



## RUSD Headline News Wednesday, December 16, 2020

### A Message from Superintendent, Dr. Nancy Lynch

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we prepare to enter the Winter recess and the holiday season, I wish you a time of joy and celebration with your family and the opportunity to engage in reflection as we end a very difficult year. I hope that 2021 will bring us all some sense of normalcy accompanied by silver linings that we have gained along the way.

In order for our district to move forward with our plans to safely transition to Phase 3 on January 11th, it is our collective responsibility to adhere to all state and county public health orders. Please read on to find **important information** as we enter the Winter recess.

#### **Important Details of the Marin County Stay at Home Order**

Marin County Public Health issued a [Stay at Home Order](#) from December 8<sup>th</sup> through what will likely be extended to no earlier than January 7<sup>th</sup>. This extension is a result of Marin now being under the State Stay at Home Order by falling below 15% capacity of ICU availability in hospitals. A press release from Public Health is expected later today.

The clarifying information below has come directly from our Public Health Officers:

- All gatherings with members of other households are prohibited (no play dates)
- Stay at Home is required in place of residence in Marin County (no Lake Tahoe)
- Only essential travel is allowable – family medical care/emergency, critical infrastructure support, health, business, work and study, and safety and security. Non-essential travel that is for purposes of tourism or recreation is not allowed.

As it pertains to schools, Public Health states, “Marin County students who engage in any high-risk activity (including non-essential travel and mixing

households) must quarantine for 10 days. Quarantine may be discontinued after 7 days if they test negative on Day 5 or later and remain asymptomatic.”

### **Distance Learning Week January 5-8 – NO SCHOOL January 4 (Staff Development Day)**

The primary and sole purpose of establishing distance learning immediately after the holiday is to ensure that individuals who do engage in high-risk activities over the break can self-quarantine as directed by Public Health prior to students returning to school.

- **The expectation is that families will be in their residence in Marin County and not traveling or gathering with other households as of January 1<sup>st</sup>.** This date will allow for the full quarantine period, while we engage in distance learning, and will help us safely transition to Phase 3 on January 11<sup>th</sup>. It is critical that we as a community make this happen. Those who engage in high-risk activities and do not self-quarantine during this period will not be permitted to attend school in-person until they have followed Public Health requirements as noted previously.
- The week of Distance Learning is not designated for the purpose of extending travel or continuing to gather with others outside of the household.

### **Transition to Phase 3 on January 11<sup>th</sup> – Following a Week of Distance Learning**

The California Department of Public Health and Marin Public Health have stated that schools may remain open and continue to bring students back for in person learning during this time. RUSD students will transition to Phase 3 on January 11<sup>th</sup> after a week of distance learning following Winter break.

Marin Public Health has recently shared the following data:

- There have only been 2 school transmissions of COVID-19 in Marin as of December 16<sup>th</sup>, with both being adult-to-adult transmission
- Risk of being exposed to COVID-19 is 38 times higher outside of school
- Contact tracing found the most recent spike in cases came from indoor gatherings of more than 1 household. The highest percentage of people infected were ages 50-64

Public Health Updates to School Site Specific Protection Plans include:

- Once per month testing for employees
- Continuing to encourage outdoor learning spaces and keeping windows open, but also includes the use of air purifiers if possible
- All children over the age of 2 (all students) must wear face coverings unless it is not possible due to health reasons

RUSD is already in compliance with all of these changes

### **Actional Question will Address High Risk Activities**

An additional question will be added to the Actional daily health screening. The question will ask if you have engaged in any high-risk activity (including non-essential travel and mixing households) in the past 10 days. If the answer is yes to this question the parent/staff member will be directed to a message that provides them the information on self-quarantine and that they may not report to school/work.

### **COVID-19 Testing Options**

The week following Thanksgiving break, over 1000 people were tested on

RUSD school campuses during the distance learning week. We were thrilled to be able to provide this service to our families. We know that the test results were delayed more than usual due to the high volume of testing that is taking place across the state so we now have multiple testing resources to help families get tested.

**PMH Laboratories ON-CAMPUS:**

RUSD has secured the services of PMH Laboratory, Inc. to provide RUSD staff and the district community with COVID-19 testing. The testing for COVID-19 will take place at all RUSD school campuses. The testing cost is covered via your health insurance. **You must provide a copy of your insurance card (front and back).**

**RUSD COVID-19 Testing Information:**

**When/Where:**

Tuesday, January 5 @[Reed School](#)

Wednesday, January 6 @[Del Mar](#)

Thursday, January 7 @[Bel Aire School](#)

**Appointment deadline December 29.**

**Time Frame: 8:00 AM-5:00 PM**

**What You Need to Bring**

You will need to **BRING THE FOLLOWING COMPLETED FORMS** (linked below) with you on the day of testing:

**Please note: The school office will not be able to make copies for you.**

1. [Patient Test Request Form](#)
2. [Venous Consent Form \(antibody test only\)](#)
3. [Authorization Form to Disclose Results \(optional\)](#)
4. [Uninsured Patient Form \(if no health insurance coverage\)](#)
5. A photocopy of the front and back of your medical insurance card

**Curative Community Testing:**

In addition to the PMH Laboratory testing opportunity, I strongly encourage you to take advantage of Curative which is coordinated through Marin Public Health and will be available 5 days per week in Marin County beginning on December 21<sup>st</sup>. A confirmed schedule of days, locations and contact information for testing will be sent to you from my office in the coming days.

**If Your Child Tests Positive for COVID-19:**

To ensure that we can continue to keep our school campuses safe and open, we need to be aware if your child tests positive for COVID-19 over the Winter recess. We will then communicate with other families if their child may have been exposed to COVID-19. Please email your school office personnel with the subject line of **Positive COVID Test if your child tests positive for COVID-19 over the Winter Recess.**

- Reed – Isabelle Moattar at [imoattar@reedschools.org](mailto:imoattar@reedschools.org) and/or call 415.435.7840 x1002
- Bel Aire – Lora Nazarian at [lnazarian@reedschools.org](mailto:lnazarian@reedschools.org) and/or call 415.559.8112
- Del Mar – Laura Kristy at [lkristy@reedschools.org](mailto:lkristy@reedschools.org) and/or call 415.435.1468 ext. 0

## Community Discussions with Marin Public Health

Marin Public Health provides relevant and periodic updates to the community through webinars that are hosted jointly with the Marin County Office of Education. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-2:00 PM. Please see the [flyer with more information](#). Click [here](#) to view previous Public Health Community Discussions.

Don't forget to check out our frequently updated [COVID](#) link on our RUSD website for important information.

**Working together we will keep our school campuses open and our school community healthy and safe!**

Happy Holidays,

Nancy Lynch, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

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### **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.

[Parent Feedback Form](#)

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**Thank you to all who committed to Pledge Day!**

We are so grateful for your support. In uncertain times, the Foundation strives to be a continued source of stable funding for our schools. Your commitment makes this happen -

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**E-BIKE DRAWING - We have a **WINNER!****

**Click the spinner wheel to see who won...**

Or check our **[website home page](#)** to find out.