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ESUHSD Prepares for In-Person Instruction in April

San Jose, CA - - On Thursday, March 18, 2021, the East Side Union High School District (ESUHSD) Board of Trustees voted unanimously to reopen schools on April 19, 2021. Santa Clara County remains in the red tier on California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy and continues to show a downward trend in the number of COVID-19 cases.

The district's [Reopening Plan](#) for schools outlines strict safety protocols, including, but not limited to:

- Maximum of 1,000 students at any given time on campus
- Requires masks and six feet of physical distancing by students and staff
- Students will be regularly tested
- Full tracking and tracing are in place at the District level
- Any student/staff participating in in-person instruction must go through a symptom screening check each day
- No person once tested positive for COVID-19, may return until negative test is provided or 10 days of quarantine is completed

As of February 28, 2021, Santa Clara County expanded COVID-19 vaccine appointment opportunities for employees in education, of which many of our employees secured their appointments.

“The benefits of opening our schools for all students that would like to come back for in-person instruction on campus far outweigh the costs of keeping them closed,” **said ESUHSD Board President, Van Le.** “For those students and families that are not ready for in-person instruction, they will continue with distance learning. We are committed to keeping our staff, students and families safe and healthy.”

“We are moving in the right direction,” **said ESUHSD Superintendent, Chris D. Funk.** “As we approached the one-year anniversary of distance learning, we were well aware of the significant strain that distance learning is having on some students, not only on the learning process, but also the impacts on the mental and physical well-being of students.

“My top priority is getting students who want to be back on campus safely back this spring,” **said Superintendent Funk.**

“It’s important to provide in-person support and interventions for our students and families,” **said Teresa Marquez, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services.** “Our campuses have been open to students needing a quiet space and/or access to stable internet, including our foster youth, homeless students, English Language Learners, students with disabilities, and those that are disengaged. Our outreach to parents has shown that there’s a need for more students to return to our campuses for academic support and social connections.”

Governor Newsom has also designated funds under the AB/SB 86 Incentive to support schools in reopening efforts and ESUHSD stands to potentially receive approximately \$7.9 million.

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