



HAYWARD EDUCATION ASSOCIATION



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January 14, 2022 – Friday Follow-up



It has been another long week in HUSD but....

Hayward made headlines this week by switching to remote learning despite being told by state and county officials we had to remain open - no matter the risk to our community. We believe we made the right decision, prioritizing both learning and safety in the process. Switching to distance learning increased our attendance rate from 65% on Friday, 1/7, to 86% on Wednesday, 1/14, - so we were able to safely provide more instruction to more students than we could in person.

In response to our advocacy, the [district has distributed N95 masks to sites](#) and is following up on KN95 requests. We have heard that some N95 masks provided by the county are on a recall list because they failed to meet the standards required for health care facilities. We are working with the district to provide replacement high-quality masks for all staff as soon as possible. We also encourage you to use your own if you have them - even surgical masks have proven superior to cloth masks in recent studies.

Because of our encouragement, the district is working with their testing vendors to increase access to tests for both staff and students, reduce the response time, and provide regular testing in all elementary schools starting later this month.

Because of our encouragement, the district has received and distributed rapid tests for staff at the site. If you have not picked up your rapid test, check your sites schedule to pick up today. Additionally, testing will be available for staff only at the District Offices from 10am-6pm on Tuesday, 1/18, and Thursday, 1/20. [See attached to register for a test.](#)

Finally, we negotiated an extension of remaining SB95 "COVID Leave" hours until the end of the school year. [CLICK HERE](#) for the agreement details. All employees who had not already used their 10 days of "COVID leave" when they expired on 9/30/2021 will now be able to use their remaining leave through the remainder of the school year. CTA and other unions are [actively lobbying the state of California](#) to renew this leave program, and we will negotiate over any additional days that are made available.

Tonight's School Board Meeting

Tonight, the school board will meet to decide the plan for next week. The current plan is to review this week and consider minimum days next week to minimize contact while addressing

our students' educational needs, and allowing time for testing and implementation of new safety measures.

We had hoped that we would have more heads up from the district than another weekend message but ... *sigh* expect messages over the weekend from the district.

You can access the meeting by [CLICKING HERE](#). The meeting is scheduled to start at 5:00. If you want to try to speak during the public speaking portion, please "raise your hand " prior to the meeting (by 4:45) - to give yourself a better chance of speaking.

We will [continue conversations with the district](#) to improve our working and students' learning conditions throughout this process. That said, we will continue to rely on the expressed concerns of members --- so keep the phone calls, emails, texts coming; they help shape our discussions and provide insight they may otherwise miss.

Finally, this extended weekend is in celebration of MLK - a deeper celebration and appreciation at this time for the lessons learned through his actions and the actions of the civil rights movement - we have taken a page from Dr King in standing up for what is right - and protecting the rights of those whose voice is overlooked - our students. Despite the questioning of our actions from the state, county, and surrounding districts, we have kept steadfast in making the best available decision to provide instruction to all our students and our schools' safety. That is not only our responsibility but clearly our everyday commitment to our community and students. So, celebrate MLK this weekend knowing our actions reflect lessons learned and applied with respect.

HEA Office Hours

Congratulations to our HEA Office Manager, Amber Taylor, on welcoming her new baby into the world. To give her time to bond with the newest addition to her family, the HEA Office will be available on a reduced schedule for the month of December and January and any emails sent to office@heahayward.org will likely not receive a response until the following Monday, Wednesday, or Friday. Feel free to continue to send emails directly to Mercedes at president@heahayward.org if an immediate response is needed.

Political Action Committee Voluntary Contributions

At a recent FRA meeting, folks expressed interest in contributing to the HEA Political Action Committee (PAC) to help campaign for local and county candidates that will help represent us and our schools (including the three HUSD School Board Trustee seats that are up in the next election). For those interested in contributing \$1/month to the HEA-PAC fund from your HUSD paycheck, please complete the [attached form](#). As a note, while the HEA-PAC follows strict reporting guidelines, the \$1/month donation does not require any reporting of your personal information to the FPPC.

CTA Bulletin

See the [attached CTA Bulletin](#) for more information about MLK Jr. Day, several grant and scholarship opportunities, Human Rights Award nominations, CTA Conferences, and more!

California Casualty \$10,000 Staycation and Auto Quote Gift Cards

Stephanie, our local CalCas Member Advocate, has two new things for us:

Item #1 – California Casualty, the providers of the CTA endorsed Auto and Home insurance program, wants to help you escape the everyday with \$10,000 to spend your way. Get that

hot tub you've always wanted, create your dream kitchen, turn your backyard into an oasis, add a media room the whole family can enjoy – the possibilities are endless, but only if you enter to win. You give back every day... now it's time to take care of yourself. The winner for the \$10,000 prize will be randomly selected in October. No obligation, [click here](#) to enter.

Item #2 – California Casualty's auto insurance rates are very good in our area. If you request and receive a new auto rate comparison quote on Stephanie's personal page, she will email you a \$25 gift card, simply for checking. [Click Here](#) for your quote. The quote request takes 1 minute and the quote will come in the next day or so and will take about 10 minutes.

We are stronger when we Stand Up! Stand Strong! Stand Together!

 Mark Your Calendar  Mark Your Calendar  Mark Your Calendar  Mark Your Calendar  Mark Your Calendar  Mark Your Calendar

- EMERGENCY School Board Meeting – Friday, 1/14/22 @5:00pm
- HEA FRA Meeting – Monday, 1/24/22 @ 4:00pm
- HEA Organizing Team Meeting - Monday, 1/31/22 @ 4:00pm