



Updates . . .

Dear Fellow Members:

Knowing that we will soon encounter yet another change in our teaching environments, please take time for yourself this weekend - whatever that looks like. Breathe and have faith that the WREA strives to support you as best we can.

NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE:

On Tuesday, March 30th from 7 p.m to 11:02 p.m. the WREA's negotiation team met with the district's negotiation team and advocated to include the following wording in the In-Person MOA: **The negotiations process is ongoing.**

- Negotiations has asked the district to keep our Wednesday afternoons as choice of where we work

Wednesday afternoons will be teacher directed planning time to prepare for both in-person and remote learning models. Educators may choose to work remotely, as has been the practice this year.

- Carry over two personal days instead of one

Knowing the challenges educators have faced this year, and for any educator who ends the year with a personal day balance of two or more days, the District will carry two (2) personal days forward, from the 2020-2021 school year into the 2021-2022 school year. Any remaining personal days will be converted to sick days as per the CBA.

- If students not present teacher can be remote

Staff can choose to work remotely if no students are present with the agreement of the principal which shall not be unreasonably withheld.

- PPE request form - must have contact person on form

A standardized district wide PPE and cleaning supply request form will be provided to staff prior to their first day of the in-person model, April 5, 2021 or April 26, 2021, for the PreK-8 and High School grades respectively.

- Air Quality: - testing of rooms

Air Quality: During the first month after the in-person model has begun in each building, the District will test all frequently used spaces of the schools consistent with the expectations for a safe reopening. The District shall maintain CO2 monitors in each building. CO2 testing will occur throughout the year in all buildings and the results will be shared with the Association. A log of CO2 levels will be kept in each building. In the event that a staff member has concerns about the indoor air quality of the space where they are assigned to within the school, they shall notify building administration of their specific concern. Administration will then consult with the facilities director to document and investigate the concern and implement a safe and appropriate solution within five (5) school days. A log will be maintained of all inspections, upgrades, repairs, and filter changes, including by not limited to CO2 and ACH rates (Air Changes per Hour). All logs will be accessible by the Association.

- Remote meetings

Educators are responsible for attending any administrative meetings or other meetings as required under the CBA. Every effort will be made to provide educators a virtual option for such meetings.

- Use of sick time during quarantining

Educators required by the school nurse to quarantine will have the option of teaching remotely from their home during quarantine and will not be charged sick days for the period of quarantine or for the period of taking and receiving any test results related to Covid-19.

More information will follow early next week and once WREA completes the In-Person MOA, we will begin discussions concerning the collective bargaining agreement. More information will be forthcoming in the upcoming weeks.

TOWN HALL:

Mark your calendars - **Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 4:15 p.m.** is our next town hall meeting with Superintendent McCall. Questions will be focused on the *high school* return to full time in-person learning. All members, though, are welcome to attend. Once again we will divide the questions into sections: Safety, Technology, HR/Leaves/Sick Time, Instruction, and Changes in Logistics (schedule, transportation, etc). The WREA encourages members, especially from the high school, to volunteer to read submitted questions. Please submit your questions via the link below.

Town Hall Question Collection Link: <https://forms.gle/1QMeJRp9exEJoaLn7>

Town Hall Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83639929058>

PREP TIME:

The WREA continues to gather information on educators' schedules from the district. We have reviewed your Google Form responses, obtained information from the district, and asked HOD members to bring data to Monday's meeting. Please share your schedule with your HOD representative or email it to me at presidentwrea@gmail.com.

POOL TESTING:

Pool testing will be arriving in the district soon. Please look for details about this program in Dr. McCall's Wachusett News upcoming email.

Again, make sure you take time for yourself!

In unity,

Mary Shepherd

President WREA