



Community Transmittal

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LOMPOC UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dear LUSD Community:

COVID Updates

Please see ATTACHMENT #1 (COVID & Weeds) and ATTACHMENT #2 (CIF Southern Section Update, December 16, 2020) for further information.

I continue to meet with the Santa Barbara County Superintendents weekly to review the latest COVID information in relation to school districts and updated information from the SBPCHD.

Additionally, the COVID-19 WorkGroup with includes members of the Lompoc community along with the director of SBPCHD meets every two weeks to discuss items related specifically to Lompoc.

This is what we would prefer - to return to school five days a week. However, we cannot do so due to the MOU language. Nevertheless, we are not discouraged. As Dr. Heath said, "We can do tough things." And that we will. We will continue to work with LFT to get kids back on campus as frequently and for the longest period of time possible.

[The Sacramento Bee: Despite COVID surge, Roseville school district will soon return to campus 5 days a week](#)

The Roseville Joint Union High School District board voted early Tuesday morning to bring students back to campus five days a week starting Jan. 5. After a long discussion that began at a Monday night board meeting, the 5-0 vote will allow 11,000 students to return to campus for 70 minutes per class for a total of 280 minutes a day.

At the end of January, board members will revisit the plan and consider increasing in-person instruction to 80 minutes per class and include an on-campus lunch. Many students at the districts' schools, including Granite Bay High, Roseville High, Woodcreek High and Sacramento County's Antelope High, are currently attending classes in-person twice a week. Students who choose to continue distance learning are enrolled in Roseville Student Virtual Learning Academy.

[The Sacramento Bee: Placer County school district approves full-time schedule if COVID infection rates improve](#)

After hours of deliberation, the Rocklin Unified School District board voted early Tuesday morning to bring students back to campuses full-time five days a week if coronavirus infection rates improve in Placer County. The 4 to 1 board vote will allow students in grades TK through 12 to transition to a full-time, full-day model if Placer County returns to the state's orange tier of COVID-19 restrictions for two weeks. The vote also requires the district to return to the full-time schedule no later than April 6.

Regardless of where the coronavirus infection rate stands, schools will add some in-person instructional minutes and days beginning Jan. 19. The district is currently in a hybrid model with students coming to campus two or three days a week. Board members deliberated until 1:30 a.m.

Some board members said they were uncomfortable tying the state's color tier system to the district's reopening plans.

The San Diego Union-Tribune: Poway may join school districts that are closing again due to COVID-19 staff shortages

Poway Unified School District said it plans to re-close schools for two weeks in January because it is running out of staff needed to safely operate its campuses. Many of its staff have had to quarantine due to positive COVID-19 test results or due to close contact with people who tested positive, the district said.

If Poway's plan is approved by its school board on Thursday, it will join a growing number of local districts that are temporarily shutting down campuses a second time amid the worst COVID-19 surge that San Diego County has seen. In a letter sent to families Tuesday, Poway — which has been open since Oct. 1 — warned that it has been facing severe staff shortages in the aftermath of the Thanksgiving break. Poway said it does not expect it will have enough substitutes to effectively run classrooms after the upcoming winter break.

Press-Enterprise: Redlands Unified schools to continue distance learning

Redlands Unified students will continue learning from home upon returning from winter break, the district's Board of Trustees has decided. In October, the board said distance learning would continue through at least the end of 2020, and with winter break approaching quickly, decided Tuesday, Dec. 15, to extend that model indefinitely.

East Bay Times: Antioch schools to stick with remote learning through spring quarter due to surge

Students in the Antioch Unified School District will have to spend at least one more quarter in distance learning, school board trustees unanimously agreed Wednesday. The district originally planned to bring students back following winter break, but Superintendent Stephanie Anello recommended they continue their classes online from home until at least April 16 as Contra Costa County's COVID-19 infection and hospitalization rates continue to climb.

