

SMTA

San Marino Teachers Association

Dear All,

Your Association leaders and negotiation team members have been engaged in work done with a spirit of solidarity and service on your behalf. Here's the latest ...



The TK-2 Reopening

After several rounds of negotiations SMTA was able to agree to terms surrounding the hybrid return of teachers in grades TK-2. The February 22 return was not as smooth as we had hoped it would be. The 22nd was a few days sooner than we had anticipated and the rush caused a lot of anxious scurrying around. It also caused

the District to miss the implementation of a few negotiated details, luckily, the details were small and promptly addressed. Everyone made a great effort to make things go well. Students and parents were happy, and the teachers were incredible.



The 3-5 Reopening

We knew the return was coming, the details were much like those of the TK-2 return. What was left to confirm were the schedule and the final details regarding when 3-5 teachers would have their negotiated prep days. We had also hoped to discuss additional safety measures.. We had hoped. **The District sent a directive to**

our teachers before we signed the final MOU. It was a bewildering and unexpected move.

Our Response

There are certain subjects, (for example, the effect a workplace has on an employee's health and safety) which demand bargaining. It remains our understanding that a finalized Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) needs to be in place before any SMTA unit member is given the official directive to begin hybrid instruction on March 10th. We have not signed.

We will continue to sew up here and there and make ends meet even when the cloth is stretched thin. We will continue to do what is right for the sake of what is right and sustain one another. We will continue to trust everyone is doing their best to make things work. We will make corrections and move forward.

6th Grade and Others



The state has approved the return of students in grade 6. Students in districts where 6th graders are in self contained classrooms are in a position where a hybrid return might be feasible. Our 6th graders are not in self contained classrooms. A return, although not impossible, would be difficult to execute and would definitely require an adjustment to the current schedule. We will wait and see what the District has in mind.

There is no word yet on middle and high school reopenings. Right now cohorts of 14 or less facilitate the gathering of sports teams and after school activities like little league. There **may** be some creative way to apply cohort rules to academic courses but it doesn't seem likely. The guidelines shared by LACOE are nearly impossible to apply but changes will come as infection rates continue to decline.

Measure E

The SMTA Executive Board approved \$1,000.00 to be used in support of Measure E. The measure needed a super majority of 66% of the votes to pass. It did not reach the goal.

A “yes” vote supported renewing the existing annual parcel tax of \$968 until ended by voters. There was an exception for seniors. A pass would have generated an estimated \$4 million per year with annual inflation adjustments for education services. There would have been no need to continually place the measure on the ballot as it would have continued in perpetuity until removed by the electorate.

The “no” vote opposed renewing the tax until ended by voters. The no vote preferred an existing annual parcel tax of \$968 with exceptions for seniors, and allowing the existing parcel tax to expire on July 1, 2021

Election results

San Marino Unified School District Measure E		
Result	Votes	Percentage
Yes	1,850	62.82%
No	1,095	37.18%

What Now?

If the Measure had passed, the District would have been in need of eliminating 8.4 full time employees. Now that the measure has not passed, the District is in need of eliminating **42 full time employees**. The Board will discuss the election results at tonight’s Board Meeting. The Board may or may not choose to have the measure reappear on the June ballot. [Please click here to join tonight’s 4:30 PM SMUSD Board meeting.](#)

We’ve been here before and we made it through. Stay strong. More information will come very soon.

In solidarity,

Leticia “Lettie” Aranda
SMTA President
sanmarinoTA@gmail.com
mydearlettie@gmail.com

Jessica Bulgin
SMTA VP Negotiations
sanmarinoTA@gmail.com

Kristin Van Steenwyk
SMTA VP Grievances
sanmarinoTA@gmail.com