



Newark Teachers Association

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Member Update

What is NTA doing for you?



by Katie Holder on September 29

The Safety MOU that covered our return to school in the spring expired in June. That means that we have been working without a Safety MOU since we returned for this school year. Negotiations are in progress for an updated safety MOU that reflects the current reality of teaching on-campus. For more details, see the [Negotiations Update](#). We also strongly encourage all members to read the [NUSD Covid Safety Plan](#).

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THIS MONTH'S
TOP STORIES



Guest Teacher Shortages

Guest teacher shortages have been a significant issue so far this year at all sites, and NTA has filed grievances against principals who are failing to follow the contract language when that happens. Science Resource Teachers and PE Teachers should not be asked to cover classes. Instead, classroom teachers should be covering classes during their prep periods.

From the CBA 13.6.1.4: Site Administration will make every effort to ensure that unit members who substitute during a prep will do so on a voluntary basis. Only after it has been determined that volunteers are unavailable will administration require members to substitute during their prep.

SRT and PE Teachers - if you are asked to cover a class for an absent teacher, please inquire in an email "Am I being required to cover for a classroom teacher and give up my PE or Science sections for today?" You are not able to say no without possible disciplinary actions being taken.

All teachers - if you are asked to cover another class during your prep period, please make sure that you fill out a time card so that you can be compensated for that time.

Weekend Access

At least two sites have been told that they are no longer allowed to access campus on the weekend because of "Covid restrictions." The Safety MOU that prohibited us from coming onto campus on weekends and holidays was the same one that expired in June. In the absence of a new MOU, there is no language in our contract preventing us from coming to campus on nights and weekends. If you run into any trouble because you are on campus over a weekend, please contact your site rep immediately by email explaining the situation.

HVAC Issues

We still do not have confirmation or documentation that everyone's HVAC is working properly, so please let your site rep or director know if you are having **any** issues. We need to take the proper steps to report all issues.

Stay in Touch!

Site Rep elections will be officially completed this week, and your site rep should be sharing their contact information with you shortly thereafter. Thank you for your patience with the duplicate elections at some sites this year!

Your site rep should be your first contact if and when you need support from NTA. (BGP, we are still looking for a site rep!) You are also welcome to contact NTA leadership directly. We're here to help!

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