



Newark Teachers Association

Member Update

What is NTA doing for you?



Contract Language Survey - Due March 1st!

One of our major goals for this year on the NTA e-board is to enter the next school year well prepared for contract negotiations. A critical part of this effort is to come to the negotiation table with language drafted for all articles. This will allow our bargaining committee to focus on the actual bargaining process, rather than attempting to draft language as they go.

We need your help in this effort! The first member-input survey for the contract language team was emailed to all members on February 14. This survey is **your opportunity to provide input** on the language we propose for many important topics, including work day and year, evaluation, transfers and reassignments, special education, and technology.

Please take your time to read the relevant sections of the contract and complete this survey prior to 3:00 PM on March 1. Your thoughtful, detailed input is the best way to ensure that your concerns are adequately addressed in our contract proposal. If you do not give us your input, we will have a difficult time adequately addressing your concerns.

This contract is NTA's most critical tool to advocate for the needs of our members. Please help us make it a strong tool to support ALL of our members.

[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY!](#)

THIS MONTH'S
TOP STORIES



Safety Survey Update

Thank you for the excellent participation in NTA's Safety Survey. A summary report of this data was shared with the school board at the most recent meeting. This report is linked below. Overall, this data showed a clear concern about physical violence and student behavior at the secondary level, and an overall unease about covid safety precautions at all sites. We continue to encourage the school board to take action based on this data, and to encourage members who are concerned to reach out to the school board personally via email or by speaking at a board meeting. Please feel free to reach out if you need help understanding the process for speaking to the school board or need help accessing their email addresses.

[CLICK HERE for the summary report](#)

Red Shirt Day!

NTA is planning our first Red Shirt Day of the year for Thursday, March 3rd! Please wear red on Thursday to show your support for NTA. Site Reps, we will ask you to keep count of how many of the staff at your site wear red on the 3rd, and there will be a prize available for the site with the highest percentage of participating staff!

Hopefully, students and families will take note when they see many staff in red shirts and ask why everyone is matching! Here are some possible ways to respond to this question at different levels:

- Teachers at lots of schools across Newark today are wearing red to show we're all one team. It's just like when you wear the colors of your favorite sports team!
- All of our teachers are part of a group called a union. The union works together to make sure that all teachers and students are treated fairly. Today, many teachers are wearing red to support our union.
- Like many workers, Newark's teachers are part of a labor union. Today, members of our union are wearing red to increase awareness and visibility of NTA.

Bargaining Team

Very soon, NTA will need to name the members of our Bargaining Team for next school year. This is a significant, but very important commitment. Bargaining team members will meet regularly during the school day with NUSD's bargaining team to negotiate our new contract. This responsibility does involve missing class time (the district will be responsible for providing a sub) for these meetings. **We are in particular need of elementary representation** on the bargaining team. Please consider taking on this important role and email Sean if you are interested.

Your ONE Thing

At the next site rep meeting, we will be asking site reps to meet with their staff and to come back with the ONE issue that is the biggest problem for your site right now. This could be anything from a facilities issue, to a staffing issue, to a resources issue. We expect that it will be different for each site. Please begin taking some time to think about what your number one greatest challenge is right now, and be ready to participate in that conversation with your site rep. Thank you in advance for your honest and thoughtful input!

Keep in Touch

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