

USD 415 Board Ratifies Contract With Teachers

**(KNZA)--The Hiawatha Board of Education during a special meeting Thursday morning ratified a negotiated agreement with teachers for the 2017-18 school year.**

**Under the agreement, Superintendent Lonnie Moser says teachers will see an average salary increase of just under 6 percent.**

**The base salary for a beginning teacher will increase \$2,000 to \$35,560.**

**Moser said the Board looked at where the district was in comparison with neighboring districts. He said they knew the district was behind, and at the same time was asking more of teachers as far as days of service compared to other districts.**

**Moser said it's been a priority of the Board to make sure teachers were compensated fairly, and with the additional state aid the district is receiving due to a growing enrollment was able to provide the salary increases.**

**Moser added negotiations went very smoothly. He said members of the teachers negotiating team signed the contract Wednesday, which is retro-active to the beginning of the school year.**

Many Signals Communications