

**ASSOCIATED POMONA TEACHERS**  
**A SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION**  
**RESOLUTION**

*WHEREAS*, our nation's future well-being relies on a high-quality public education system that prepares all students for colleges, careers, democracy and lifelong learning, and

*WHEREAS*, our public education system has been negatively impacted due to the COVID-19 Virus, causing the physical closure of school sites and districts across the globe and the country, and

*WHEREAS*, elected leaders of the Associated Pomona Teachers (APT) desire to participate in decisions along with the Pomona Unified School District (PUSD) to safely return to schools on behalf of our approximately 1,300 members and the more than 22,000 students we serve, and

*WHEREAS*, APT believes that the health and safety of students, staff and the community must be the top priority during this crisis. We are compelled to comment on PUSD's preparedness for safe, in-person school instruction.

*THEREFORE*, be it resolved that PUSD can only reopen schools when they are safe. This means taking actions in the face of uncertainty to protect students, staff and the community. While no method of prevention alone is 100 percent effective, layered strategies can help mitigate exposure and avoid potential infection.

*THEREFORE*, be it resolved that A Safe Return to School requires coordinated, consistent communication with the public health department that offers a uniform systems checklist and safety protocols, data transparency and accessibility, increased testing dedicated to schools for students and staff, rapid case notification and contact tracing, following appropriate protocols for quarantine, isolation support and medical care for our students, staff and families and health monitoring to serve as early understandings of transmissions in schools and warnings of any school-based outbreaks.

***THEREFORE***, be it resolved that A Safe Return to School also requires a clear plan of physical distancing, reducing the number of contacts, adequate personal protective equipment (PPE), the universal wearing of masks except for those with approved exemptions, availability of sinks for frequent handwashing, adequate supplies of antibacterial gel, daily health screening of staff and students, closed campuses, isolation area at school for staff and students showing symptoms of COVID-19, support for sick and at-risk individuals to teach and learn from home, mental health counseling and emotional support, access to health services, assessment of local hospital capabilities, adequate ventilation with no recirculated air, the availability of COVID-19 vaccines for those who desire one and frequent cleaning and disinfecting using safe products conducted by non-certificated staff specifically trained with this responsibility.

***THEREFORE***, be it resolved that PUSD develop and implement training for all school staff on safety protocols and to direct that Illness and Injury Prevention Plans be updated prior to any return to campus.

***ADDITIONALLY***, the Associated Pomona Teachers are OPPOSED to any consideration of returning to school against recommended guidelines of the CDC, California Department of Public Health, the Los Angeles County Department of Health, and compliance with Cal-OSHA.

***IN CONCLUSION***, educators want to be back on campus with students doing the work they love, but science, facts and safety cannot be ignored. APT concurs with the current plan of providing education to PUSD students with distance learning until the virus is contained. We will not compromise on safety as safe public schools are what PUSD students, staff, families and the community deserve.