

Denair Unified School District

Community • Excellence • Commitment

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October 28, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In anticipation of Stanislaus County moving into the Red Tier and with direction from the DUSD Governing Board on October 8, 2020, district administration, principals and school staff have been working together to not only reopen schools safely for everyone, but also to design instruction that works for both in-person and distance learning families.

Thank you to everyone who completed the registration process to assist us with our planning to reopen schools in Denair Unified. As of this morning, we have received responses from 86% of our families, with 54% requesting a hybrid model and 46% requesting distance learning only. So what's next?

The first phase of our reopening is already in progress. At all grade levels, students who meet certain criteria have been invited back to campus in learning pods. These learning pods provide support and/or instruction for students at the greatest risk of learning loss. Beginning November 2, we will have about 30% of our students learning on-campus a few days each week.

The next step is to implement hybrid learning at DECA. We want parents to know that we are trying to do this with as little disruption to class composition as possible, but in some cases changes are unavoidable. We intend to phase in in-person learning by grade level or grade range between now and Winter Break. More information will follow next week as details are finalized.

Meeting the cohorting guidance at DMS and DHS is significantly more complicated than at the elementary school. We are continuing to develop ideas that will allow our students to return to school at least part-time, but for now our middle and high school students will remain on distance learning. Students who meet certain criteria will continue to participate in learning pods on campus as appropriate.

The DUSD Governing Board will take action on our reopening plans at a special Board meeting on November 5, 2020 at 5 pm. While the trustees will meet in person, in order to meet physical distancing guidelines, the public can join the meeting via the Zoom link posted on the district website and on the meeting agenda, which will be posted on Monday, November 2.

Thank you for your patience and support as we move forward safely for students and staff.

Sincerely,

Terry Metzger Superintendent