



Reopening Update: July 17, 2020

*Community Bulletin*

***Lancaster Schools Standing Strong!***

Dear Families and Community,

The spread of COVID-19 continues to grow at an alarming rate in Los Angeles County with record setting numbers of new cases, hospitalizations, and fatalities reported this week. Monday, July 13, the Governor issued an executive order requiring many businesses, that which only recently been allowed to open, to once again close their doors indefinitely. Also, this past Monday the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health released their Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools, a 13-page document that provides an extensive detailed list to address COVID-19 related health and safety concerns as schools plan to reopen for Fall. The data and the actions of our State and County officials evidence the ongoing seriousness of the pandemic in our community and remind us that it is critically important, for everyone's safety and well-being, that we act responsibly to protect our students, staff, families, and community.

We recognize that these last few months have been challenging for everyone. Please be assured that we have continued to work hard during this time to prepare our schools and offices to reopen as soon as safety conditions permit.

**Given the developments mentioned above, however, we find it is necessary, for the safety of our students, staff and families, to continue distance learning through the first semester when school resumes August 11, 2020.**

This decision was not easy, as it has always been our desire to return all of our students to the classroom as soon as possible, however, we may only do that as it becomes safe to do so.

There is still a tremendous amount of work that needs to be done between now and the time school starts. We know that you may have lots of questions. We are working hard to get everything in place to provide you the information, details and resources that you need as soon as possible. Though we will continue distance learning, it is important that you know we are fully committed to providing students an engaging and robust educational program with the guidance and support they need to be successful. We have learned many lessons over the last few months and have identified resources, tools and strategies that lend themselves to an exciting and effective remote teaching and learning experience for our staff and students.

**Please continue to monitor my weekly bulletins, school newsletters and Blackboard Connect messages for information on instructional program and schedule, grading details, and when to pick up technology and other learning materials.**

We are in unprecedented times and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience, flexibility, efforts and support. We ARE in this together. Please continue to stay positive and have confidence that this too shall pass. In the meantime, take care of yourselves and your family. Stay healthy! Stay safe!

Sincerely,

Dr. Michele Bowers, Superintendent