



Acalanes Education Association

Newsletter


www.acalanesteachers.org

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TEACHING FROM HOME

All of our members have gone through tremendous change in teaching environments this past month due to the stay-in-place order caused by the Coronavirus Pandemic. We teach from our kitchens, livingrooms, bedrooms and backyards now, trying to make online learning engaging while meeting the needs of our students and staying in compliance with district mandates.

Here's a review of what the our district administration is requiring and Lori's FAQs:

- Each Monday, teachers should post an outline (at least) on School Loop of what students will be doing throughout the week including days/times for any virtual classes and office hours. It's OK to post assignments throughout the week as long as they fit the Monday outline.
- Start with School Loop as your portal to communications, lessons and assessments. Link your Google Classroom and Zoom assignments to School Loop too.
- Plan lessons that take 2 - 3 hours a week to complete, per class. AP teachers may assign more at their discretion.
- These hours **can** consist of synchronous teaching (using Zoom, Meet, etc.). These hours **can** consist of assignments/videos to watch/virtual labs and other asynchronous learning. Teachers **can not** require synchronous attendance on a Zoom call, for example.

- Create a new 4th quarter gradebook in School Loop. Show the progress of each of your students by awarding them Credit (CR), In Progress (IP), Missing (m), or No Credit (NC) on their assignments.
- A student's score at the end of the quarter will also be CR/no mark based on their performance during the quarter. Students need to demonstrate a minimum level of work completion and engagement. If you think a student deserves a no mark for the quarter there should be a systematic reason for it. See Aida Glimme's email from April 17th for more details about grading.
- For students that are repeated "no shows" and there has been no contact with their parents, please send their names to site admin.

CALENDAR FOR 2021-2022

AEA members voted in favor of Calendar 3.1 where the Professional Development Day is in March and the semesters are more balanced at 86 days & 94 days. This calendar was also approved by our board members during the April 15th board meeting.

OPEN ENROLLMENT IN MAY

We have open enrollment for health insurance coming in May. Lori is checking with Amy and Julie about Flex Plan enrollment. Since we switched to SISC from CalPERS, the open enrollment period for health insurance changed from the fall to May. The Flex plan

enrollment also moved with the health insurance dates. Many people do not know how much their childcare costs will be in the spring and so it would be better to be able to enroll in these plans in the fall. Stay tuned for more information!

AEA ELECTIONS

How have you served your local union lately? Think about becoming a site representative or an executive board member of AEA. If you are interested in running for a position email Lori the declaration form at mstewks@yahoo.com by April 30th. The following positions are open:

- Site rep for Acalanes, Campolindo, Las Lomas and Miramonte
- Vice-President
- Communication and Membership Chairperson
- At-Large Member

SUPPORT FOR UNITE SUMMIT

AEA is supporting Summit Public Schools, who have schools around the bay area and in Washington state, form a teachers' union. They are currently working with CTA to form the "Unite Summit" union and appreciate our support in the form of a resolution. This unionization will help improve contracts which include pay and benefits and help cut down on teacher turnover. For more information on the Unite Summit see their website <https://unitesummitteachers.com>

NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

We signed a separate MOU regarding negotiations for this year. In this MOU we agreed to pause negotiations until the fall of next year (2020-21). We will finish up language and ongoing monies at that time. For this school year, we agreed to a 2% one time payment that we will receive in May and an extension The school board also approved this during their April 15th meeting.

EVALUATIONS

Per the MOU we signed with the District regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and working conditions, all evaluations this year can be signed off at the point where they stopped. If someone is going

to get a needs improvement or unsatisfactory, they can choose to get re-evaluated next year and have this year's evaluation not count. If the evaluation is satisfactory, then the administrator and person being evaluated can sign off and it will count for this year's evaluation.

BLOCK SCHEDULE COMMITTEE

Before the school closures occurred, the AEA/District block schedule committee had met and agreed to two different conceptual schedules for after the MOU expires at the end of next (202-21) school year. The idea behind the two schedules was to be able to put them out for a vote of the membership. The committee was to meet again to work on the details of the schedules (include the 8:30 start, etc). Given that schools are closed and any meetings would be virtual, we agreed that the work of this committee could wait until we are back at school in the fall.

CTA WANTS TO KNOW

What does your office or virtual classroom look like? CTA is gathering your selfies, videos or photos on this website

<https://wysiwyg.typeform.com/to/GonIY9>

They want to remind us that we're all in this together!

Consider sharing a photo with us on our AEA Facebook page [@AcalanesEA](https://www.facebook.com/AcalanesEA) Please add the hashtag **#Inthisogether and #weareCTA**

IMPORTANT DATES

During the week of April 13, 2020 - AEA election announcement via email and posted on the AEA website

April 15, 2020: Governing Board meeting; 7PM via Zoom

April 30, 2020: declaration of candidacies due to Lori May 4 - 8, 2020 - online AEA elections

May 6 and 20, 2020 - Governing Board meetings; 7pm via Zoom

May 21, 2020 at 4:00 PM - AEA rep council via Zoom (2019-20 and 2020-21 rep council members are invited)

June 3 and 17, 2020 - Governing Board meetings; 7PM likely via Zoom