

Rep. Council Agenda
Sept. 21, 2021, Wood High School Library
Masks are again required in school buildings. Please wear one.
[Zoom Link \(Password: 412038\)](#)
[Meeting Attendance](#)

Elementary Concerns (3:40 PM):

→ Fairmont has a teacher that has not signed up as VTA members. Todd will be emailing Rep Council members a list for their specific school of teachers who have not joined.

→ Markham is having trouble with getting in touch with admin when they need help for students. If students are refusing to put on masks, hitting, etc. you have the option to send them out and suspend from your class. You must contact parents. If admin pushes back, contact Todd.

→ Hemlock - maxed out combo classes. Can they turn the combo classes into regular whole grade classes?

→ Elementary is desperate for additional support in both math and reading for students who have fallen behind. The district has started talking about freeing up funds to help pay teachers for after school. **There is an intervention rate that is higher than normal duty pay. Check schedule K.

→ Concerns about supplies across many sites - Each school has a different procedure for procuring supplies and how they pay for it.

Reminder: You can no longer be reimbursed for purchases made on Amazon.

Meeting called to order: 4:07

1. **Approval of the minutes** - Approved without objection
 - a. [August Rep Council Meeting Minutes](#)
2. **Approval of the agenda** - Approved without objection
3. **President's Report:** Todd Blanset

Meetings are being held weekly with Ed Santopadre and Sasha Begel to address issues. Currently, there are maintenance issues at Alamo and Wood that are high priority.

Site meetings have started, beginning with elementary. A common theme is the need for intervention.

Sub shortage is being addressed. Pay rate is going up. \$190 a day for teachers who have completed a training and \$220 for long term subs. If a sub shortage has been declared, you can be pulled from prep and paid an hourly rate. You have to fill out a timesheet.

Some sites have not been getting paid because the electronic sheets are being rejected.

ISP packets - Procedure is pretty open right now because of Covid. The packets should be bare minimum.

VTA as a group is 78% vaccinated. Mandatory vaccines begin Oct. 15. If you aren't vaccinated or choose to decline to tell, you must test weekly. You can test at Shelly Daly Early Learning Village on Alamo. A second testing site will be on the other side of town. If you refuse to test or vaccinate, you will be removed from the classroom and be marked absent without pay and may eventually terminate you.

Open enrollment is now. You have to go online and fill out on the form. If you take any benefits (including dental and vision) you have to go fill it out or you will lose the benefits. Open enrollment ends October 8th. Any problems- reach out to Manolo.

Mask issues- you must wear them. You can be disciplined. Vta will go with you to a meeting, but are not in support of not masking or allowing students go without masks.

4. **Treasurer's report:** Brenda Hensley
 - a. [September Account Balances Report](#)
 - b. [September Budget Report](#)
 - c. [Current Site Funds](#)

PAC opt out forms must be turned in to Brenda by October 31.

Approved without objection.

5. **Bargaining Update:** Brenda Hensley

Bargaining team met. Sunshine at the October Board meeting to give public notice of what will be bargained. A survey will be coming out in October to the membership. A summary will be presented to Exec Board in November.

MOUs have been signed and added to the VTA site. (IPE at elementary, Closure language, vaccination days off.)

6. **Grievance Update:** Lisa Cusi

Main concern is a lack of paras.

7. **Standing Committee/Chair Reports**

a. **Equity Team:** Alyson Brauning

Multicultural calendar is ready and posted to the VTA website. Teachers can reach out to the committee if you have any questions about how to implement the calendar or to address specific issues.

b. **Member Engagement:** Alyson Brauning

A master calendar has come out. It has been posted to the website. Site visits are happening now. Exec Board will pay for snacks/drinks for E-Board Site viDonuts and Coffee will be in the spring. Site funds should be used for in person events. (\$13 per member available for each site.) Upcoming conferences are also posted to the website. CTA will pay for your units this year to move on the pay scale

c. **New Teacher Support:** Unfilled, and highly needed!

d. **Labor Council:** Glenn Branaman

VTA has 5 seats on the Labor Council. Some are currently unfilled.

Kaiser's sanitary engineers are running picket lines.

e. **Action:** Corey Penrose

- i. Main website: 717 interactive sessions and 1661 page views in the last 30 days. Facebook page has had similar levels of engagement.
- ii. [Site Rep list is currently being updated](#) (housed in a VUSD Google Drive), please share your personal email with Rachel Bulris and Jordan Kieschnick to be included in important emails and documents.
- iii. [The "Who Do I Contact?" guide has been largely updated and should be available on the VTA website or is linked here.](#)

f. **PAC:** Corey Penrose & Ariel Ray (PAC treasurer)

- i. PAC Opt-Out Form
- ii. The Vacaville Teachers Association – Political Action Committee (FPPC# 1222549) is the political action arm of the Vacaville Teachers Association, providing support for our endorsed candidates to ensure the voices of students and teachers are heard in our local schools and in our community.
Over the years, elected officials supported by VTA-PAC have helped change the face of public education in Vacaville, scoring wins for students, schools and our members.
Whether it's a local bond issue or establishing criteria for school safety, our members must be involved in the decisions that directly affect our public schools and students. VTA-PAC makes sure our message is heard.
- iii. Please review these articles as well:
 1. <https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/In-Solano-County-the-Bay-Area-s-COVID-outlier-16469952.php>
 2. <https://www.politico.com/news/2021/09/08/critical-race-theory-school-boards-510381>

Critical Race Theory is being used as a wedge for mid-term elections. Attached articles share information about this and masking issues in Solano County. PAC only focuses on school board races. It is the only thing stopping anti-VTA people from getting seats on the board.

g. **Special Ed:** Shannon Cole and Cynthia Coble

Missing paras are the biggest issues right now.

Support administrators are not responding to teachers who are reaching out to them.

h. **Leave Bank:**

i. **Membership:** Tracy Begley

8. New and continuing business:

Bylaw Change - Brenda Hensley

Brenda balanced numbers and groupings of staff to even out directors across VTA in her proposal. If passed, we need 3 elementary directors, a Buckingham/Kimme Director, and a Vaca High Director.

Corey motioned to suspend the rules of the Bylaws to take a vote on the amendment of the bylaws. Julie Timmerman seconded

30 - In Favor, 0 - Opposed, 0 - Abstained

Corey motioned to adopt the proposed changes. Julie Timmerman seconded

30 - In Favor, 0 - Opposed, 0 - Abstained

[Bylaws Change - Executive Board](#)

a. [Supporting Documents](#)

Sierra Vista has concerns about Middle School being overseen by Ryan Galles.

9. Conference reports:

10. Other:

Elementary Dismissed 5:15

Secondary Concerns:

→ Supplies: Disinfecting wipes are stale/expired? Are there options for more custodial staff/Coverage?

→ Classified staff not wearing masks. This should be treated as a disciplinary issue. As a rep, if someone reports to you that a classified member is not wearing a mask, take the issue to admin.

→ Students not wearing masks.

→ Jepson was told to shut doors and windows to save ACs that are being overloaded. Teachers are concerned this goes against the CDC recommendation.

→ Filters have not been replaced in classroom air purifiers (were supposed to be replaced every 6 months.)

→ Safety issue - PA system is out at Wood.

→ Sierra Vista is not allowing teachers to write referrals for masks or "minor referrals." They can only be written for major issues.

– *Adjournment* 5:33