



District Highlights

Superintendent - Gina A. Potter, Ed.D.

Week of April 3, 2020

SUPERINTENDENT

SCHOOL CLOSURES & DISTANCE LEARNING LETTER FROM SUPERINTENDENT

April 1, 2020

Dear San Ysidro School District Families and Staff,

As many of you saw last night and this morning, Governor Gavin Newsom and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond released information that stated, *“Due to the current safety concerns and needs for ongoing social distancing, it currently appears that our students will not be able to return to school campuses before the end of the school year. This is in no way to suggest that school is over for the year, but rather we should put all efforts into strengthening our delivery of education through distance learning.”* State Superintendent Thurmond urged all school districts in California to move towards strengthening distance learning programs for students at this time.

With this new information and in an abundance of caution, San Ysidro School District, along with school district superintendents from across the State of California, are taking a safety-first approach and immediate action to extend the school facility closures through the end of the school year. However, in the future, if the Governor’s Stay-At-Home Executive Order is lifted and the COVID-19 situation improves, our district will certainly do our best to open schools.

To be clear, the 2019-20 school year is not over, it has just transitioned from classroom instruction into distance learning. The next two phases of implementation of our district’s **Distance Learning Program** will be shared with specific details next week in a letter that will be emailed and mailed home to families along with two weeks of student study packets for your child.

As a reminder, our district’s spring break comes to a close for students on Monday, April 6th. Thus, our district is working to implement Phase II of our Distance Learning

Program to ensure continued learning the week of April 7th, when the student school calendar resumes. We also extend a warm welcome back to staff who will continue their job duties (to the extent possible & in many cases remotely) post spring break on Monday, April 6th.

We want to thank you for your patience and understanding as we are all quickly transitioning into a new way of teaching and learning to meet the health and safety needs of our community due to the impacts of COVID-19. It's challenging to many educators, and to our students and families to learn and communicate in a very new way; however, working together we can and will meet this challenge.

We are also committed to supporting the social and emotional well-being of all of our students. Staff are working on ways to stay connected and communicate with our students, even at a distance.

While we recognize this extension of school closures poses challenges and hardships to many families in our community, the most effective way to slow and disrupt the transmission of COVID-19 is by continuing to implement Stay-At-Home orders and social distancing practices. We are grateful to our students, staff and families throughout our community for your tremendous prevention efforts during this unique and difficult time.

With Sincere Appreciation,

Gina Potter, Ed.D.
Superintendent

COVID-19 UPDATES

CDE Weekly COVID-19 Update 3-27-20

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b3Zgb14QG9gXXc1zlu9TmMSvPqPe5MwR/view?usp=sharing>

Notification Letter sent to Staff and Families on 3-28-20

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HhY9Jl3e-m_X2ybU5sOcDgalDMI4U-NX/view?usp=sharing

Email sent to Management & District Office Staff on 3-29-20

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MSKzQHP_VxSCri4xmyHkGaGaf2DjQ7EI/view?usp=sharing

Free breakfast & lunch program update | Email sent to parents on 3-31-20

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1perOirzA16npA1s8cD9GlqiSsh5VTIXA/view?usp=sharing>

Legislative Update - Outreach to Legislators is crucial

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bPCCgdXPtZ2zmFz9WgCzPZOsnstsaCRGA/view?usp=sharing>

Legislative Letter to Governor Newsom 3-30-20

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1A5O-ebyrMKvkMM59Zr7lJKuZgl2XtNsE/view?usp=sharing>

State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond's letter to superintendents dated 3-31-20 below indicating that it appears California may not be able to reopen public schools this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, and providing guidance to continue our efforts to provide distance learning programs to our students.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wymBMwSneBAI7o7mUp7_oUGo8sljvSWI/view?usp=sharing

State Superintendent Thurmond Announces COVID-19 Response Funding Available to School Districts

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BKpeGHJ_XjNe5FWP4THwKEsSDI6q1Joi/view?usp=sharing

