July 13, 2020

Greetings EUSD Community,

I hope you are in good health and taking a moment to relax this summer with your loved ones.

In preparation for the reopening of schools tentatively on August 20, 2020, I wanted to share an update with you.

## **Health Guidance and Summer Preparation**

The <u>State of California</u> and <u>Alameda County</u> recently issued updated guidance for the reopening of schools that included face coverings and physical distancing as primary recommendations. Our Maintenance and Operations team plays an essential role in helping us reopen schools safely. Using state and federal guidelines, the District ordered significant quantities of masks, face shields, hand sanitizer, and cleaning supplies to keep our schools sanitized and enhance safety measures.

In addition, we are installing additional handwashing stations, social distancing signage, temperature checks, and self- health screenings as safety precautions. Our schools will also receive a deep summer cleaning by the custodial staff. We would like to take this time to sincerely thank our custodial staff for their dedication to the safety and well-being of our students and staff.

# Reopening School Committee

The District currently has a Reopening School Committee (RSC) that consists of Classified Schools Employees Association (CSEA), Emery Teachers Association (ETA), the City of Emeryville partners, and District leadership.

The committee was developed at the end of May and continues to meet regularly to develop a plan and make suggestions of how we may open schools in the Fall with instruction, wellness, and safety precautions at the forefront of the planning. The committee reviewed survey data from the students, staff, and families and researched guidance information from the California Department of Education, Alameda County of Education, Alameda County Public Health Department, and other pertinent resources to provide input regarding a tentative instructional model. A tentative model was presented to the Board on June 24, 2020, that included:

#### Option #1 - Face to face instruction as a Hybrid Model

For example, the students would attend school for two days per week. Cohort A-Monday/Tuesday and Cohort B - Thursday/Friday. On Wednesdays, students would participate in asynchronous learning at home. Each Wednesday would be dedicated to

providing a deep campus cleaning, professional development, and student support with interventions and office hours.

## Options #2 - Distance Learning

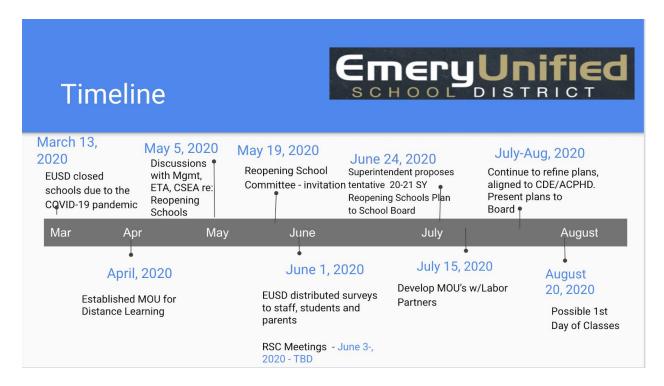
This learning model would be provided for students who are medically fragile or would be put at risk by in-person instruction or who are self-quarantining because of exposure to COVID-19.

Here is a <u>link to the board presentation</u>.

Since the end of June, there has been a rise in COVID-19 cases in California. With guidance from Alameda County Office of Education and the Alameda County Health Department, the District continues to hold the health and safety needs of our students and staff as the highest priority. With the complexities that currently exist, the RSC acknowledges the need to be nimble and to build an educational program in which all stakeholders can adapt and adjust to the potential changes in both the health and learning conditions. These plans will remain fluid and subject to change with emerging public health guidance.

## **Reopening Schools Timeline**

As we obtain additional health guidance, we will share an updated plan with our community. The goal is to share the plan with our staff and families by the end of July or the first week of August.



## <u>Community Engagement - Input Needed</u>

As we get closer to sharing our plans for reopening schools – and how we plan to phase in those plans – we need to gather updated data on your current preference for how your child will participate in learning this fall. We know this is a challenging decision for our families with the rapidly evolving guidance and information regarding COVID-19.

Your feedback will help us make better plans for our schools at all grade levels. Thank you to those who have already completed the survey. If you have not submitted a survey, we ask that you take a few minutes to complete the Family Survey listed below:

- Family Survey AYES (<u>English</u>)(<u>Spanish</u>)(<u>Arabic</u>)
- Family Survey AYMS (<u>English</u>)(<u>Spanish</u>)(<u>Arabic</u>)
- Family Survey ESS (<u>English</u>) (<u>Spanish</u>)(<u>Arabic</u>)

In addition, each school site is making phone calls to our families so we can know the personal needs and preferences for each family in our district. Your input is important to us as we partner together in the best interest of your child(ren). So, thank you in advance for taking the time to share your opinion with us.

In summary, we understand that this health pandemic has been stressful for our staff, students, and families. We appreciate your continued patience and flexibility as we further refine our plans and move towards reopening schools in August. Please anticipate an update in the next couple of weeks. If significant changes occur before then, we will communicate those to you in a timely manner.

As always, your partnership and engagement are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Quiauna Scott, Ed.D

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Superintendent

### Helpful links:

- Alameda County Public Health Department COVID-19 website
- California Department of Education Guidance for Reopening Schools
- Guidance for Schools from Alameda County Office of Education and Alameda County Public Health