



AMADOR COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent, Amy L. Slavensky, Ph.D.

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PREPARE, SUPPORT, INSPIRE!

November 29, 2020

Dear ACUSD Families & Staff,

I sincerely hope you had a peaceful and safe Thanksgiving holiday season. I'm reaching out to welcome you back to school this week. Cohort 1 will return to our school campuses for in-person learning on Monday and Thursday. Cohort 2 will return to school campuses on Tuesday and Friday. Students who are engaged in full distance learning will continue with their assigned teachers in daily live, virtual interaction and instruction.

There have been some questions about whether or not our schools will close in the event Amador County moves back to the purple tier in the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy. It is important to note that the State's plan sets the guidelines or requirements for businesses and the economy, while the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Amador County Public Health (ACPH) Officer Dr. Kerr set the guidelines for schools closing and opening during a pandemic.

The CDPH Guidance states: "Individual school closure is recommended based on the number of cases, the percentage of the teacher/students/staff that are positive for COVID-19, and following consultation with the Local Health Officer. Individual school closure may be appropriate when there are multiple cases in multiple cohorts at a school or when at least 5 percent of the total number of teachers/student/staff are cases within a 14-day period, depending on the size and physical layout of the school."

For secondary schools, which do not operate in individual cohorts or classrooms like the elementary schools, contact tracing by ACPH is utilized to determine which staff or students need to isolate or quarantine.

By way of friendly reminder, Governor Newsom issued a travel advisory on Friday, November 13th recommending a 14 day quarantine period for anyone who leaves California for the Thanksgiving holiday. We strongly encourage any student or staff member who traveled out of state to self-quarantine for 14 days beginning the day you return from your travel. Please contact your school office if you need assistance during this period of time.

Thank you for doing your part to prevent the spread of the virus. When we all work together to comply with all of the guidelines and advisories, we lessen the risk of an outbreak in our county, we keep one another healthy, and we increase the possibility of keeping our schools open. Thank you for your cooperation and dedication to our students and schools.

Sincerely,

Dr. Amy L. Slavensky
Superintendent of Schools