next steps. Hopefully we will have a proposal that the bargaining committee can recommend and the membership will approve.

WE DO NOT HAVE SUCH A PROPOSAL TODAY,

so we need to be prepared to take action if needed.

I and the entire bargaining committee thank you for your patience, and your trust. As your President, I am accountable to you, and you alone. I will fight to get you the best contract possible.

I promise you that you will receive updates from us as soon as our path forward becomes clear.



WE'RE READY if negotiations don't turn around and Schnucks refuses to present a fair contract proposal.

If we have a proposal that is fair, equitable, and a reflection of the hard-work you've done, we will let you know, and, if time permits, you won't vote on it before you've had a chance to hold it in your hands and read it.

If we cannot come to terms with Schnucks and a strike becomes our only option, we will work tirelessly to keep you informed of that decision, and ways you can chip in to keep your company accountable by standing on a picket line.

One thing we will not be is silent. We will be heard. You will be heard, and we will march forward as we always have: together.

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