



RUSD Headline News Wednesday, December 9, 2020

A Message from Superintendent, Dr. Nancy Lynch

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I want to acknowledge the disappointment that students and families have experienced hearing the news that we would not be transitioning to Phase 3 this week. So many factors were considered when making the decision to delay the transition including the very rapid changes and conflicting information that came from the state on Wednesday and from Public Health on Friday. All of this created a tremendous amount of anxiety in our community, so I made the difficult decision to keep our district in Phase 2, while we continued to keep our school campuses open. Some families were relieved while others were extremely disappointed. We know that students are very excited to return in-person each day, and we are looking forward to having our students back on campus more fully in January. **We are prepared and ready for students to transition to Phase 3 on Monday, January 11, 2021.**

Regional Stay at Home Order

Yesterday, Marin County returned to the Purple Tier of COVID-19 spread, experiencing 92 positive cases, which has been the highest to date. It is important that we follow the Regional Stay at Home order that took effect for Marin County yesterday at Noon and will last through January 3, 2021. Dr. Lisa Santora has confirmed through contact tracing, that the majority of the increased cases are a result of gatherings that took place over the Thanksgiving holiday. To find out more specifics about the Stay at Home order, please see the updated Public Health [Student & Family COVID-19 Safety Handbook](#) which provides updated sections pertaining to the Stay at Home order highlighted in yellow. **Public Health has stated under the current guidelines that schools may remain open while in the Purple Tier.**

Non-Essential Travel is Not Permitted

The Stay at Home order states that non-essential travel is not permitted. We understand that some people may have to engage in essential travel, so we will continue to have the week following Winter Break be a distance learning week, as we did after Thanksgiving. **Dr. Santora has firmly stated that if**

families travel, it is advised that they self-quarantine for 10 days and get a COVID-19 test 5 days upon their return. During the week after Winter Break, we will make COVID-19 testing available to families. With increased testing in our region and state, there has been a delay in receiving test results. Please know there are many options available for testing, with even more to be implemented throughout Marin County at the end of December through Curative. Check out our [COVID](#) link for additional information on testing and so much more that is consistently updated.

COVID-19 Testing at RUSD

Over the Thanksgiving break, we were notified that 2 students tested positive for COVID-19, one at Bel Aire and one at Del Mar. These students were not on campus, therefore no one else had been exposed. We are grateful that our processes and procedures are followed by families so that we can keep our schools open and safe for everyone.

Recap of Important Information

- Distance learning will be in effect January 5-8, so families and staff can self-quarantine
- COVID-19 testing will be provided ON-CAMPUS the week of January 5-8
- Students will return to campus and begin Phase 3, on Monday, January 11
- Additional outdoor learning spaces are in place on every campus
- RUSD will expect families that have traveled to have a negative COVID-19 test prior to returning to campus

We are all in this together and we will come out of this pandemic together. Thank you for everything you are doing to keep our community and schools safe and healthy.

Have questions or comments?

Click on the **Parent Feedback Click on the Parent Feedback Form** <https://forms.gle/za2oJqs8dHJww3LQ8>. This link provides an easy way to ask questions or make comments that will inform content of future newsletters and provide feedback on areas that are working well or not so well as we move through the current school year during the global pandemic. We will continue to use this link when things resume to “normal” in the future. 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.

Warm regards,

Nancy Lynch, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Visit our Website

Follow Us on Instagram!



