WSTA met with WUSD today to listen to their counter-proposal to the Return to School COVID-19 Safety MOU. The bargaining team will be meeting on September 24th to craft a response, and on September 29th to negotiate with the District.

The bargaining team has been negotiating with the District since mid-July and shares the feeling of frustration expressed by many members that we have not already reached an agreement. We feel that the district has adopted a reactionary strategy in addressing these issues, whereas the WSTA negotiation team embraces a more preventative and proactive stance.

The District and WSTA have now addressed the following items:

- Handwashing/hand sanitizer
- Daily cleaning (high touch surfaces)
- Adequate supply of student face masks for each classroom
- COVID-19 Point of Contact designee at each site
- Expedited COVID-19 grievance process (3-days)
- Surveillance testing for members
- Release time to participate in testing
- Plan to increase testing at all TK-8 sites
- Contact tracing
- Streamlining procedures for handling COVID-19 symptomatic students on campus
- Removing mask non-compliant students from a classroom with administrative support in determining consequences
- Limiting ingress and egress points
- Limiting non-essential individuals’ access to school sites
- Student quarantine procedures
- Student and employee verification of full vaccination status
- The option of virtual attendance at meetings and providing virtual parent conferences

Virtual Academy MOU: On September 13, 2021 WSTA received WUSD’s counter to the Virtual Academy MOU. We are holding a Town Hall on Tuesday, September 21st for our Virtual Academy bargaining unit members to be able to express their concerns and opinions so we can address these to the best of our ability.

If you have questions or concerns about the 2021-2022 school year in light of the pandemic or you would like to give input about the positions presented above, please contact WSTA at wsta.covid19@gmail.com.

WSTA Bargaining Team
Annie Chism - RB  •  Gwen Branin - RB  •  Tessa Heavlin-Martinez - SP  •  Brittany Hori - WMO
Jennifer Schumacher- RCHS• Brianne Dinelli - RCHS  •  Kei Swensen - CTA primary contact staff