



The APT Spotlight

January 12, 2021

STATUS ON REOPENING SCHOOLS

- The Task Force met on January 6, 2021 to discuss the Reopening of Schools for the 2021 school year.
- At this time Pomona Unified School District is not reopening schools as suggested on January 18th, because Los Angeles County Health Department has not given the green light for reopening schools.
- Los Angeles County is one of the highest for widespread reported cases of COVID-19.
- The district will continue to monitor and consult with the health department and other agencies before reopening schools.
- APT has great members on the task force that will continue to advocate for our members and make sure that when the schools reopen your voices through the representatives will be heard.

The members on the Task Force are Manuela Echeverria, Erin Jackson, Monica Whisenhunt, Danielle Rasshan, Lisa Garnett, Doneva Wickwire, and Phyllis Peters. We will continue to report any updates from the Task Force.

CTA CONFERENCES

CTA conferences are virtual for the remainder of the school year. The good news is that there is no cost to attend. They are free! It gets better. CTA will also pay for university credit. You can access information regarding upcoming conferences using this link. <https://www.cta.org/conferences>

BARGAINING UPDATE

The APT Executive Board approved the following members to serve on the new Bargaining Team. Moving forward our goals are to build upon the past achievements in negotiations and enhance and improve the bargaining process. We are united in our efforts to bring as many voices as possible into the room in an effort to represent all of our members in the process. The criteria used in

selecting the new team included identifying a cross section of members from the District, expertise in their field, credibility among colleagues, and a willingness and commitment to be involved in a new process.

There will be a **Core Bargaining Team** who will carry out the responsibility of bargaining the MOU and Re-openers with the District.

Lisa Garnett – Cortez Elementary
Mandy Vance – Marshall Middle School
Steven Lee – Fremont Academy
Michael Dyer – Educational Technology Teacher Specialist

The Executive Board also approved members who will serve as **Support Staff Professionals**. They will attend bargaining sessions when issues relevant to their working conditions are discussed. It is important that these voices be included in the overall bargaining discussions.

Veronica Alvarez – Counselor
Doneva Wickwire – Speech and Language
Chris Kislingbury – School Psychologist
Barbara Schnoze – Nurse
Yolanda Gardner-Horn – Elementary Education Specialist
(SDC/RSP) Opal Johnson – High School Education Specialist
(SDC/RSP)
Christina Owens – Adaptive PE Specialist
Sandra Gallegos, Gabriela Hartt, Sheila Twadell – Child Development

The Bargaining Team, as a whole, represents all APT members and will continue its Interest Based Bargaining process with the District. The new team is off and running and will begin its extensive training this month. Phyllis Peters will continue to attend bargaining sessions and will be a valuable resource to the new team. Manuela Echeverria will serve as the liaison from the Executive Board to the Bargaining Team. She also will act as the official spokesperson for the Association. APT also has the support of CTA as we move through this process. APT leadership is very hopeful that we can move forward and collectively address the many challenges we face in our work lives. As with all Associations throughout the state, it has been an unprecedented year.