

November 10, 2020

Good Evening to our San Marcos Unified Community,

Today we marked the final phase-in of our elementary hybrid model as our 4th and 5th grade students returned to campus today! It has truly taken a Herculean effort by our entire organization to reach this day; and I am grateful to and proud of each individual of our Team SMUSD for his/her ongoing dedication to the students of San Marcos Unified.

Our work is not yet complete, of course; with the vast majority of our secondary students and parents anxiously anticipating their second semester return on Tuesday, January 26th. We, too, look forward to their return.

The unfortunate irony of this day, however, should not be lost on our community. The same day that we have brought our final group of elementary students back to campus, our County has officially regressed into Purple status within the state's Blueprint for a Safer Economy tier system. As a reminder, based on State and County regulations, schools that have begun inperson instruction may continue in-person instruction, as such, our schools may remain open for instruction and small cohort activities on secondary campuses may continue.

The ability of SMUSD schools to remain in session does not negate the reality that San Diego County has moved into the most restrictive tier of "widespread" risk of transmission. As a District we are vigilant in our commitment to safety mitigation within our schools, and as a result, we have had no positive COVID cases originating on our campuses. Confirmed COVID-19 cases connected to SMUSD sites and facilities can be viewed on the district's <u>COVID-19</u> <u>Dashboard</u> (note: all current Dashboard cases have originated outside of district schools/facilities).

We encourage and implore our SMUSD staff, students, and community members to maintain vigilance both on campus and off by following the <u>California Department of Public</u> <u>Health's</u> guidance to wash your hands, wear a mask, keep your distance, and stay home if you're sick.

Lastly, tomorrow as a nation we observe Veteran's Day; may we celebrate our men and women in uniform. I offer my own and a collective THANK YOU to our veterans for their service, for we owe our freedoms to their sacrifice.

Stay Safe and Stay Well,

Tiffany Campbell, Ed.D

Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services