



Newark Teachers Association

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# Member Update

What is NTA doing for you?



## Safety Concerns

by Katie Holder

We understand that NTA members have many concerns about school safety right now. The Omicron surge has many members worried about the risk of infection at school. This is compounding existing concerns at many sites about student behavior and physical violence.

Linked below is a survey about school safety. We are trying to get a better understanding of the extent of these concerns, and to identify members who are willing to take action on those concerns.

If enough members are interested, we would like to organize a school safety night around an upcoming board meeting. We would love to line up several NTA members who are willing to speak about school safety concerns and flood the school board with emails about safety concerns. While we know that speaking to the board is uncomfortable, it is the best way to increase parent awareness around these issues. The board has shown much more willingness to consider parent issues, so we need them on our side.

Please consider speaking up if these issues are important to you. If you have concerns that you feel were not addressed in the survey, please feel free to email us in addition.

<https://forms.gle/t2KRBKnMP9TStnzz5>

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THIS MONTH'S



## Omicron Surge and N95 Masks

NUSD has stated that they have N95 masks available for teachers who request them. These masks have been proven to be much more effective at stopping the Omicron variant than regular cloth masks. To request a mask, please email your administrator. If you request a mask and do not receive it promptly, please let us know.

## Carpets!

Great news for elementary staff! You may request to have your carpet returned! If your carpet needs to be shampooed and vacuumed, please reach out to your administrator and custodial staff about how and when that may be accomplished. If you do not need it cleaned before returning, simply email your administrator asking for your carpet to be returned and telling them that you do not need it to be cleaned first.

## Thinking Ahead

Next year, there are likely to be several open positions on NTA's Executive Board. Please start thinking about whether or not you might consider joining the executive board, or whether there is someone else that you would like to nominate to the executive board. Previous experience with NTA leadership is NOT required. Everyone is welcome!

## Final Notes

- If you need to make a purchase through Amazon for school purposes, please remember it must be ORDERED through your school office. The school district will not reimburse Amazon purchases made by individual teachers.
- We are working on an MOU with the district about the sixth grade transition. If you have ideas about what should be included, please reach out to Cheri.
- If you are frustrated with the district's PD offerings and would like to serve on a PD committee to advise the district office on more effective offerings, please email Katie.

## Keep in Touch

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