Letter to Parents on 4-1-20 | COVID-19, School Closures & Distance Learning Update/Actualización Acerca de Cierres Escolares y Aprendizaje a Distancia

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZbirCemIkOkUkWrHIKl_6Asyg8XUNx5hk/view?usp=sharing

DWK Impact of COVID-19: Revised Orders Require Posting of Social Distancing Protocols and Other Actions Affecting Sites

https://www.dwkesq.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2020_BPC_RevisedOrdersRequireProtocolsOtherActions_040120COVID19.pdf

SDCOE guidance below regarding the wearing of cloth face masks, particularly for CNS staff serving meals.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/11zPJK3Qv3dZqp3In1jUn5orj2Scx_sR6/view?usp=sharing

COVID-19 STATE ORDERS & RESOURCES

CAL Matters: With coronavirus, California's economy is in uncharted territory

<https://calmatters.org/health/coronavirus/2020/03/california-coronavirus-economy-recession/>

COVID-19 RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_LOHrr5Xo4wvK2ntpNeDZJG0YDgBy9-c/view?usp=sharing

- How to wash your hands correctly
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ULLbw1MEaOE&feature=youtu.be>
- County Public Health Lab Now Able to Test for New Coronavirus
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-g-rHRnvlXg&feature=youtu.be>
- COVID-19 Be Prepared
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZwFV1hRpmE&feature=youtu.be>

BOARD PRESIDENT HUMBERTO GURMILAN ELECTED TO THE CSBA REGION 17 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY!!!

CONGRATULATIONS Board President Gurmilan on your nomination to Region 17's CSBA Delegation!!!! What an incredible win for you as our Board President and for our entire district!!! We are so very excited for you and grateful to you for your leadership now at a countywide level!!!

CSBA Region 17 announced, "Below are the newly and re-elected Delegates for Region 17. Congratulations to returning Delegate Tamara Otero (Cajon Valley) and newly elected Delegate Humberto Gurmilan (San Ysidro)."

Region 17 Delegates - with term thru 2022:

Barbara Avalos (National)

Brian Clapper (National)

Eleanor Evans (Oceanside)

Humberto Gurmilan (San Ysidro)

Claudine Jones (Carlsbad)
Tamara Otero (Cajon Valley)
Elva Salinas (Grossmont Union)
Marla Strich (Encinitas)
Cipriano Vargas (Vista)

Delegate Assembly Roster with Terms (Updated 4/1/2020)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wsPJ8P7RSXbl_N_QRuwfHi4SNdeqdvAV/view?usp=sharing

SPRING VACATION: March 30 through April 6th

Spring vacation is scheduled from Monday, March 30th through Monday, April 6th for our students. Also, Monday, March 30th and Tuesday, March 31st are holidays wherein no employees report work. Depending on their work schedules several employees will not work the week of spring break.

Teachers return to working remotely post spring break on Monday, April 6th. Students resume instruction after spring break beginning on Tuesday, April 7th. Phase II of our district's Distance Learning Program will include all students districtwide receiving in the mail two weeks of study packets for the weeks of April 7th and April 13th. These study packets will also be posted on our district's website by grade level.

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING VIA VIRTUAL MEETING: Thurs., April 16th @ 5pm -
*Change of Location - Virtual Zoom Board Meeting***

On Thursday, April 16th beginning at 5:00 p.m. there will be a Regular Board Meeting. Beginning in April our district's board meetings will be held virtually in order to adhere to the social distancing regulations embedded within Governor Gavin Newsom's Stay-At-Home Executive Order which is in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

