



CDE Weekly COVID-19 Update Friday, July 10, 2020

From State Superintendent Tony Thurmond

Dear School Communities and Partners:

As we move through July, we are closely watching the increase of COVID-19 cases throughout our state. I share your desire to reopen schools and agree that the best place for children to learn is in the classroom connected with caring teachers and staff. I also understand that schools are a critical driver to the health and vitality of communities and a vital component to households returning to work.

However, as I have said from the beginning and as our guidance has stated, we believe schools can only reopen for in-person instruction when it can be assured that students, teachers, and staff have the resources and measures in place to protect their health and safety.

I know nearly all of you are in close consultation with local county health officers in developing complex plans to offer different models for resuming and accelerating learning in the fall. The California Department of Education (CDE) is closely monitoring the data and is in regular communication with the Governor's Office and California Department of Public Health. We will continue to update our guidance to schools as conditions and data evolve in the days and weeks to come.

Health and safety concerns supported by data will drive our decisions and guidance—not the politics of the daily news cycle. Thank you for everything that you do.