Politico: California teachers unions mobilize against Democratic school reopening bill

California teachers unions are demanding that the Legislature maintain pandemic restrictions on school reopenings and have begun mobilizing against a Democratic bill introduced last week that could force schools to reopen in March. In separate letters to legislative leaders, the **California Teachers Association** and the **California Federation of Teachers** urge lawmakers to avoid rushing to reopen K-12 schools as Capitol momentum builds to address learning loss and education inequities. Most of the state's 6 million public schoolchildren remain at home with distance learning.

Both CFT and CTA say their members want to be back in classrooms but that it is still not safe to do so, pointing to a surge in Covid-19 cases this month and widespread shutdown orders from Gov. Gavin Newsom. The unions voiced particular concerns with CA AB10 (21R), which would require schools to open when COVID-19 rates drop and counties qualify for reduced tier restrictions. The proposal would reduce local control over campus reopening by forcing districts to reopen rather than giving them the option. In the state's largest districts — particularly in the most Democratic areas — unions and administrators have failed to agree on reopening.

EdSource: School districts balk at California's new COVID worker safety regulations

School districts say they now have another reason to be skittish about planning to reopen schools in the spring: **new statewide emergency temporary regulations** on protecting workers from exposure to COVID-19. School officials are complaining that the new rules, which went into effect Nov. 30 after adoption by Cal/OSHA earlier in the month, are creating confusion and could significantly raise school districts' costs. This applies particularly to COVID testing expenses, which districts and county offices of education are responsible for. And they view the imposition of the regulations, with Cal/OSHA's exacting demands for detailed reporting and documentation, as one more burden in an already taxing year.

The state's Department of Industrial Relations, which oversees the Division of Occupational Health and Safety, the formal name for Cal/OSHA, scheduled a meeting this week with representatives of businesses to hear their suggestions. School districts and organizations that represent them hope it will incorporate the changes that school districts will propose before adopting the final regulations next year.

The Mercury News: Coronavirus: Infections surging, but not at Bay Area's open schools. Here's why.

Whitney Gaynor showed no sign of worry about the rapidly spreading coronavirus Thursday as she dropped off her son Beckett at Encinal Elementary School. The Atherton campus is among just a few California public schools where kids have been learning on campus instead of just on computers at home. "We feel the safety measures are effective," Gaynor, 38, of Menlo Park, said as Beckett scampered out of her car in his face mask, grabbed an orange ticket after a temperature check to show he was fever-free and trotted off to kindergarten.