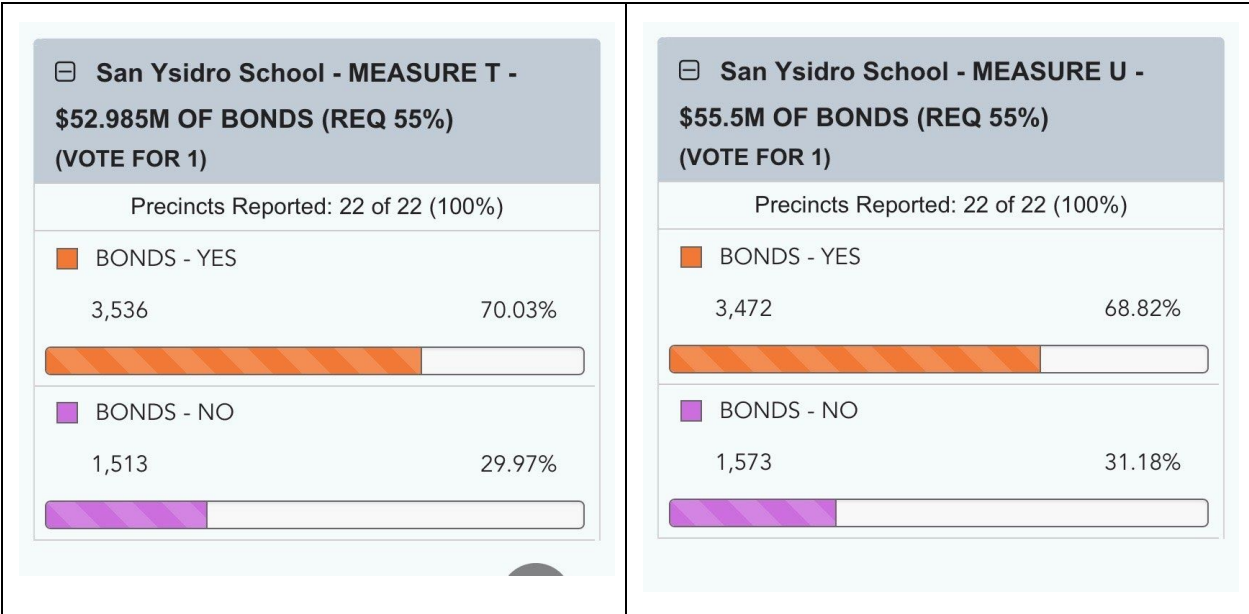
The district has determined the need to utilize Zoom for our board meetings.

Additionally, the email for public comment during board meetings is:

publiccomment@sysdschools.org. Public comments should be submitted via email 24 hours prior to the board meetings.

**GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS: Measures T & U Official Ballot Count Finalized -
We WON!!!**

The official final count of the ballots for Measures T and U were completed on April 2nd and both general obligation bond measures passed!!! A very special thank you to our Board Members for their remarkable leadership with regards to Measures T and U! We also sincerely thank our community, families & staff for their tremendous support of our students and their educational success! Please see the final election results below.



Beginning on April 16th at the regularly scheduled board meeting the district will begin to take steps to issue the first set of GO Bonds for Measures T & U. This will include the adoption of several Board Resolutions on topics such as debt policy, disclosure policy, certification of the election results, appointment of a Bond Oversight Committee for both Measures T and U, and more.

Note, the district is also in the process of developing a long range master facilities plan to help prioritize projects.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

DISTANCE LEARNING PLAN: 3 PHASES - Letter to Families #2

Dear San Ysidro School District Students & Families,

As our world continues to navigate this unprecedented health crisis, we sincerely hope your families are safe and healthy. Due to the evolving coronavirus pandemic our schools will remain closed beyond spring break. At this time the rapidly increasing rate of transmission of COVID-19 throughout California is such that our district and the county health department are unable to determine when we will be able to reopen our schools. It is likely that our schools will remain closed at least through the end of April, and possibly beyond.

Given the extension of school closures, we would like to provide you with an update regarding distance learning in San Ysidro School District. Our district is working to establish a comprehensive **Distance Learning Plan** that meets the needs of all students. We plan to deploy in the following 3 phases:

DISTANCE LEARNING PHASE	TYPE OF LEARNING	DATE	LEARNING MEDIUM
Phase I	Online Resources	Beginning March 18th	District Website
Phase II	Weekly Study Packets	Beginning the week of April 7th	District Website & Mailed Home
Phase III	Weekly Study Packets & Online Learning Portal	Beginning April 20th	District Website/Google Classroom <i>Mailed Home by Parent Request</i>

Phase I of our distance learning plan was deployed the first week of school closures and includes learning opportunities for students that are posted on our district’s website. All students have access to log into their grade level specific core and supplemental curriculum using the single sign on **CLEVER** login portal.

