



RUSD Headline News Wednesday, January 13, 2021

A Message from Superintendent, Dr. Nancy Lynch

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Phase 3 for families in the traditional program. I had the opportunity to visit each of the schools this week and to feel the excitement in the air as everyone was doing their best to follow the protocols and practices which are a mainstay for this year.

Phase 3 Transition:

I am extremely grateful for everyone who has worked together to provide a smooth transition to Phase 3. Our school staff worked overtime and above and beyond to ensure that our campuses were ready. Teachers and staff are reminding students to adhere to safety protocols, and students have stepped up to the challenge. Thank you to our families for following protocols for drop off and pick up, sending your child(ren) in layers of clothing, and for completing the daily health screening each morning. These actions ensure there are no delays in students moving to their indoor or outdoor learning spaces to start their day.

PMH Testing Results:

Following the PMH testing that is conducted on our sites, we receive a report of how many individuals tested positive. To date, we have only received results from the first day of testing last week, Tuesday January 5, which produced one positive test for a child. By scheduling the buffer week of distance learning after a holiday/school recess break we provide our community an opportunity to be tested prior to returning to school following a period when there may have been a greater risk of exposure.

Public Health Supports Curative Testing:

Marin Public Health has recently addressed the FDA communication about the risk of false negative results with the [Curative SARS-CoV-2 test](#) which Public Health is sponsoring at locations around the county and we provide to our staff members.

Studies have shown that people have a positive test result more often when they are actively showing symptoms with all testing methods, including oral swab, nasal swab or rapid antigen tests. Marin Public Health has advised clinicians to treat any patient who has had exposure or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 as positive cases regardless of test result or type of test.

Administered properly, Curative's oral swabbing method has a higher clinical sensitivity than most SARS-CoV-2 tests. Tests conducted in Marin County are performed under the guidance of on-site trained test administrators to ensure the testing is in compliance with FDA approved directions.

Anticipated Schedule for COVID-19 Vaccine:

Marin Public Health has started administering COVID-19 vaccinations in our community. Population definitions and an anticipated time frame for when those populations will have access to the vaccine can be found [here](#).

No School on Monday, January 18:

In recognition of the federal holiday honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, schools will not be in session.

Best regards,

Nancy Lynch, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Happening in our Community:

We invite you to join a virtual conversation with [Dr. Madeline Levine](#), psychologist with over 35 years of experience as a clinician, consultant, educator and author.

Dr. Levine will be discussing her book and New York Times bestseller, *The Price of Privilege*, which explores the reasons why teenagers are experiencing epidemic rates of emotional problems. Her current book, *Ready or Not*, focuses on how to best prepare our children and ourselves for an uncertain and rapidly changing world. Dr. Levine will include strategies and practices on how we can support our students during these unprecedented times.

We hope you can join **one** of the offered dates: January 26 **or** February 23, 2021 from 5:00 to 6:30PM.

Registration Link: <https://mlevine.eventbrite.com>.

Have questions or comments?

Click on the **Parent Feedback Form**. A few of our District Communications Committee members will regularly check this link for new questions and comments and will be able to help respond to questions promptly.

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