



Important Information from the Superintendent Wednesday, October 21, 2020

A Message from Superintendent, Dr. Nancy Lynch

IMPORTANT DATES AT THE END OF THIS LETTER!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we continue on our path for returning students to campus during this pandemic, I want to thank you for your time, patience and engagement in making this a safe and successful process. We greatly appreciate how you have supported your students and our schools by adjusting to the many different schedules, guidelines and protocols that have enabled us to bring students back safely. From morning health screenings, to staggered schedules and multiple entry/exit points, to helping your child during distance learning days, we understand that you have a very difficult job as parents. We can see that you are keeping a positive attitude during these very challenging times as we experience your children maintaining a sense of calm, normalcy and safety as they return to school campuses. We are truly grateful!

Reed Union is one of the first public school districts in Marin County to bring students back on campus this fall. We are proud of this accomplishment and it is due to the remarkable collaboration between our stakeholder groups including teachers, staff, administration, parents and community members.

Revised Date for Phase 3

Thank you to the 237 parents, staff and community members who virtually attended the Board meeting last night. For those who stayed until the wee hours of the morning, we thank you for your tireless commitment.

The RUSD Board approved the administration's recommendation to delay the transition from Phase 2 to Phase 3, which was previously approved for no earlier than November 9th. The revised no earlier than date to begin Phase 3 is **December 7th for both Reed and Bel Aire Schools**.

As we have brought students back on campus for these first few weeks of Phase 2, administrators and staff have identified additional adjustments that need to be made in order to safely bring full student cohorts back on campus 5 days per week. Most importantly, these changes include, but are not limited to:

- Expanded protocols for inclement weather
- Modified timing for implementation of routines with full cohorts
- Modification of indoor / outdoor learning with full cohorts (tables, plexiglass, and tents)
- Development of multi-tiered phase 3 schedule
- Facilities and operations modifications
- Staffing and substitute needs

We are also continuing the process of planning assignments and lessons for students who are not able to attend in-person classes due to illness or quarantine or the need to stay home due to COVID-19.

Del Mar Revised Phase 3 Plan

Del Mar was also previously approved to transition to Phase 3 no earlier than November 9th, however, as identified with Reed and Bel Are, this date is too soon. Capacity and scheduling issues at Del Mar have surfaced a need to revise Phase 3 in order to maximize in-person learning. Below are some of the key considerations that need to be addressed:

- Indoor spaces – full cohort size and capacity constraints in some classrooms
- Outdoor learning spaces – not currently able to accommodate full cohorts
- Staffing – middle school credential requirements
- Changes to current program – will impact facilities and staffing

Del Mar's administration team and teacher leaders have begun evaluating the current split cohort hybrid model to determine how to safely modify Phase 3 to maintain the integrity of the academic program, while increasing the number of students and days on campus each week. Mr. Lynch will continue to provide communication regarding the revamped Phase 3 plan in the coming weeks.

We acknowledge that changes made to our programs and schedules impact families, and we request your understanding and support during these necessary transitions.

IMPORTANT DATES!

November 9-13:

Veteran's day is observed on Wednesday, November 11 so the schedule for K-8 students will be adjusted so that student **Group A will attend on Monday/Tuesday** and Group B will continue to attend on Thursday/Friday.

November 16-20:

Students in K-5 will shift to **Distance Learning (Monday Schedule)** to accommodate Parent-Teacher Conference Week and allow time for our Maintenance and Operations department to complete modifications to campuses and classrooms in preparation for the transition to Phase 3. (This schedule does not impact students in ExDL or IDL programs.)

No earlier than December 7:

Students in grades K-5 are anticipated to transition to Phase 3 on December

7th, when they will attend 5 days per week for 4 hours per day.

Again, thank you for your time and understanding. Please stay tuned for more updates as we prepare for Phase 3.

Warm regards,

Nancy Lynch, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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