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March 12, 2021

LUSD Families,

Last night the LUSD Board of Trustees approved the **return of TK-5 students to full time in-person instruction beginning Monday, April 12, 2021**. Factors the Board took into account in making this decision included:

- A significant decline in COVID case rates in San Diego County, Lakeside (92040), and within LUSD;
- The availability of vaccines for all LUSD staff as of Thursday, March 4, 2021;
- The successful implementation of all required COVID safety measures on our campuses since reopening in September, 2020;
- The recognition that full time in-person instruction is highly desired by most LUSD families, and;
- State legislation calling for "in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible";
- The district's ability to accommodate hybrid cohort A and B students with the required 4' of distance between students in the classroom and at lunch time.

As families plan for this transition, please note these important details:

Full Time Instruction Start Date

Full time five-day-a-week instruction will begin on Monday, April 12. To provide teachers with planning time to welcome students back, Friday, April 9 will be an asynchronous day for cohort B students (distance learning from home).

Each school's start and end times on Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday will remain as they have been this school year. Wednesday dismissal time will be communicated to you from your child's school.

Distance Learning & Home Flex

The Distance Learning Strand and the Home Flex program will continue to be offered to LUSD students. Students currently enrolled in the Distance Learning Strand and Home Flex will simply continue in their current classes. Hybrid instruction will no longer be available, due to the district's inability to deliver this model to a small number of students.

Enrollment and Change of Program Requests

- Because the California Department of Public Health requires four feet of distance between students, enrollment in full time in-person instruction will be prioritized for current hybrid students.
- Any parent with a student currently enrolled in the Distance Learning strand who wishes to enroll in in-person instruction should contact their school of residence. Students may be accommodated if there is a classroom that can provide the required distancing.
- Any parent with a student currently enrolled in hybrid in-person instruction who wishes to enroll in the full time Distance Learning Strand should contact their school. Students may be enrolled in the full time Distance Learning Strand space permitting.

Mitigation Strategies

All required mitigation efforts as outlined in LUSD's COVID-19 Prevention Plan will continue to be in place on school sites, including but not limited to:

- Masks/face coverings for students and staff;
- Temperature checks and symptom screening;
- Regular hand washing and cleaning of high-touch surfaces;
- Contact tracing for positive cases;
- Physical distancing of 4' between students in classrooms and 6' between teachers and students.

Igniting Passion in Today's Students for Tomorrow's Opportunities!

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Middle School Considerations

Because of larger class sizes and master schedule complexities, at this time our middle schools are not able to accommodate all cohort A and B students full time in-person with the required 4' distancing in classrooms and will remain in Phase 2, hybrid. However, the Board of Trustees did approve an increase of in-person time for select middle school students, physical space permitting. Prioritized students include:

- *Foster and homeless youth*
- *English learners*
- *Special Education pupils*
- *Pupils at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation*
- *Disengaged pupils*
- *Students lacking access to adequate internet access*

Mr. Mull and Dr. Hardiman will contact individual families to arrange for scheduling of additional in-person days.

We are very pleased to be able to continue moving forward with our reopening plan, and we look forward to welcoming cohorts A and B back to our TK-5 on April 12! Please watch for additional communication from your child's school.

Sincerely,

Dr. Andy Johnsen

Superintendent