



The BTA negotiating team comprised of BTA's Executive Director, Nathan Banditelli, Sue Conway (Luther), Laura Mixon (McKinley), Brenda Kosbab (BHS), and Heidi Lavitt (Stevenson) met with the BUSD team, comprised of Sarah Niemann (Asst. Sup. Human Resources), John Paramo (Asst. Sup. Ed. Services), Debbie Kukta (Asst. Supt. Admin. Services), and Jennifer Meglemre (Principal Jordan)

News from the Table, Part 1

Hot Topics

- Horace Mann will remain open for the rest of the year (barring health and safety mandates), but the infant room will close
 - Fees will be maintained at the rates decided upon in April
- Preservice Workdays: The district gave BTA a schedule for pre-service workdays. BTA will give feedback at the next negotiations.

Reopening Schools

- The decision regarding how to reopen schools will involve abiding by recent state legislation, L.A. County Office of Education (LACOE) and L.A. County Health Department directives, health and safety concerns, the changing dynamics of the pandemic in the county, and many other variables.
- With that in mind, no decision has been made about reopening schools in August by BUSD or in any of the surrounding districts in L.A. County. We are fully aware of the anxiety our members are experiencing regarding reopening (and we share them)!
- As a result of this uncertainty, BTA's approach has been **PREPARATION, PREPARATION, PREPARATION**. BTA and the District continue to negotiate the many scenarios we think we may encounter in reopening and closing down schools.
- BTA decided to negotiate schedules, grades and attendance procedures in both hybrid and distance scenarios first. Our reasoning was that teachers, counselors, nurses, and SLPs would need this information as soon as possible to begin planning for next year.
- BTA and the District should be able to finish outstanding issues in the hybrid and distance models of instruction within the next week. As a result, please look for a Part 2 to this News from the Table (NFTT) soon with more specific information, especially regarding distance learning models.

- Once schedules and other instructional procedures are put in place, BTA and the District will begin negotiating health and safety. This will include issues like when to shut down school sites or the entire district, mask requirements, etc. As this is the most important and complex topic we will be discussing, look for updates on agreements between BTA and the District.

Hybrid Model

- BTA and the District have agreed on a hybrid model if schools are able to physically reopen on August 17th.
- The same model can be used if BUSD starts with a 100% distance learning model but will be able to reopen with a hybrid model later in the school year.
- BTA and the District have agreed on the following with a few outstanding issues in bold:
 - AM/PM schedules for all students
 - Friday as a pupil free teacher and student workday. BTA and the District are still discussing the criteria for teachers. **While it will be reserved primarily as a pupil free workday, interpretation of recent state legislation will have to be considered regarding instruction, such as office hours, on Friday.**
 - For secondary, teachers will use Aeries for grades. Teachers will be issuing standard letter grades for students and issuing report cards for the 10 and 20 weeks. **BTA and the District are still negotiating the frequency of grade input for teachers in Aeries.**
 - For elementary, teachers will resume using standard based trimester grades. The MOU will have built in flexibility if this proves difficult, especially for assessing K-1 mastery of standards. **Changes will be made as needed.**
 - BTA and the District agreed to elementary teachers issuing Interim Progress Reports for students not meeting standards four weeks prior to report cards instead of six weeks to allow for more assessment time.
 - Attendance will be taken by the teachers for classes they have on campus each day. **Attendance for Friday is still being discussed.**
 - Grading and attendance procedures from the hybrid model will be used if we start with, or must shut down to, a 100% distance learning model.
 - In other words, we will be issuing letter and standards-based grades and taking attendance for students we see virtually each day in a distance model.

Distance Models

- BTA and the District agreed upon general ideas for distance learning models. **Specific details are being finalized and will be in NFFT Part 2 within the next week.**
- In general, the distance model of instruction will mirror the hybrid model. The scenarios discussed were
 - 100% distance learning for students and teachers not attending school in the hybrid model should physical campuses reopen in August. This included a discussion of APEX, PE, and elective considerations for secondary.

- 100% distance learning for everyone starting on August 17th.
- 100% distance learning for everyone should schools or individual sites have to shut down within the school year.
- Different models and curriculum considerations for elementary and secondary teachers and students within the distance learning scenarios.
- The amount of virtual instruction delivered by teachers for elementary and secondary students.
- The process and criteria for choosing distance teachers.

Pupil Free Friday

- BTA and the District are finalizing criteria for teachers.

NFTT Part Two

- Stay tuned for NFTT Part 2 as we finalize details with the District on distance models and the Pupil Free Friday. We are aiming for completion within the next week.

Next Negotiations: Tuesday, July 14th

- Special Education Schedules (with SLP, OT, APE considerations)
- Monterey and CDS Schedules
- Evaluation Procedures
- Beginning discussions for Health and Safety Procedures