

# Temporary Distance Learning Board Update

January 5, 2021



**Ocean View School District**



# Temporary Distance Learning

## ***Purpose***

- Update and Clarification on Temporary Distance Learning
- California's Safe School for All Plan
- Discussion of Next Steps



# Temporary Distance Learning

## ***Background***

- On December 29th, OVSD made a decision to return general education TK-8th grade to Distance Learning for two weeks because there were concerns that families and staff had been exposed to COVID during the winter holiday. The two weeks allowed time for people to quarantine and eliminate risk when we return to in-person school on January 19th.
- Our overarching goal is to keep students in school while balancing the wellness and safety of our entire community.



## Clarification on Temporary Distance Learning

### ***Why are Special Education Special Day Classes (SDC) in-person rather than on Temporary Distance Learning?***

- Governor Newsom has prioritized in-person instruction for disproportionately impacted students, such as those who participate in SDCs.
- In-person instruction is necessary to deliver the SDC students' Individual Education Program (IEP) required by federal law - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
- SDC students are the most vulnerable population for risk of regression in academic and social-emotional progress when not receiving in-person services.



## Clarification on Temporary Distance Learning

### ***Why are child care and preschool open in-person?***

- The Governor's Stay at Home Order indicates that preschool and child care should be made available to families.
- Child care and preschool programs need to remain open, particularly to support essential and frontline workers.
- Some preschool classes serve special needs students.



## Clarification on Temporary Distance Learning

### ***Is it safe for employees to return to work? What are the options for employees who do not wish to return to work for in-person instruction?***

- OVSD has been a leader in implementing safety and mitigation strategies, resulting in no known transmission of COVID-19 in our schools and work sites.
- Personal protection equipment, including masks, gloves, gowns, plastic barriers, and testing have been provided to all employees.
- The Human Resources (HR) Division has communicated regularly to employees regarding their rights to available paid sick leave through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). In addition, employees have been directed to contact HR regarding other unpaid and paid leave options.



## California's Safe Schools for All Plan

### **California's Safe Schools for All Plan:**

*In studies of open schools in America and around the world, children do not seem to be major sources of transmission - either to each other or to adults.*

*Even in communities with high COVID cases, we do not see many outbreaks in schools. That's because the right precautions can stop outbreaks before they start. Evidence shows that schools with the right mitigation strategies have been able to prevent in-school transmission among students and staff.*



## Clarification on Temporary Distance Learning

### *Reminders*

- Changing to Temporary Distance Learning is a local decision, made by the school district's Governing Board.
- If a school district has already returned to in-person instruction, they may temporarily pivot to Distance Learning and then back to in-person instruction, without the requirement to reach a specific COVID-19 tier.





## Next Steps on Temporary Distance Learning

### ***Next Steps***

- OVSD general education students will continue on Temporary Distance Learning through January 15th.
- As needed, staff and families will receive communication from their principal/direct supervisor.
- OVSD will continue to monitor Governor Newsom's "California's Safe Schools for All Plan" guidelines.