

February 17, 2021

Good Evening SMUSD Families,

Last night the SMUSD Governing Board held their regularly scheduled meeting. We thank all who viewed and provided comments. Please see below for a brief summary of the meeting and direct access to the presentation slides ([also available on the district website](#)).

SCHOOL REOPENING

Secondary

The COVID case rate in the county is steadily moving toward the Red tier with this weeks' adjusted rate at 22.2. As a reminder, schools will be able to open when the county has been in the Red tier for five days. With the current trajectory, we expect that our secondary students' return to campus is only weeks away. The planning is complete and our schools are ready to open when we reach the Red tier!

Safety Review Process

Last week the state introduced a new "Safety Review Process" that would allow schools/districts the opportunity to submit for a possible exemption to opening in the Purple tier. The two possible scenarios are both based on the updated January 14th guidance from the state:

- a. Cannot meet distance requirements - *A school/district that was open in-person and had students distanced less than the newly required minimum of four feet*
- b. Operating under the July 17th definition of "Open" - *Schools that were actively in the process of bringing back students as part of a phased-in reopening (consistent with July 17th guidance), but never offered all students in at least one grade the option to return for in-person instruction while the county was in the Red tier*

In order to get information/instructions on the process, schools/districts had to submit a "Letter of Intent" form to the state. SMUSD submitted this form and has received the instructions this week. We will be reviewing this information and will provide an update when we have more information on the process.

PRESENTATIONS

There were several informational presentations to the Board & community last night. You can access them directly by clicking on the links below.

- Ms. Gomez and Mr. Baum presented the Board with a status update on elementary and secondary academic progress. View their slides: [Elementary](#) and [Secondary](#).
- Interim Superintendent's Update can be found [here](#).

- Dr. Lovely and Ms. Hempstead, who are heading the search for the district's new superintendent, presented a leadership profile based on their work so far in engaging stakeholders. Their presentation and the leadership profile can be found on the [Superintendent Search](#) page of the website.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Campbell, Ed.D.

Interim Superintendent