

# HOME ROOM

— FAIRFIELD-SUISUN UNIFIED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION —

The beginning of the school year is a whirlwind in a normal year, if there is such a thing, and we know this year is anything but normal. Therefore, we are publishing our first edition of FSUTA's Home Room earlier than usual to be a quick reference guide. In it are helpful reminders about adjunct hours, evaluation timelines, Catastrophic Leave, disability insurance and much more.

New hires in our district number well more than 10% of our total bargaining unit. Make it a high priority to welcome new hires and transfers to your sites. Encourage everyone to join FSUTA at [Join.CTA.org](http://Join.CTA.org). We want to ensure everyone has all the protections, benefits and opportunities afforded in membership, including the Sunday letter.

Thanks to all the members who called or emailed me this week with questions about masks and vaccine requirements. Such decisions are being made at the state level, but we have the right to bargain their impact on our working conditions.

Your Bargaining Team has spent many hours in negotiations attempting to finalize a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Opening Schools, Virtual Academy, Long-Term Independent Study, Co-Teach, Six-Fifths and Special Education. As of Friday, Aug. 13, agreements were reached on Co-Teach and Six-Fifths. All other topics remain unsettled.

Even without an MOU, masks are required for all students and adults while indoors on campus. We have asked management for the implementation of specific protocols and procedures if students do not comply. We have yet to receive a response and will continue to push for these to be put in writing.

Masks are not required to be worn outside, but FSUTA encourages all members to wear their masks while on campus unless alone in a space. The guidelines suggest a social distance of 3 feet between students, but that is no longer a reason to limit the number of students in a classroom. Adults should still practice social distancing of 6 feet.

All school employees are required to submit proof of vaccination or undergo weekly COVID-19 testing. If you choose to provide proof of vaccination, please submit your documentation as soon as possible. Management is finalizing how, when and where required testing will take place and these decisions are greatly influenced by the number of employees who will require testing.

Those requiring weekly testing will have the option of submitting weekly documentation of a negative test outside of the district's testing program. Those choosing the district testing program will have the tests done during the work day and at no cost to the employee.

If you choose to inquire about a co-worker's vaccination status, please remember this is personal, medical information and a co-worker is under no obligation to share it with you. Assumptions should not be made if a co-worker opts to keep his or her information private.

There are so many great things coming this year. Our influence is growing and our path forward is bright. We must not weaken ourselves by succumbing to "the grass is greener" syndrome. Everyone works hard just in different ways. In the words of Maya Angelou, "We are more alike, my friends, than we are unlike." Let's focus on the alike.

***Nancy Dunn, FSUTA President***

***Aug. 15, 2021***

# Practical prizes



Students visiting the FSUTA booth on Saturday at the Back to School Resource Fair came away with books, stickers, pencils and bookmarks.



Nancy Dunn (left), Audrey Jacques (top) and Tamia Farley (right)



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## Site Representatives 2021-22

**Adult School** - Mary Hughes  
**Anna Kyle** - Aprile Boles, Amy Tusup  
**Armijo** - Sheena Beeson, Michael Blum, John Brandt, Robert Steen, Joe Waddles, Vanessa Walling-Sisi, Lindsey Weller  
**B. Gale Wilson** - Todd Dierking  
**Central Office** - Julie Davis, Crystal Gomez  
**Cleo Gordon** - TBD  
**Cordelia Hills** - Dino Suarez-Hevia  
**Crescent** - Margie Steplight, Robin Stoops  
**Crystal** - TBD  
**Dan O. Root II** - Nik Musson, Carly Sheehan  
**David Weir** - Yolanda Blacknell-Mitchell, Amanda Heinlein  
**Dover** - Tonya Lukens, Michelle Victores  
**Early College** - Lisa Turgeon Staggs, Pam Williamson  
**Fairfield High** - Lynn Bocca, Reagan Leong, James Macariola, Darryl Royster  
**Fairview** - Austin Ohman  
**Grange** - Jim Bastian

**Green Valley** - Ryan Lapid, Julie Perriatt  
**H. Glenn Richardson** - Corrie Filstrup  
**K.I. Jones** - George Garcia, Tom Sprague  
**Laurel Creek** - Deborah Butcher, Reggie Mainero  
**Mary Bird** - Cindy Apaka, Pari Sheehawong  
**Matt Garcia** - Briana Hayles  
**Nelda Mundy** - TBD  
**Oakbrook** - Shawn Engell, Darci Vogelgesang  
**Public Safety** - Karen Favie, Melissa Johnson, Cynthia Merrick  
**Rodriguez** - Anne Murphy, Joshua Zink  
**Rolling Hills** - TBD  
**Sem Yeto** - Keith Aguilar  
**Sheldon** - Daniel Garcia  
**Suisun** - Roxee de la Rosa, Brenda Rough  
**Suisun Valley** - TBD  
**Tolenas** - Rob Oldham, Michelle Rippee  
**Virtual Academy** - Erica Resendez

*Meetings - Sept. 13, Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6, Jan. 10, Feb. 7, March 7, April 4; meetings begin at 4 p.m. and will be on Zoom through at least December*

**Catastrophic Leave:** Denny Palmer donated a day to the Catastrophic Leave Bank in case he or a colleague had to miss work for a lengthy time because of a serious illness or injury. By doing so, the Fairfield High School teacher is eligible to withdraw from the bank after being seriously injured in a car accident Aug. 1. With each donation of a day, our members such as Denny will have one less reason to worry as they recover. If you are a new hire or have not donated since 2013-14, the deadline to donate is Sept. 30 to be eligible in 2021-22. There is a GoFundMe account for Denny and his wife Johanna if you would like to contribute.



