



Reopening Update #27; March 25, 2021

Dear SVUSD Families,

Thank you for your patience as we reviewed the latest information and guidance released by both the CDC and CDPH regarding the new physical distancing recommendation of 3 feet for students in the classroom. As I have previously shared, for the 2021-22 school year, we are returning to full time in-person instruction for all students K-12. However, the revised guidance that was just issued also has implications for the remainder of this school year.

After careful review of the latest guidance, I am excited to announce that **we will be expanding our on-campus instructional time for the remainder of 2020-2021 beginning April 19**, which will look different for each level. We have selected this date for a multitude of reasons, including:

- Time is needed during Spring Break for custodial staff to return furniture to classrooms that was removed to accommodate 6 feet of physical distancing
- After returning from Spring Break, teachers and staff will need time to prepare their rooms and instruction for the revised instructional model
- The 10-day period between Spring Break and April 19 should help us avoid any COVID-19 spikes that may occur due to Spring Break activities

Each school site will reach out to families with specific details and next steps, but I wanted to provide you with some general information so that you may begin to plan for the rest of the year.

Elementary Schools (TK-6)

On Monday, April 19, elementary students currently enrolled in the Hybrid model will be returning to school full-time for on campus instruction. Each school site will share the details of their specific schedules. On Friday, April 16, all Hybrid TK-6 students will be at home learning through a full asynchronous day in order to give our teachers and staff time to prepare for the full return of students on April 19. Elementary full distance learning will remain the same as it is currently.

Secondary Schools (7-12)

On Monday, April 19, secondary students currently enrolled in the Hybrid model will be able to return to campus 4 days a week, following the currently established bell schedule. Each site will send a separate email, in the next few days, for you to indicate your interest. Full distance learning is still available with our concurrent model and will remain the same. If you are interested in changing models, please contact your school site directly. Changes will only be made if space permits.

Health and Safety Protocols

As I have shared in previous updates, the health and safety protocols that have been instituted within all SVUSD schools since returning to campus in September have proven effective in

mitigating the transmission of COVID-19. We will continue to adhere to the health and safety guidelines and recommendations of the CDPH and OCHCA as we return on April 19, including the following:

- Face coverings are required to be worn by all individuals at all times while on campus
- Recommendation of 3 feet of physical distancing for students in classrooms
- Adequate ventilation in classrooms through HVAC and air purifiers
- Hand hygiene including handwashing and hand sanitizer stations throughout campus
- Symptom and close contact exposure screening, with exclusion from school for staff or students with symptoms or with confirmed close contact.
- Temperature checks for students
- Students and staff perform at home symptom check and remain at home if experiencing symptoms
- Playground equipment is now available with students practicing hand hygiene after use
- Recommendation of 6 feet of physical distancing while eating
- Frequent cleaning and disinfecting throughout the school site

All of the safety measures that have been implemented and followed by our students, staff and families have resulted in the low number of cases that we are seeing in our schools, and I'd like to reiterate the importance of continuing to adhere to all safety protocols as our students return to school sites for an additional time.

I'd also like to thank all of our teachers, staff, and administrators who continue to show their resilience, flexibility, and dedication to their students as we shift to a revised instructional model for the remainder of the year. There have been many changes and challenges throughout 2020-2021 and our staff continues to persevere to ensure our students remain safe, engaged, and connected.

Thank you for your support as we transition to a new model that will provide additional classroom time and support for our students.

Crystal Turner, Ed.D.
Superintendent