

1/6/2021

ACE Newsletter Update

Subject line – Welcome Back to 2022

Welcome Back

Hopefully Winter Break was a great opportunity to rest and recharge. We find ourselves back facing a number of incredible challenges. At ACE we know our best support is each other, which we need now more than ever!

Psychs

Psychologists and MHSPs are beginning their union election this month. Ballots are going out through the mail tomorrow. All of us are so excited to see our colleagues begin to build a culture of asking questions and speaking up to advocate for the schools and programs our students deserve. Please share your support for the Psychologists by liking, commenting, and sharing their social media posts on, [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Tik Tok](#).

Conservative Town Hall

Due to the recent spike in COVID cases and the concerns this raises, the Conservative town hall is going to move to entirely virtual. This will still be a great opportunity to hear from Conservative and Republican Union leaders about how their voices are lifted up by CTA and their local educators' union. Please [RSVP here](#) to receive the link to the zoom meeting.

Covid Policy Changes

This week, as our dashboard numbers are exponentially increasing, we've seen an announcement from the Clovis Unified District Office that revised the COVID policy. A couple of things struck us as problematic immediately.

- There was no mention of testing for employees who are identified as a close contact at work. Employers have obligations regarding testing under [the Cal-OSHA standard](#) when there is a workplace exposure to COVID-19, among other safety obligations.
- Dr. O'Brien stated that, "Symptom-free individuals after a close contact exposure may remain at work or in school, following all masking guidelines, except for household members." Based on our understanding, we think this is not completely accurate. **The CDPH guidance outlines quarantine protocols which depend on vaccination and booster status.** The full guidance for a close contact exposure is located [here](#).
- Another important state policy that we are studying is the [CDPH COVID-19 guidance for K-12 schools](#).

We know that the COVID guidance changes as conditions change, but we do expect our employer to understand, communicate, and follow the guidance as directed by state agencies.

We appreciate CTA's help in clarifying the state's guidance in order to better ensure the health and wellbeing of our students and employees. We will be meeting with CUSD's Executive Cabinet next week to discuss these issues and other unresolved topics and welcome any input from our colleagues who may have concerns they wish us to share in that meeting. We know the resources exist to create safer and more supportive schools that give a fair break for every student.

Please be sure to [reach out to us](#) to share your thoughts or become involved in building ACE!

Sincerely, ACE Executive Cabinet Team

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