

CORONA VIRUS

Updates

Dear Dan:

Update from your PFT — March 17, 2020:

Negotiations:

As you know from yesterday's communication, PFT Staff was well prepared and anxious to move along with **negotiations** for all four of our units—in fact we had a bargaining session set for 9:00 AM this morning with the PPS negotiations team. However, last evening Governor Wolf ordered the involved state mediators not to attend any bargaining sessions for the next two weeks. Therefore, our session was canceled by our state mediator and we will be unable to hold negotiations sessions for the next two weeks.

We have a session set for April 1—let's hope that we can keep that one.

We will contact PMOIU2 leadership to see if they are ready to set a date to meet in April.

The Continued Debate With the District to Get Members Paid:

Today in a videoconference with District leadership, we did receive verification that our **PCAs** and our **Full-Time Salaried Substitutes** would be paid during this time off.

Though this is obviously great news, we still have been unable to get the District to agree to pay **Day-to-Day Substitute Teachers**, even those working towards full-time substitute status. The District was close to, but did not slam the door on discussion on all categories of Day-to-Day Substitute Teachers.

We are not finished trying to convince them to include everyone in this safety net, and we have

reached out to AFTPA for additional data and support.

**** Day-to-Day Substitute Teachers can apply for Unemployment Compensation immediately in case the District does not relent—the seven day waiting period has been waived. ****

Here Are Links To Apply For Unemployment Compensation:

[Click here if you are not familiar with the UC application process and need to learn more.](#)

[Click here if you simply want to immediately begin your application.](#)

PFT Office Staffing:

1. Bill, Harold and I will be into the office, but since the secretaries won't be here, our phone system is set up to forward calls to us—simply follow the directions provided.
2. AFTPA staff is working from home, so AFTPA secretary Kathy Noroski is also working from home.
3. PFT secretaries Pam Tevis and Jen Frankert will only be coming in on a very limited basis, so when you call—you will get an automated message directing you on how to reach Harold, Bill, Chris, Dan or me.
4. Pat Colangelo will be working from home the next two weeks.
5. Due to family obligations, Organizing Director Chris George will combining vacation time with office time. He will be in on March 19, 20, 23, and 26.
6. Dan will be here Monday through Thursday—but probably not for a full day.
7. Of course we are all available to you via email!



Once all of the compensation issues are resolved—we will work on other issues such as make-up time for educators—if indeed there will be any. Please let us know what questions you have since we are in frequent contact with the District.

Our PFT Executive Board meeting will be via conference call on Monday, March 23rd.

We Stand Together—in good times and bad times—and by the way,

Happy St. Patrick's Day!!!!

Nina EV