**Adjunct duty:** Principals may require you to work as many as 14 additional hours beyond your contract day in the school year. This is adjunct duty. There is no minimum number of hours required, only a maximum. It is a good idea to keep track of your adjunct duty hours, which are counted in half-hour increments. Back to School Night is an example of adjunct duty. IEP meetings after your contract hours and professional development trainings cannot be counted for adjunct duty. Adjunct duty is Article 19.3.b in your contract.

**Permanent status evaluations:** If you are a permanent status member being evaluated this year, be sure to select your standards by Sept. 20 regardless of the evaluation model you choose. If you use the traditional evaluation model, you select one CSTP standard, your evaluator selects one CSPT standard and standard 6 is included. The selection form is in the Evaluat'd system. Any permanent member can elect to use the Self Evaluation Tool if the permanent unit member has received "Meets or Exceeds CSTP" ratings on all standards in their two most recent and consecutive evaluations. The member picks any two CSTP standards in consultation with the administrator. The Standard Selection form is on the home page at [www.FSUTA.org](http://www.FSUTA.org).

**Salary schedule:** If you are not in column 6 on the salary schedule, consider attending the free Region I Leadership Conference on Sept. 9-12. FSUTA members can earn university credit paid for by CTA via the University Credit Season Pass. FSUTA members can accumulate hours toward university credit by attending one or several conferences; you do not have to earn all 15 hours in one online event. After a conference ends, the recorded sessions move to CTA Virtual Pass - an online, members-only learning management platform. Members can watch the sessions on their own time to earn hours toward university credit. As a benefit of membership, CTA will pay the cost of \$75 per unit. Everyone may take as many as 13 hours of professional development and receive per diem pay each year, but this option may be best for those already in column 6 of the salary schedule. For most other members, taking the salary credit option to advance across the salary schedule is the better option.

**The Standard:** One benefit of joining FSUTA is a great deal on disability insurance that will protect your income should you have to be out of work because of pregnancy or a non-work-related injury or illness. If you join FSUTA in the first 90 days of your employment, you will get the first nine months of coverage for free.

**California Casualty:** Members are eligible for great rates on auto, home and renter insurance are available through California Casualty. Ask for a quote and you could win a \$25 gift card. California Casualty is a longtime CTA partner and only provides insurance to our members, law enforcement, firefighters and nurses.

**Cash or medical benefit:** If you decline the FSUSD medical benefit and have your own coverage, provide proof of it to the district so you can receive a monthly cash payment in lieu of the medical benefit. The payments are not retroactive, so act quickly.

**Ready to join?** Go to [Join.CTA.org](http://Join.CTA.org).



# EXECUTIVE BOARD

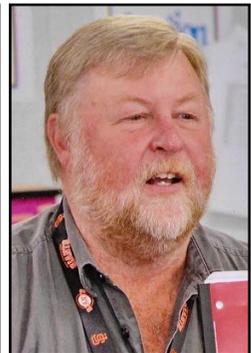
FSUTA President Nancy Dunn invited the Executive Board to her ranch July 27 for the first board meeting of 2021-22. A special election will be held in October to fill two board vacancies after Dan Pozzesi retired and Ashley Penrose passed away just after being elected to the board. The election is an ideal opportunity for you to become a leader in your union. If you are interested in serving on the board as a Member at Large for a one- or two-year term, you can start with a Declaration of Candidacy form that will be posted at [www.FSUTA.org](http://www.FSUTA.org) in September. Only FSUTA members are eligible to run for the Executive Board and vote in the board election.



**Nancy Dunn, Katie Molina and Janet Renfrow**



**Audrey Jacques, Pam Williamson, Keith Aguilar and Tamia Farley**



**Amanda Horel, Sarah Morton, Steve Patton and Jamie Van Wart**

## Board members to keep an eye on sites

Issues can arise at a school that require the FSUTA Executive Board to become involved. Each board member has been assigned at least two sites and will work with the Site Representatives at each of those schools.

Following is a list of which sites have been assigned to each board member.

- **Keith Aguilar:** Fairfield High, Grange and Sem Yeto
- **Nancy Dunn:** Adult School, Anna Kyle, Mary Bird and Sheldon
- **Tamia Farley:** Green Valley, H. Glenn Richardson and Matt Garcia
- **Amanda Horel:** Cleo Gordon and Dover
- **Audrey Jacques:** David Weir, K.I. Jones and Suisun Elementary
- **Katie Molina:** Armijo, Central Office and Crystal
- **Sarah Morton:** B. Gale Wilson, Rolling Hills and Suisun Valley
- **Steve Patton:** Crescent, Fairview and Virtual Academy
- **Janet Renfrow:** Cordelia Hills, Nelda Mundy and Oakbrook
- **Jamie Van Wart:** Dan O. Root II, Laurel Creek and Tolenas
- **Pam Williamson:** Early College, Rodriguez and Public Safety Academy