Phase II of our distance learning plan will begin the week of Tuesday, April 7th. Our instructional model for TK-8 will utilize the core and supplementary instructional materials for English Language Arts and Mathematics. The district has developed *Weekly Study Packets* for the weeks of April 7th and April 13th. These activities will be posted on the district’s website and will also be mailed to families the week of April 7th for students to work on.

During the months of April and May the district will allow students primarily in the middle schools and upper grades to borrow Chromebooks for use at home. Our district’s *Chromebooks at Home Program* will allow students who do not have computers at home access to learn within a technology based instructional environment.

Phase III of our distance learning plan begins on Monday, April 20th. During Phase III the *Weekly Study Packets* will continue and will be posted both on the district’s website and on a classroom portal. Additionally, teachers may provide students with additional instructional guidance using Google Classroom and the communication tool, Google Meet/Hangout.

At this time distance learning student work, such as, but not limited to the *Weekly Study Packets* will be utilized to support academic growth and monitor student progress. It is strongly recommended that students engage in these learning opportunities so as to foster their continued academic progress. On April 1st new guidelines from the California Department of Education regarding graduation and grading were released. The district will analyze these new guidelines as we move forward with distance learning.

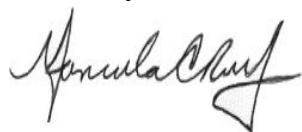
In addition, the California Department of Education has canceled statewide assessments during the COVID-19 school closures. State assessments that have officially been canceled this school year are:

1. All CAASPP Testing which includes:
 - a. SBAC Summative English Language Arts (ELA)
 - b. SBAC Summative Math
 - c. California Science Test (CAST)
 - d. California Alternative Assessment (CAA)
2. Summative English Learner Proficiency Assessments for California(ELPAC)

Finally, we want to thank you for your continued cooperation and support as we make our way through this unprecedented situation. Our District remains in regular contact with local, state, and federal officials and will continue to share updates as they become available.

Keep your family and loved ones healthy and safe. We will get through this together.

Sincerely,



PRINCIPAL & TEACHER LETTER REGARDING RETURN TO WORK POST SPRING BREAK

Dear San Ysidro School District Teachers and Administrators,

As our world continues to navigate this unprecedented health crisis, we sincerely hope your families are safe and healthy. Due to the evolving coronavirus pandemic our schools will remain closed beyond spring break. At this time the rapidly increasing rate of transmission of COVID-19 throughout California is such that our district's physical schools may remain closed until the end of the school year. Thus, our district has begun to implement a Distance Learning Plan with Phase II being released next week, after spring break comes to a close.

Given the extension of school closures, we would like to provide you with an update regarding distance learning in San Ysidro School District. Our district is working to establish a comprehensive **Distance Learning Plan** that meets the needs of all students. We plan to deploy in the following 3 phases:

DISTANCE LEARNING PHASE	TYPE OF LEARNING	DATE	LEARNING MEDIUM
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Phase III	Weekly Study Packets & Online Learning Portal	Beginning April 20th	District Website/Google Classroom <i>Mailed Home by Parent Request</i>
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Phase I of our distance learning plan was deployed the first week of school closures in March and includes learning opportunities for students that are posted on our district's website. All students have access to log into their grade level specific core and supplemental curriculum using the single sign on **CLEVER** login portal.

Phase II of our distance learning plan will begin the week of Tuesday, April 7th. Our instructional model for TK-8 will utilize the core and supplemental instructional materials for English Language Arts and Mathematics. The district has developed *Weekly Study Packets* for the weeks of April 7th and April 13th. These activities will be posted on the district's website and will also be mailed to families the week of April 7th for students to work on.

