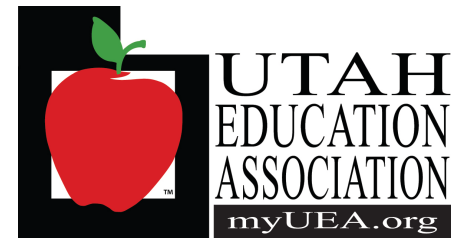




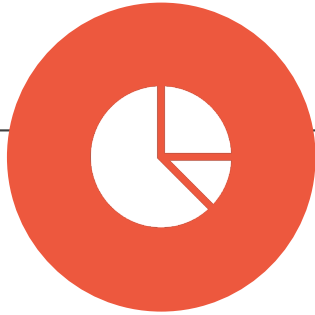
Covid-19 and School Reopening

HEIDI MATTHEWS, UEA PRESIDENT

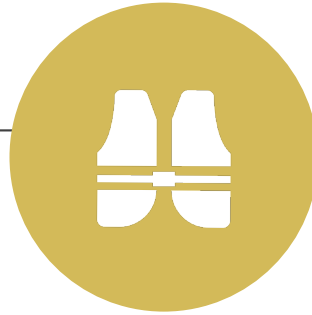
AUGUST 19, 2020



Issues: Education Interim Committee



EDUCATOR
WORKLOAD



SAFETY
STANDARDS



OVERSIGHT
COMPLIANCE

UEA 5 Key Requirements for a Safe Return to In-Person Learning

1. The Covid-19 pandemic must be under control locally.
2. Specific protections must be in place to keep the virus under control and protect students and staff.
3. Plans must be in place to protect school employee rights.
4. Plans must be in place to ensure continuous learning for all students.
5. Clear policies must be established for how these measures will be enforced consistently.



Essential Next Steps by State to Support Schools in Reopening



1. Standards for health and safety

- a. Establish health standards for safe in-person learning based on public health, epidemiological data
- a. State/Local Department of Health ensures LEA plans meet health and safety requirements

Essential Next Steps by State to Support Schools in Reopening



2. Increase state funding for employee costs related to Covid-19
 - a. Additional paid sick leave so employees do not report to work when they are symptomatic or have been exposed to Covid-19
 - b. Guarantee LEA health insurance plan (many of which are high deductible) will pay for medical expenses related to Covid-19 treatment
 - c. Reimburse educators for documented out of pocket expenses related to technology to provide online instruction (e.g., purchasing a camera for home computer)



Essential Next Steps by State to Support Schools in Reopening



3. Enforcement and compliance

- a. Utah Occupational Safety and Health Division set Covid-19 workplace safety standards.
- b. Require LEAs to create a process for receiving and reviewing complaints from students, staff and parents when the school safety plan is not enforced
- c. Local Health authority ensure workplace safety and compliance through regular school inspections

Questions?



Thank You!

