



Reopening Update #2; July 15, 2020

Dear SVUSD Community,

First, I hope that you are enjoying your summer, and that you and your loved ones are staying safe and healthy. I'd also like to express my gratitude for the patience you've shown as we plan what the upcoming school year will look like. I understand that it is not ideal to still be wading in the waters of the unknown, however, I can assure you that we are extremely close to finalizing a plan. The process has been challenging due to the ever-changing guidance and recommendations coming from both healthcare and educational agencies; however, I want to share some important information with you that we have up to this point.

Guidance

I'd like to underscore that the health and safety of our students and staff is our top priority, and is the lens we are using as we plan for August. The discussion and vote taken by the Orange County Board of Education on Monday does not impact our work; our local SVUSD Board makes those decisions for SVUSD. We are following the directives of the California Department of Health, the Orange County Healthcare Agency and Orange County Department of Education as we plan, all which prioritize the health and safety of our students and staff.

SVUSD Think Tank

The purpose of the Think Tank was to plan and work together to provide input for reopening our schools. This diverse group was committed and collaborative in evaluating all the different circumstances and conditions to safely reopen within the CDC guidelines. The Think Tank received input from its membership comprised of students, parents, teachers, staff, union leadership, and administrators. They provided feedback on the three models we have considered; traditional, hybrid, and distance learning. Many different groups were represented; all grade spans, English Learners, Special Education, VAPA, and many different job classifications, to name a few. Their input on the three models is assisting the creation of our reopening plans in a way that best supports students and staff with learning in safe environments.

Survey Results

As you know, we have surveyed you regarding learning options for 2020-2021. The results will be shared with the Board on July 23. **I also want to share the most current data with the Board, and we are once again asking you to please fill out [this brief survey](#), one per SVUSD student, which will be open until July 20th at 10:00am.**

Instructional Models

We continue to explore several models for the reopening of schools on August 17th, with final recommendations being presented at next week's school board meeting. Once the final plan is approved by the SVUSD Board of Education, information will be sent out to you.

Safety Supplies, Health and Safety Protocols

Since the beginning of the school closures, we have been purchasing supplies and protective equipment, as well as instituting protocols and procedures across SVUSD to help ensure everyone's safety. All staff will be trained in these protocols, and the supplies will be distributed to all campuses.

Again, thank you for your patience. We are creating our complete reopening plan and will share it with all of our stakeholders as soon as the SVUSD Board of Education approves the plans for the 2020-2021 school year. We have heard the feedback from many of you regarding the process, and appreciate your input and candor. We have learned so much these past 5 months and continue to do our best in planning and communicating with you and trying our best to adjust to our "new normal".

Take care and stay safe,

Crystal Turner, Ed.D.
Superintendent