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*Andrew Pulver, Ed.D.
Superintendent*

July 17, 2020

Dear Los Alamitos Unified Community,

I hope this message finds you well. As you may have heard today, California Governor Gavin Newsom, in partnership with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), provided [revised guidance](#) and a detailed [framework](#) for reopening schools this fall. The Governor stated that, in order to reopen schools for in-person instruction, counties must have 14 consecutive days off the California Department of Public Health's COVID-19 [Monitoring List](#). As of today, July 17, 2020, Orange County is identified as one of the counties that does not meet the criteria to reopen schools with an in-person format.

Our committees have been working diligently the past several weeks on our school reopening plans. As shared in previous updates, we have worked hard to provide both an in-person as well as a full-time virtual/remote model for students, allowing each parent to make a decision that is in the best interest of their child(ren). However, based upon this new information, all schools in Orange County, as well as all schools in 30+ other counties, are currently only permitted to provide a virtual/remote learning program for all students. Please know that any virtual/remote program provided will be rigorous with increased live instruction and interaction between students and teachers. It will not resemble the emergency distance learning program we provided last spring. We have already secured a new on-line learning platform and management system to better equip students and teachers in a virtual learning environment.

That being said, it is important for us to keep in mind that our 2020-2021 school year start date is still six weeks away on Monday, August 31. We will closely monitor Orange County's ability to meet these new requirements, as outlined by the state, for an eventual return to in-person instruction. We remain committed to meeting the needs of our students, staff, families and community, given the current health scenarios and state directives. In alignment with the Governor's announcement, we will continue crafting our return to school plans to comply with these new directives while keeping in mind potential forthcoming changes from the state and county.

Thank you again for your patience and support as we take time to digest these new state guidelines for schools and school districts, accordingly. Rest assured, we will send additional updates to families as more information about our plans become available.

I encourage you, if you have not already, to view our recent update from Tuesday's Board Meeting Workshop on the robust and detailed work our committee has undertaken prior to this new guidance.

- Los Alamitos USD Board Workshop July 14, 2020. Contingency Planning on School Reopening Update # 3 (1 hour, 12 minutes) <https://youtu.be/NTQ1PBiNXdc>

You can also view the evolution of our committee's work since June by watching the previous updates presented on June 23 & June 9.

- Los Alamitos USD Board Workshop June 23, 2020. *Contingency Planning on School Reopening Update # 2* (36 minutes): <https://youtu.be/hgQlpdHVAQg>
- Los Alamitos USD Board Workshop June 9, 2020. *Contingency Planning on School Reopening Update # 1* (1 hour, 9 minutes): <https://youtu.be/JpY1OJueQLs>

Stay safe and healthy, take care of your loved ones and know that we are — and will continue to be — *Better Together!*

Sincerely,

Andrew Pulver, Ed.D.
Superintendent