

Los Angeles Unified School District
Social Justice Humanitas Academy
The Cèsar E. Chàvez Learning Academies
1001 Arroyo St., Building D
San Fernando, CA 91340
(818) 838-3915 FAX (818) 838-6759



Austin Beutner
Superintendent of Schools

Linda Del Cueto
Superintendent, Northeast

Jeff Austin
Principal

January 9, 2019

Dear Humanitas families,

As you are all aware, the teacher union (UTLA) is planning a strike starting Monday, January 14th. I know that there are concerns that your students will be supervised by a small number of people and that they will be doing work that is not relevant to their education. I want to address those concerns.

While nothing can 100% replace the highly effective instruction delivered by our incredible teachers, we have a plan in place that focuses on giving our students an opportunity to help build the school community that we all value while being supported and supervised by our administrative staff, experienced aides who know your students, and other members of our Humanitas family who know your students and how our amazing school works. More information about this is included later in this letter.

It is very important to the well-being of our school that your student attends during any potential strike. Please be aware that student attendance impacts the school budget. In November, our school lost nearly \$20,000 dollars in one day due to low attendance caused by the fake online threat. Further days of high student absences will result in more financial losses for the school and a cut in vital resources that go to support your students.

Morning Drop Off & After School

- The morning drop off for students will remain the same. Students can be dropped off in the regular drop off area directly in front of the school on Arroyo. School will continue to start at 8:30 and end at 3:25.

Breakfast

- Breakfast will be served to all students at 8:30.

Lunch

- Lunch will be served as usual.

Student Daily Locations- (Review Bell Schedule)

- On the first day of the strike, all students will be in the CCLA Large Gym and will be supervised by SJHA staff including myself and Assistant Principal Marike Aguilar. We have a variety of activities planned to give students and opportunity to work in teams to help strengthen our school community. We will participate in activities and have discussions around issues like pre-judging and making assumptions about people, prioritizing the things that matter in our lives, including others and ourselves within our communities, and transactional vs. transformational change.
- Should the strike continue past the first day, we will continue to meet first in the large gym and have that day's activities in the area best suited for that day – either the large gym or in our classrooms.

Student Restrooms Open

- Students will have access to the restrooms in the gym and/or classroom building.

Main Office Hours

- Our main office will remain operating as usual. Our office hours are 7:30 am to 4:00 pm

After School Programs

- EduCare will continue to offer their regular after school programs.

Athletics

- If a work stoppage were to occur, athletic events would be cancelled until further notice.

Communication Home:

- The Blackboard connect system, our school website, Facebook, and Twitter will be utilized to provide updates. If you receive a phone call from the school, please listen to the message in its entirety, as many of the questions you may have will be answered in the message being provided.

Attendance

- Attendance will be taken multiple times during each day of a potential strike. This attendance will be counted towards senior contracts and any student who is absent will need to bring an excuse note when they return.

I am confident that your students will have as productive of a day as possible every day during a potential strike and that they will be safe. This is due in large part to the work of our teaching staff who help your students understand the value of education and a sense of urgency for, as our school vision states, each of us to achieve self-actualization. I believe that we can support our teachers in their work and their cause by showing our community that our students can carry on their work during a strike. We can do this not *despite* the absence of our teachers, but *because* of the hard work they do every day when they are present.

The Los Angeles Unified Family Resource Guide provides information to help families and communities prepare for a potential strike. Please review the Los Angeles Unified Family Resource Guide to obtain answers to any questions you may have and information you need to help your children thrive in school in the event of a strike. The Los Angeles Unified Family Resource Guide can be accessed by visiting: www.LAUSD.net.

Sincerely,

Jeff Austin
Principal