



Reopening Update #16; November 19, 2020

Dear SVUSD Community,

As we head into Thanksgiving break, I wanted to take a moment to wish everyone a restful week off. I also wanted to provide some important updates and reminders regarding health and safety protocols, and the effects of Orange County's move back into the purple tier.

As I shared in [update #15](#) on Monday, Orange County was placed back into the purple tier of the state's COVID-19 monitoring system, however, schools that had previously opened for in-person instruction are able to continue operating. As such, all SVUSD schools will continue to offer both the Hybrid Learning model of instruction and Distance Learning.

With the move into the purple tier comes additional guidance, and also an opportunity to reiterate some important health and safety protocols aimed at mitigating the risk of COVID-19 transmission:

### **Face Coverings**

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recently updated requirements for face coverings. **All visitors, employees, and students are required to wear face coverings at all times.** The new guidance can be found at:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>

### **Travel Quarantine**

The CDPH has issued a travel advisory recommending a self-quarantine for 14 days when traveling outside of California or entering our state. At this time, this guidance is a recommendation. SVUSD encourages our community to continue to self-monitor for symptoms and remain at home if warranted. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Travel-Advisory.aspx>

### **How to Stay Safe this Holiday Season**

The upcoming holiday season is a time for families to reconnect with one another. To help stem the coronavirus spread during these times, the CDC provides a series of tips and suggestions for staying safe during the holiday season. We encourage everyone to follow the recommendations for the health and safety of our entire community. Please see the recommendations at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html>

### **SVUSD COVID-19 Investigations and Notification Letters**

Upon receiving notification that a student or employee tests positive for the coronavirus or is a close contact, the District Office begins a contact tracing investigation in conjunction with the Orange County Health Care Agency (OCHCA). When the investigation is completed, the District sends a series of letters to individuals and the community as well as updating the SVUSD COVID-19 Case Reporting Dashboard. We update the COVID-19 Case Reporting Dashboard

daily on business days. The Dashboard can be found at:  
<https://www.svusd.org/departments/facilities-operations-technology/safety/covid-19-reporting>.

The letters sent include a *Community Notification* letter that goes to all members of the school community informing them that a COVID-19 positive individual was on campus. Students and staff who possibly came in contact with the individual in areas such as a classroom, outdoor area, in transportation, or on campus receive a *Low Risk Exposure* letter. Finally, students who came in close contact with the individual receive a *Close Contact* letter informing them to quarantine for 14 days. Further information about the communication process can be found here:

[https://www.svusd.org/uploaded/SVUSD\\_Department\\_Files/Safety/COVID\\_19/SVUSD\\_COVID\\_Letters\\_Chart\\_Eng\\_Spa.pdf](https://www.svusd.org/uploaded/SVUSD_Department_Files/Safety/COVID_19/SVUSD_COVID_Letters_Chart_Eng_Spa.pdf)

### **Decision Tree and Return to School Letter: SVUSD Illness Policy, “When to keep your child home”**

The District continues to appreciate our families’ efforts to screen their students for symptoms of COVID-19 at home each day before arriving on campus. This shared responsibility is critical to our ability to keep our schools open for in-person Hybrid Learning. For information on when to keep your child home please see: <https://www.svusd.org/departments/facilities-operations-technology/safety/covid-19>

### **SVUSD COVID-19 FAQ**

We have created a COVID-19 FAQ that addresses some of the most common questions we receive, and I’d encourage you to review for additional information:

<https://www.svusd.org/departments/facilities-operations-technology/safety/covid-19-faq>

### **Thanksgiving Break Meal Service**

On Monday, November 23 from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, the District will be distributing meals for the week. The meal distribution will provide 5 lunches and breakfasts for anyone age 18 or under. Distribution will occur at Silverado High School, located at 25631 Peter A Hartman Way, Mission Viejo, CA 92691. All community members are eligible for the meal service.

Again, thank you for your continued support and I wish you all a week filled with gratitude and kindness.

Crystal Turner, Ed.D.  
Superintendent