During the months of April and May the district will allow students primarily in the middle schools and upper grades to borrow Chromebooks for use at home. Our district's *Chromebooks @ Home Program* will allow students who do not have computers at home access to learn within a technology based instructional environment.

As a reminder, Monday, April 6 is a teacher individual planning day. From April 7-10 we ask that teachers please contact each of their student's families and ask the following survey questions:

- How are you doing?*
- Do they have internet?*
- Do they have a computer?*
- Do they need printed paper study packets or not?*
- Confirm contact info (email, phone, address)?*

The following link provides a worksheet where you can take notes and record your students' answers:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1iwjM6MIBeo92335wfWvyetQNBi6lkZum/edit>.

Teachers, please Google share your class survey responses with the following: Principal, School Secretary, Manuela Colom, Cynthia Gonzalez, & Todd Lewis.

Phase III of our distance learning plan begins on Monday, April 20th. During Phase III the *Weekly Study Packets* will continue and will be posted both on the district's website and on a classroom portal. Teachers will be asked to post the weekly Study Packets on their individual Google Classroom portals beginning the week of April 20th. The district will print Study Packets for families who need them. We ask that all teachers inform their principals each week how many Study Packets they need printed and for which students. Additionally, teachers may provide students with non Study Packet instructional guidance using Google Classroom and the communication tool, Google

Meet/Hangout. Note, the district will create a rotating schedule of which schools will be responsible each week to create the districtwide grade level Study Packets.

During Phase II distance learning student work, such as, but not limited to the *Weekly Study Packets* will be utilized to support academic growth and monitor student progress. It is strongly recommended that students engage in these learning opportunities so as to foster their continued academic progress. On April 1st new guidelines from the California Department of Education regarding graduation and grading were released. The district will analyze these new CDE grading and graduation guidelines as we move forward with Phase III of our Distance Learning Plan. Please stay posted for more information on this matter.

The district plans to deploy **Google Classroom & Google Meet/Hangout** at all grades districtwide for our Distance Learning Program Phase III beginning on April 20th. Below is a professional development training schedule for Google Classroom.

Professional Development	Who?	When?
Individual Teacher Planning Day	Teachers	April 6, 2020 All Day
Google Classroom Trainer of Trainers	Principals, Director Ed Services Resource Teachers Director Special Ed Program and Pupil Services Specialist Lead Psychologists Executive Director Curriculum, Instruction	April 6, 2020 9:00am-11:00am
Google Classroom Teacher Training by Principals	Teachers	April 8, 2020 9:00am-11:00am
Schools Open to Staff to Pick Up Materials & Supplies	Teachers, staff	Beginning Week of April 13, 2020 <i>(Schools are being disinfected & cleaned the week of April 6)</i>

At this time the district is working on a **Chromebooks @ Home Program** deployment plan. The goal is to provide all students in grades 5th through 8th with Chromebooks. We will keep you posted.

In addition, the California Department of Education has canceled statewide assessments during the COVID-19 school closures. State assessments that have officially been canceled this school year are:

1. All CAASPP Testing which includes:
 - a. SBAC Summative English Language Arts (ELA)
 - b. SBAC Summative Math
 - c. California Science Test (CAST)
 - d. California Alternative Assessment (CAA)

2. Summative English Learner Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC)

Finally, we want to thank you for your tremendous support as we make our way through this unprecedented situation. Our District remains in regular contact with local, state, and federal officials and will continue to share updates as they become available.

Keep your family and loved ones healthy and safe. We will get through this together.

Sincerely,



Manuela Colom
Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Innovation

DISTANCE LEARNING PHASE II: STUDY PACKETS

Phase II of our distance learning plan will begin the week of Tuesday, April 7th. The district has developed *Weekly Study Packets* for the weeks of April 7th and April 13th. These independent study packets will be mailed home to all students the week of April 7th. The packets will include work for English Language Arts (ELA), English Language Development (ELD), and Math. These packets will also be posted on the district website.

