

April 6, 2020

Good morning. Hopefully you are all still doing well, and following the guidelines to stay safe! Spring Break begins this Friday, April 10. During this time you are not expected to work. Distance Learning should begin again on Monday, April 20th.

Please note...if you are out on medical leave, and recently got a return to work, you are expected to do all the Distance Learning Requirements. You may also want to contact your disability insurance carrier, if you were using the plan, to make sure they are aware you've returned to work.

Take the time to look over what CTA is offering in the way of PD. There is something every day, and most are recorded to watch later, as well. It's a great resource page for these times!

We are in the process of scheduling a meeting with HR in order to discuss additional topics now that we will need to provide distance learning for the remainder of the school year. Hopefully you have been in contact with your administrator as concerns and questions arise. If there is something he/she hasn't been able to address (and it hasn't already been discussed in past emails), please let me know.

Special Education concerns...please click the button for some Q&A from CTA.

It is worth repeating that you are being paid for a full day's work, but you are not being expected to work the full day since the expectations laid out in the Distance Learning Plan do not require anything near that amount of time. Why is this important to note? I've had several people contact me to ask what would happen if they didn't do the work. Besides the fact that our students deserve the very best we can give them right now (which may not be a lot at first, I know), you can be disciplined even when working from home. Hopefully this won't happen, but I feel it is important to remind you.

Are you attending virtual staff meetings? If so, please check that your admin invites me as well. Normally I am able to attend staff meetings as needed, but now that they are held virtually I'm not even aware they are taking place. I'd like to stay on top of what members are being told. I appreciate it! Don't forget that we still have contract language pertaining to when these should occur, for how long, and that CVTA gets the last 5 minutes to share information or take questions. It's okay to be flexible due to our current situation, but not to be taken advantage of...just keep an eye on things.

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Our certificated librarian, Rebecca Flanagan at CVHS, sent over two items she'd like to share with each of you. From Rebecca:

1. I created a Financial Literacy class for high school students with free open source resources. The Google class code is 5p7r3pa and I would love people to join. There are six modules, each with a slide deck and two lesson packets. I am working on the related resources/videos etc..
2. Plus, my website has been updated with new emergency national and other free resources to benefit all learners. And the database page has all the state of California's subscription databases with the remote passwords listed right there. Please share this resource for teachers.
<https://sites.google.com/view/cvhs-library/home>

Finally, if you want to record a quick video sending a positive message to our students, send it to Rebecca Kay at cvtarebecca@gmail.com. We will post it on our Facebook page for the students!

Please reach out if CVTA can help you with anything, and be safe.

Sincerely,

Carissa Carrera

President, Coachella Valley Teachers Association
(760) 619-9236

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