



San Ysidro
School District EST - 1887

Gina A. Potter, Ed.D.
Superintendent

GOVERNING BOARD

Humberto Gurmilan, President
Antonio Martinez, Vice-President

Rudy Lopez Clerk
Irene Lopez, Member
Rosaleah Pallasigue, Member

Quality education and opportunity for all students to succeed

December 11, 2020

Dear SYSD Families & Colleagues,

With the recent news of the Governor's [Regional Stay at Home Order](#) due to a statewide COVID surge, along with escalating COVID transmission rates that our geographic region is currently experiencing, our district has decided for safety reasons to delay the launch of our Blended Learning Academy instructional program option until sometime between February and March 2021, pending San Diego county returning to the Red Tier and authorization by county and state health departments. This means that for the month of January 2021 all schools within our district will continue to provide a robust Distance Learning Academy wherein students will remain in their current class/es. Also, we are excited to share that our free **Virtual Tutoring Program** launched on December 9th and families can register their children for this program at this [link](#).

Our district is continuing to plan for the launch of the Blended Learning Program option. In order for the district to provide both a Distance Learning Academy and Blended Learning Program in the future, class changes may be required due to staffing limitations. The district is working collaboratively with our labor leaders to navigate the complexities of simultaneously staffing for our two main instructional programs. Our district's instructional program staffing plans are based upon input from the family surveys indicating whether they would like their child placed in either the Distance Learning Academy or Blended Learning Program; along with the needs of teachers. While our district will do its best to keep students with the same teacher, a number of students may experience a teacher change in the coming months as the district prepares for the implementation and staffing of our Phase III instructional program options: 1) Blended Learning Program; 2) Distance Learning Academy; and 3) Specialized Cohorts for At-Risk Students. New teacher assignments and student class changes that may be required for the implementation of Phase III will not occur until the launch of our Blended Learning Program in February or March 2021, if our county is returned to the Red Tier.

Please know our first priority is the safety of our students, families, staff and community, therefore, all school and district office staff members will work from home the week prior to winter break: Monday, December 14th through Friday, December 18th. School and district office staff may be reached next week via phone or email with this [directory](#) of contact information. Staff currently working at schools and at the district office will return to their work locations in January on the date identified within their [work calendars](#). While our district is taking this precautionary safety measure, it is important to note that to date, none of the SYSD positive COVID-19 cases have proven to be directly related to transmission within any of our

4350 Otay Mesa Road San Ysidro, CA 92173

(619) 428-4476 Ext. 3021 • Fax (619) 428-1505 • gina.potter@sysdschools.org

San Ysidro School District "programs, activities, and practices shall be free from unlawful discrimination, including discrimination against an individual or group based on race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital, pregnancy, or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, or genetic information; a perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. District programs and activities shall also be free of any racially derogatory or discriminatory school or athletic team names, mascots, or nicknames." Board Policy 0410

schools or facilities. As you plan to celebrate the holidays, please remember to keep in mind the health regulations to keep your family safe.

Our free student meals program will continue on Wednesday, December 16th at La Mirada and Willow (11:30am-1pm), and San Ysidro Middle School (2:30pm-3:30pm). The weekly student meal program will be closed during winter break and will reopen on Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

All schools will be closed for winter break from Monday, December 21st through Wednesday, January 6th. Students' first day of school after winter break for our Distance Learning Academy is Thursday, January 7th.

We sincerely appreciate your continued patience and understanding as our district navigates this unprecedented and difficult time.

We wish you a safe and joyous holiday season.

Sincerely,

Gina Potter, Ed.D.
Superintendent

4350 Otay Mesa Road San Ysidro, CA 92173

(619) 428-4476 Ext. 3021 • Fax (619) 428-1505 • gina.potter@sysdschools.org

San Ysidro School District "programs, activities, and practices shall be free from unlawful discrimination, including discrimination against an individual or group based on race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital, pregnancy, or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, or genetic information; a perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. District programs and activities shall also be free of any racially derogatory or discriminatory school or athletic team names, mascots, or nicknames." Board Policy 0410