

## From the President



It has been great to start making in-person site visits! Bev and I brought breakfast and coffee to Hamilton, Olive and Loma Verde and we had a chance to sit down and talk to members about how this year is going and what their priorities are when it comes to negotiations. Ask your site rep to invite NFT to your school in 2022!

The general consensus I am hearing from members is the same priority your bargaining team has. We are not interested in doing **more work**, we are doing too much already!

One of my goals for the new year is to reduce what I do for free. I am sure I am not alone in setting this goal for myself. Rehearsal at lunch is a big one for me. Even though it allows me time to work with small groups and offer great feedback to my students, I should not work through my lunch break. I am also going to stop subbing during my prep. This mostly affects the office manager, but I firmly believe by working for free, I am sending the message to administration that I have time to give. I don't! At the negotiations table, administration seems to think we have more to give. Is it our working for free that sends this message? I encourage you to assess what you have on your plate and find 1-2 things you can take off. While it is not an easy decision to give up that rehearsal time with my students, I am looking forward to joining my colleagues in the staff lounge in 2022!

As we move into the new year, the looming topic of layoffs becomes more and more pressing. District administration is preparing to send layoff notices. While many of us went through this process in 2007-2010, please remember how stressful it can be and offer support and guidance to your peers. With the Marin County Office of Education directing NUSD to cut 4 million dollars from the budget, cuts are being made across the board. There are several budget meetings in January. I will provide budget updates after each meeting.

Be safe, be strong, be heard.

*Mariah Fisher, President*

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## General Meeting in place of January Thursday Meet-up

In lieu of a Mariah's Meet-up we will have a general meeting on January 12th from 4-5pm. The General meeting will include information around the budget, negotiations, actions and more. It will not be recorded, if you cannot attend, please ask a colleague to take notes.

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## Got Sick Leave?

If you have 25 days or more of sick leave you may contribute 1-3 days of leave per year to NFT's Catastrophic Leave Bank. The leave balance is currently low. Please consider donating if you can. Click the link to find out who may apply for Catastrophic Leave and how to contribute. [Contribute to Catastrophic Leave.pdf](#)

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## COVID-19 Cases in NUSD

NFT continues to update this sheet with [positive cases at school sites in NUSD](#). Check it out to see where COVID-19 is occurring at Novato schools.

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## Advocate for English Language Learners

NFT has received a request from Kati Bassler, President of Salinas VFT and Chair of CFT's English Language Learners Standing Committee. The ELL Committee does not have enough members to represent the many levels of English learners in our schools. Kati is asking local leaders to nominate a member from their local to help with the work of the ELL committee. Our English language learners need our advocacy.

If you are interested in serving on this committee, please email Kati at [katibassler@gmail.com](mailto:katibassler@gmail.com) with the following:

Your name

Local 1986 Novato

Your personal email and home address

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# Happy Holidays from NFT!