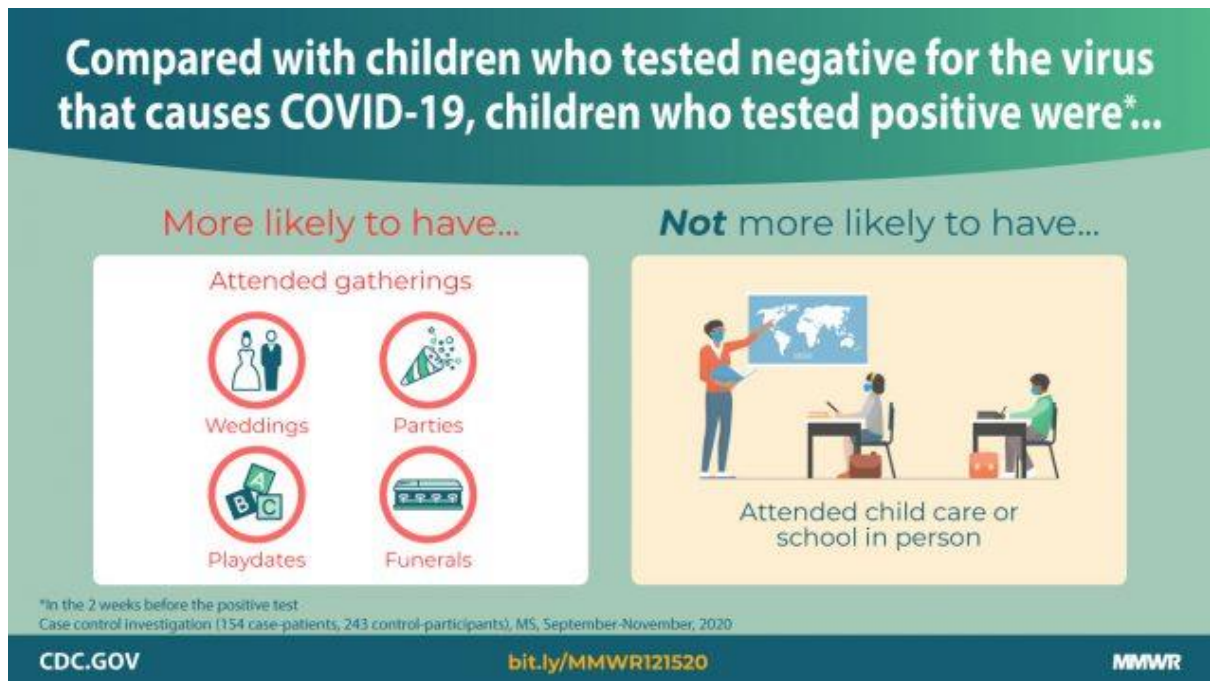
As pupils at schools like Encinal take their socially distanced seats for the last time this week before their winter break, there's more than the upcoming holidays to lift spirits. Those that reopened classrooms have remained largely virus-free even as COVID-19 surged all around this fall, with record infections, hospitalizations and deaths and a new round of restrictions imposed across the Bay Area this week.

But the debate over reopening more campuses to students around the state has only intensified. For most school districts, the current case surge puts tentative plans to reopen after the break in January on ice. State restrictions allow only those now open or about to open to continue until outbreaks subside, which may take weeks.

Learning about Children and COVID-19

The following information was provided to us from Santa Barbara County Public Health. A recent study of children under 18 years of age in Mississippi compared children and adolescents who tested positive for COVID-19 and those who tested negative. The study included 397 children and adolescents tested during September through November of 2020.

Those who tested positive were more likely to have close contact with people who had COVID-19, gatherings with people outside the household, and a lack of consistent mask use in school. Attending school or child care was not associated with receiving positive COVID-19 test results.



Close contacts with people who have COVID-19 and gatherings contribute to COVID-19 in children and adolescent. Consistent use of face coverings and social distancing continue to be important to prevent COVID-19 spread.

Reopening Meetings

A list of all the district reopening meetings can be found by clicking the following link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1N3mG7haj4_nppR_ZABp60u6uxZ5QL7yO1p4Wc2d6Esk/edit?usp=sharing

Afterschool

We continue to work to identify how to best support students during distance learning. We would like to support students who are struggling slightly as well as those who are really having difficulty. We use the various afterschool programs to offer both Tier II (less intensive) and Tier III support (more significant). The intervention team meets weekly to review students; data and to identify if the students being served are “drop-in” or if Tier III with more intensive small group instruction. The struggle has been supporting students from 16 different school sites with their own unique homework assignments. So, we have modified so that the Wednesday/Saturday support is for homework help and the daily after school support will be around instructional topics with pre-designed lessons linked to the power standards.

Parents or teachers will be able to complete the form starting in January. After completing the form, they will get a tailored letter informing them of the next steps.

School Business and Finance in California

The link below will provide board members with important information about school business and finance. I suggest that you take a look.

WHAT EVERY BOARD MEMBER AND CANDIDATE SHOULD KNOW

<https://www.casbo.org/sites/default/files/userfiles/CASBOSchoolBusFinanceGuide.pdf>

VAFB Starbase Academy

Due to a lack of in-person classes, LUSD has been working with Starbase to utilize their expertise in other ways with students and has connected them to the after school programs (ASES) which are conducted by the YMCA and the Boys and Girls Club. Programming began on December 15 with 23 students at the La Honda YMCA program working on a paper circuit using copper tape, an LED, and a CR2032 battery. More groups are taking place throughout the week and in January as well.

