

# Utah School Employees Association *Action Bulletin*

*Breaking news for members of USEA*

## ***PUBLIC EMPLOYEE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING***

Legislation will likely be considered in the upcoming general session that, if passed, would prohibit public employees, including those in public education, from collectively negotiating terms and conditions of employment with their employers.

The proposed legislation may go so far as to prohibit any negotiation of terms and conditions of employment, including salary, benefits and other compensation, leave, termination procedures, and other aspects of the employer-employee relationship.

### **It is USEA's position that:**

- Public education has always been a collaborative effort between administrators, teachers, and classified professionals. Collective bargaining is an important part of that collaboration.
- Most districts have, over time, developed a collaborative process through which they consider employees' desires and their communities' needs when setting budgets or employee compensation.
- The decision whether to bargain with employees, and to what extent, is a local decision that should be left to local school boards, who are the best judges of the needs of their communities and employees.
- Public education employees should be allowed a say in their own workplace conditions.
- A ban on collective bargaining does not address any real problem in the operation of public schools in Utah.
- There is no evidence that a ban on collective bargaining will improve the education of a single student in Utah's public schools.

