

# AMADOR COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## COVID-19 UPDATE

Dr. Amy L. Slavensky, Superintendent  
Sean Snider, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

February 24, 2021





# Agenda

1. Our Current Context
2. Our Phased School Reopening Plan
3. Still Planning in a Dynamic Environment
4. Some Next Steps



# Our Current Context

- Increased levels of collaboration with our labor partners is essential in this work.
- Public health guidance and government orders are still constantly changing.
- Adaptability and flexibility continue to be essential to respond to these changing situations now and throughout the school year.

# ACUSD COVID-19 Numbers

February 9, 2021

vs.

February 23, 2021

Students who have tested positive = 72

Students who are currently active = 1

Students who have been placed in quarantine = 379

Students who are currently quarantined = 18

Staff who have tested positive = 24

Staff who are currently active = 0

Staff who have been placed on quarantine = 20

Staff who are currently quarantined = 0

Students who have tested positive = 79

Students who are currently active = 3

Students who have been placed in quarantine = 424

Students who are currently quarantined = 9

Staff who have tested positive = 24

Staff who are currently active = 0

Staff who have been placed on quarantine = 21

Staff who are currently quarantined = 0





# Stakeholder Input & Survey Data

- Families, teachers and staff have been surveyed at least 5 times May 2020 through February 2021.
- Survey data is used to help determine the best timing of our phased school reopening plans.
- Survey data is used to obtain feedback and provide input into other related decisions.
- Trends in feedback vary month to month reflecting the ongoing polarization within our community.



# Employee Input: January 2021 Survey Data

- Of the 59 elementary teachers who responded to the survey:
  - **26.4%** feel prepared/very prepared to move to the next phase of in-person learning sometime this school year
  - **31.6%** feel somewhat prepared
  
- Of the 43 secondary teachers who responded to the survey:
  - **34.9%** feel prepared/very prepared to move to the next phase of in-person learning sometime this school year
  - **20.9%** feel somewhat prepared
  
- Of the 48 classified employees who responded to the survey:
  - **46.8%** feel prepared/very prepared to move to the next phase of in-person learning sometime this school year
  - **21.3%** feel somewhat prepared



# Health & Safety Planning

- Ongoing implementation and monitoring of [ACUSD Health & Safety Plan](#) During COVID19 for a Safe Return to School
- Ongoing implementation of safety measures
- Collaborative planning with principals, labor partners and others
- [Frequent communication](#) with stakeholders and community

## New CDPH Guidance (1/14/21)

“Under no circumstances should distance between student chairs be less than 4 feet. If 6 feet of distance is not possible, it is recommended to optimize ventilation and consider using other separation techniques such as partitions between students or desks, or arranging desks in a way that minimizes face-to-face contact.”



# Athletics Planning

New CDPH Guidance (2/19/21; Effective 2/26/21)

- In counties with positive case rates between seven and 14 per 100,000 residents, requires people age 13 and older be tested every week to play or coach football, rugby and water polo.
  - *As of 2/19/21 the Amador County case count was 11.1.*
- Test results must be available within 24 hours of competitions. The state would cover the cost of the tests.
- Lower-contact sports including baseball, cheerleading, outdoor volleyball, softball and tennis will not have a testing requirement.



# Athletics Planning (continued)

## New CDPH Guidance (2/19/21; Effective 2/26/21)

- Parents of children participating must be provided with information regarding the risks of minors and have each parent sign an informed consent indicating their understanding and acknowledgement of the risks indicated.
- Spectators will be limited to “immediate household members and for the strict purpose of age appropriate supervision” of the participating student-athlete.
- In collaboration with the CIF Mother Lode League, ACUSD principals, athletic directors and coaches are developing schedules and communications.



# Phased School Reopening

- **Stage 1: Distance Learning (DL)**
- For counties in the purple tier, this is the only option to open the school year.
- **Stage 2: Limited Student Access (8/25/2020 CDPH Guidance) ~ Effective 10/19/2020**
  - *DL continues for all students.*
  - *This may happen when a county is in the purple tier and other tiers.*
  - *Special Education students, English learners and students far below grade level will return for assessments, services, and instruction in small groups.*
  - *Information will be communicated to these families.*
- **Stage 3: Hybrid Learning ~ Effective 11/16/2020 We are here ←**
  - *When allowable, pending Amador County Public Health Officer approval.*
  - *Must follow CDPH Guidance for Schools and School-Based Programs such as mandatory mask wearing and 6 foot distancing.*
  - *Details provided in the Learning Continuity Plan.*
- **Stage 3.5: Hybrid Learning with Increased In-Person Learning Time – TBD**
- **Stage 4: Traditional Schedule with Restrictions**
  - *Five days a week on campus instruction.*
  - *Daily sanitizing and social distancing.*
  - *Limits on large gatherings, extracurricular activities and athletics.*
- **Stage 5: Traditional Schedule with No Restrictions**
  - *Five days a week on campus instruction.*
  - *Assemblies, extracurricular activities and athletics.*
  - *Daily health screenings may still be required.*



# Planning in a Dynamic Environment

- As public health, state and local government orders, and public health guidance are revised, our plans are revised, updated, and posted to the [webpage](#).
- Additional actions may be added or modified as necessary during and throughout implementation.
- Given the dynamic and unprecedented situation, no plan is final as the circumstances continue to evolve.
- Although in-person learning does not rely on our county's tier level within the [State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#), if positive COVID-19 cases increase impacting staffing to support safe educational environments, a return to distance learning may be needed.



# Next Steps

- Continue to strengthen staffing to support in-person learning.
- Continue to communicate updates to and seek feedback from all stakeholders, through the use of surveys, automated messages, [our public webpage](#) and [social media](#).
- Continue to make improvements to Hybrid Learning and Distance Learning, with focused attention on [social-emotional wellness / counseling support](#) and academic learning.
- Continue to provide professional development and collaboration time for teachers, staff and principals to support student learning and social-emotional wellness.
- Continue to collaborate and negotiate with our labor partners.
- Continue to implement the [Learning Continuity Plan](#) making adjustments as needed.
- Continue to collaborate with Amador County Public Health Office.

# Questions & Discussion