HUMAN RESOURCES

SPRING BREAK STAFF MEMBER HEROES

During this time of anxiety and uncertainty, many SYSD heroes have emerged to support our district and our community! Our CNS department director, Evelyn Zarzosa and our leads have organized and delivered food distribution to over 1,000 families at La Mirada. Campus security have been assisting the CNS staff while monitoring our schools. The maintenance, grounds departments and leads have worked with Mr. Azevedo to ensure the entire district office has been disinfected. These efforts from our heroes are so appreciated!

BUSINESS SERVICES

CONTINUED MEAL SERVICE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR:

Free breakfast & lunch will be distributed **one day** only at **one location only** each week. The schedule will be as follows:

Location: La Mirada Elementary only
Date: Wednesdays, April 8th - June 3rd
Time: 11:30 am to 1:00 pm or **until we run out of meals**

Each child will be able to pick up breakfast and lunch for multiple days. **Children are now not required to be present to pick up their meals.** We're encouraging parents to only pick up meal servings once and for just their child(ren) Meals will be served in a "Grab and Go" style.

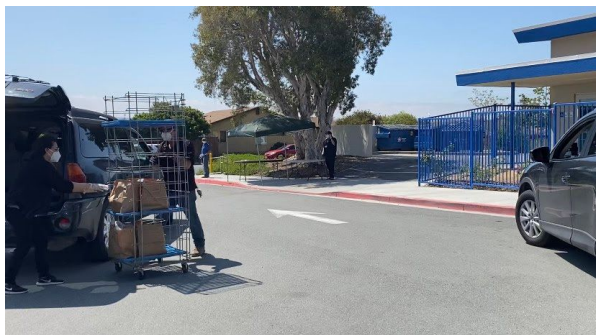
SERVICIO DE COMIDAS GRATIS DEL DISTRITO ESCOLAR DE SAN YSIDRO PARA EL RESTO DEL AÑO ESCOLAR:

El desayuno y almuerzo gratis se distribuirán **un solo día** en **un solo lugar** cada semana. Se distribuirán comidas para varios días cada día. El horario será el siguiente:

Ubicación: La Mirada Elementary, 222 Avenida de la Madrid, San Ysidro
Fecha: Miércoles, del 8 de abril al 3 de junio
Hora: 11:30 a.m. a 1:00 p.m. o **hasta que se acaben las comidas**

Las comidas para cada niño, de 1 a 18 años, incluirán desayuno y almuerzo por varios días. **Ahora no se requiere que los niños estén presentes para recoger sus comidas.** Para poder servir a todos los niños en nuestro distrito que necesitan comidas, favor de solo recoger comidas una vez a la semana y solo para sus hijos. Las comidas se servirán al estilo "Grab and Go", donde la persona recoge los alimentos y se retira.

Photos from April 1st Grab & Go Free Breakfast & Lunch



MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS UPDATE

The maintenance and operations team began disinfecting the district office and school sites this week. We sincerely thank them for their heroic efforts to ensure the safety and health of our facilities.



NEWS & COMMUNITY RELATIONS

MEDIA UPDATE

Please click on the links to view articles related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19):

- Education Week Teacher: What our children need most from us right now
 - <https://www.edweek.org/tm/articles/2020/03/24/what-our-children-need-most-from-us.html?r=2006407917&cmp=eml-enl-tu-news1-rm&M=59202151&U=&UID=20a7249df1fe1ae69282e019caab5bba&mkey=1285F466-DD10-455B-A21D-C10E241149DC&intc=eml-contshr-shr-desk>
- Cal Matters: Is CA bending the curve enough?
 - <https://calmatters.org/newsletter/is-ca-bending-the-curve-enough/>
- USA Today: Coronavirus for kids without internet: Quarantined worksheets, learning in parking lots
 - <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/education/2020/04/01/coronavirus-internet-speed-broadband-and-online-learning-school-closures/5091051002/>

NEW & RECENT MEDIA ARTICLES ON SYSD

- Grab-n-go meals, TV education: How schools tackled Day 1 of coronavirus closures
 - <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/education/story/2020-03-16/grab-n-go-meals-how-schools-are-dealing-with-coronavirus-closure>