



March 12, 2021

Dear Families,

At the most recent Board meeting on March 10, 2021, the Governing Board reviewed the feasibility of offering in-person instruction; and decided that it was **still too early to set a new target date** for hybrid reopening.

Before discussion options, Trustees discussed new legislation that would provide additional funding to districts geared toward reopening for in-person instruction. To receive full funding districts would need to reopen by April 1, 2021, or by May 15, 2021 to receive a pro-rated portion of the funding. Districts opening after April 1, 2021 would also be required to provide onsite asymptomatic COVID-19 testing to all staff and students as a condition of the funding. To make the best decision for our district, Trustees discussed **three main considerations**.

First, the Governing Board reviewed **current case rate data** for both San Diego and National City. The case rate for San Diego is 8.8 new cases per day per 100,000 residents, and San Diego is still in the State's "Purple Tier" designation. As mentioned in my last letter to families, elementary schools in counties that are in the "Red Tier" (with case rates below 7 new cases per 100,000) are eligible for reopening. That said, our Trustees also reviewed the case rates in National City and South County, since local indicators also determine the overall safety of the reopening decision. National City's current case rate is 15.8.

Second, the Governing Board reviewed **options for asymptomatic testing of all staff and students** that would be returning for in-person instruction. The Governing Board had many questions regarding the logistics of the testing including who would administer the testing and the type of testing that would be administered. At this time, there are two main type of testing that could be implemented: one, a minimally invasive nasal swab and another a saliva sampling test. Trustees felt that parents and staff should weigh in on the decision of which test would be most preferred; therefore, we will be sending out a brief poll in the next week or so to solicit input.

Finally, the Governing Board discussed **vaccinations for educators**. While we cannot mandate vaccinations of our staff, our Board felt that it was important that all staff had the opportunity to be fully vaccinated before setting a date for reopening for in-person instruction. At this time, all staff have received an invitation to make their first of two vaccination appointments. The second appointment is still pending for all. All staff will have had the opportunity to make their second of two vaccination appointments by the next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board.

Based on these three considerations, the National School District Governing Board has not yet set a date for reopening for hybrid instruction. Trustees are expected to discuss this again on April 14, 2021. In the meantime, in-person **academic support for distance learning will continue** as scheduled. If you have specific questions or concerns for your child, please reach out to your site principal. Thank you again for your partnership and patience during these difficult times.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Leighangela Brady*

Dr. Leighangela Brady  
Superintendent

**NATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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