Lompoc Adult School (LASCC)

Lompoc Adult School (LASCC) continues to lead the efforts for LUSD to further align with the work of First Five to improve early literacy skills for children up through third grade. LUSD is currently exploring partnerships to participate in a dual-language learner grant for early learning that would provide support to local pre-schools and developing an Early Learning Plan to receive future grants from First Five. The process will include integration into our LCAP plan and coordination between local pre-school programs and early elementary classes.

LUSD Community Collaboration

LUSD Pupil Support administrators continue to meet with community agencies bi-weekly to discuss the District's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, distance learning, reopening plans, and student well-being. Local non-profits and health-related organizations share resources with the District and give suggestions to the District process. This collaboration ultimately helps families to receive information about available resources from various resources in the community.

PBIS Training

On Wednesday December 16, Fillmore, La Honda, Los Berros, Miguelito, Cabrillo High School, and Dr. Bob Forinash CDS participated in Day 2 of PBIS training for the 2020-2021 school year. Sites are working through the PBIS Tier 2 markers that help to define a highly functioning PBIS system in our schools. John and Jessica Hannigan provided the training, which is also referencing the SEL from a Distance book that has also been purchased for each site team. During the training, the Hannigans review markers, school sites collaborate with their teams, and share out progress with the entire group.

Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

The LCAP is a three-year plan that describes the goals, actions, services, and expenditures to support positive student outcomes that address state and local priorities. The LCAP provides an opportunity for school districts to share their stories of how, what, and why programs and services are selected to meet their local needs. In January 2021 the California Department of Education will approve a revised Annual Update template. LUSD will review and analyze the goals, actions, strategies and expenditures related to the 2019-2020 LCAP and the 2020-2021 Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan. LUSD will report out on successes and challenges of the implementation of both plans. During the months of February – June 2021, LUSD will engage in planning and development of the three year (2021-2024) LCAP. During this time LUSD will gather input from stakeholder groups on budget development, identify metrics and actions/services based on data analysis, and clarify changes to priorities. District administration

looks forward to working with the Parent Advisory Committee, District English Learning Parent Advisory Committee, and Certificated and Classified staff to develop an exemplary three-year LCAP plan that meets the LUSD learning community.

Attendance

Looking at the attendance percentages for each site from month 3 to month 4, there were three schools with increased attendance: Crestview Elementary School, Los Berros VAPA, and Vandenberg Middle School. Congratulations to those sites for this tough task during this time.

Foster Youth/Homeless

Santa Barbara County requested that an outside agency provide a needs assessment for the foster youth and homeless programs at LUSD. We have received the completed assessment and have begun addressing some of the recommended actions. One of them is to update our site administrators on the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act. The training is being provided this week.

CTE

SLO County and SB County CTE teachers will be collaborating with “alike pathways” on February 3, 2021 to share best practices on distance learning, curriculum used, and overall ideas on what is working during these trying times.

Chromebooks and iPads

We are expecting the new iPads to arrive over the Winter Break, before the December 30, 2020 cutoff. It will take some time for all 2,200 to get inventoried and asset tagged. IT staff will then add them to our mobile device management (MDM) software, Airwatch. We should start seeing iPads in classrooms by the end of January to early February.

E-rate and Network Upgrades

We will be upgrading the entire network at the District office and two comprehensive high schools. New servers, routers, Wi-Fi controllers, switches, and access points will be installed. This will then allow us to complete similar upgrades at the sites going forward, and ultimately the District has faster more stable internet and network. Some folks may think of our network as only Wi-Fi internet access, but in reality it manages our printers, phones, internet, student information system, and access to file storage. A massive amount of data is moved on our District network, and it provides a backbone for almost everything we do on a daily basis.

Thank you for your support.

Trevor McDonald
Superintendent of Schools