



Message from Superintendent,
Dr. Nancy Lynch
Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Delay Announced in Marin County Moving to Tier 2 Status

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please see the news release below that outlines the delay of Marin County moving into the Tier 2 (or the Red phase) of reopening schools and businesses. The expectation was that Marin County would enter Tier 2 by today, September 8th, which would mean that schools would have the ability to reopen by September 22nd if they are prepared to open and have met the required reopening criteria. It is uncertain if this possible reopening date for schools will now be delayed. The Marin Public Health Department has made a request for an adjudication process, which may allow the county to move into Tier 2. This adjudication process is expected to be completed by the end of the week.

The links found in the press release provide important information about the requirements counties must meet in order to enter each of the 4 Tiers of reopening schools and businesses. In brief summary:

Tier 1 (Purple) means Widespread COVID-19 transmission (> 7 new cases per day per 100,000; > 8% testing positive)

Tier 2 (Red) means Substantial COVID-19 transmission (4 - 7 new cases per day per 100,000; 5 - 8% testing positive)

Tier 3 (Orange) means Moderate COVID-19 transmission (1 - 3.9 new cases per day per 100,000; 2 - 4.9% testing positive)

Tier 4 (Yellow) means Minimal COVID-19 transmission (< 1 new case per day per 100,000; < 2% testing positive)

I will share updated information with you once it is available.

Sincerely,

Nancy Lynch, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Reed Union School District

=====

State Holds Marin At Tier 1 COVID-19 Risk Status

Pending review with State, Marin business reopening delayed

San Rafael, CA – The County of Marin was notified late last night by the State of California that the planned move to Tier 2 in the State’s monitoring framework has been delayed. Marin County will remain in Tier 1—the most restrictive status—while the state conducts further review. This will lead to delayed business reopening planned for [Tier 2](#), including: indoor personal care services; indoor dining; indoor gyms; movie theaters; indoor houses of worship; and expanded capacity at indoor retail establishments and malls.

On August 28, the state introduced its [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#), a four-tier framework by which counties are measured for loosening and tightening restrictions on social activities and business operations. [Marin was placed in Tier 1](#), or purple status to notify “widespread” risk, for the most severe restrictions.

On September 4, in consultation with California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Marin County [announced plans](#) to move to Tier 2, or red status. On the evening of September 7, CDPH notified the County of Marin of the status reversal. The decision comes after the state reanalyzed its data and applied a new method for determining a county’s position on the four-tiered monitoring framework. The new approach includes a different timeframe for calculating a county’s case rate and a new adjustment for counties testing more than the State average, which CDPH plans to introduce this week.

“We want to move carefully and base our decisions on local data.” said Dr. Matt Willis, the County’s Health Officer. “We’re well prepared to move forward, but ultimately this is the state’s decision. In the new framework the state has a lot more control about what moves and what doesn’t.

Marin Public Health has requested an [adjudication process](#) with state officials before a final determination is made. “We requested a review because if we don’t move forward yet, we want to make sure its for the right reasons” said Willis.

Willis said smaller counties like Marin who are on the cusp of one tier and another are more vulnerable to slight changes in the case measurement process and small outbreaks. “One cluster of cases in a facility leads to a clear spike in countywide case rates--these are some of the factors we’ll be

discussing with the state.”

“This decision is a gut check for residents and businesses,” said Angela Nicholson, Assistant County Administrator and Director of Marin’s Emergency Operations Center. “We’ve been working together to flatten our curve. Every day we see the negative effect on the emotional and economic wellbeing of our neighbors and community.”

A final determination of the status regarding Marin’s tier standing is anticipated before the end of the week.

###

[Visit our Website](#)

[Follow Us on Instagram!](#)

