



District Highlights

Superintendent - Gina A. Potter, Ed.D.

Week of July 24, 2020

SUPERINTENDENT

SYSD OPENS FALL WITH A DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY

In light of California's current coronavirus data, Governor Newsom issued a new order on July 17th indicating that schools in California residing within counties on the state's monitoring list would be required to open schools this fall with a distance learning instructional model only. Given that San Diego county is currently one of over 30 counties on the state's monitoring list **our school district will open this fall with a Distance Learning Academy beginning on Monday, August 17th.**

The Governor has determined that schools may reopen for in person instruction after the county they reside within have been removed from the state's monitoring list for 14 consecutive days. Our schools will provide the Distance Learning Academy for all students through the end of September 2020 then we will reassess if state and county health officials have determined it is safe for our schools to reopen and provide a second instructional model: Blended Learning Program (2 days at school; 3 days online).

Note, it is possible for our district to remain in a Distance Learning Academy only for additional months beyond September depending on COVID data.

Below is a link to the superintendent's detailed letter dated July 20th which includes an update regarding the plans the district is working on to comply with state and county health guidance for the reopening of our schools, if this becomes a viable option in the future.

<https://www.sysdschools.org/Page/1092>

COVID 19-UPDATES, SCHOOLS REOPENING INFORMATION & RESOURCES

County Infographic Reopening Schools Big Four (Dated 7-1-20)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1J2Qdld4RYdcccKG8qR5P6kNnsCWxlVWFV/view?usp=sharing>

SDCOE - K-12 Schools | COVID-19 Resources (Dated July 10, 2020)

https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/CASAND/2020/07/10/file_attachments/1493038/K-12%20Resource%20Email%207_10_2020.pdf

San Ysidro Chamber of Commerce (SYCC) - Border Restrictions and Impact on Border Commerce (Dated 7-10-20)

Please see the attached presentation by the San Ysidro Chamber of Commerce which indicates the devastating economic impact COVID-19 has had on San Ysidro. Note, 577 of 725 businesses in San Ysidro closed; 80% of businesses closed by end of March; 4,600/6039 employees work for closed businesses; businesses open are running at an 85%-90% sales loss.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/19jAmytCKmALAHJ1ZV-_he3B7JMPk4My/view?usp=sharing

EdSource: In new guidance, Gov. Newsom expected to impose strict regulations for school opening and closing (Dated 7-17-20)

<https://edsources.org/2020/as-pandemic-spreads-gov-newsom-expected-to-impose-stricter-regulations-for-school-opening-and-closing/636475>

State Superintendent Tony Thurmond Issues Statement in Response to Governor's Updated School Guidance (Dated 7-17-20)

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr20/yr20rel59.asp>

San Diego Housing Commission/City of San Diego COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program

- COVID-19 RAP Flyer - English
 - <https://covidapplication.sdhc.org/SDHCFiles/COVID-19%20ERAP%20Flyer-ENG.pdf>
- COVID-19 RAP Flyer - Spanish
 - <https://covidapplication.sdhc.org/SDHCFiles/COVID-19%20ERAP%20Flyer-SPAN.pdf>

County - K-12 - COVID-19 Resources (Dated 7-24-20)

https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/CASAND/2020/07/24/file_attachments/1503353/K-12%20Resource%20Email%207_24_2020.pdf

LEGISLATION INFORMATION & UPDATES

U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein response below to our district's letter requesting additional federal stimulus funding for education (Dated 7-9-20)

Dianne Feinstein

United States Senator for California

Dear Gina:

Thank you for writing to express your support for public education funding during the coronavirus pandemic. I appreciate hearing from you, and I welcome the opportunity to respond.

Like you, I am concerned about the unprecedented disruption the coronavirus is having on our education systems. Beyond providing the resources needed to learn, many schools are playing a critical role in meeting the basic needs of struggling students by providing meals, safe shelter, and other vital resources. I believe Congress should provide additional resources to support schools as they address new learning barriers for students and unique challenges for educators.

That is why I supported the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act* (Public Law 116-136), which the President signed into law on March 27, 2020. The CARES Act provides \$30.9 billion in funding to states, local school districts, and institutions of higher education to help schools, students, teachers, and families with immediate needs related to coronavirus. More information on the education provisions in the CARES Act can be found here: <https://sen.gov/Q751>.

In addition, I was proud to cosponsor the "State and Municipal Assistance for Recovery and Transition Act" (S. 3752), which was introduced by Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ) on May 18, 2020. This bill would provide \$500 billion in federal aid to states and localities impacted by the coronavirus pandemic and help prevent cuts to public education due to state and local budget shortfalls. S. 3752 currently awaits consideration by the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, of which I am not a member. You can read my full statement on this bill here: <https://sen.gov/W2XW>.

You may also be pleased to know that I joined my Senate colleagues in sending three letters to Senate leadership requesting that future coronavirus response legislation provide \$175 billion in federal relief for K-12 schools, \$11.9 billion to protect the rights of students with disabilities, and at least \$2 billion in federal funding for schools and libraries to ensure students have adequate access to the internet. You can read a copy of these letters here: <https://sen.gov/0JW5> here: <https://sen.gov/M7JQ> and here: <https://sen.gov/X6ZL>.

Please know that I will keep your thoughts in mind as I continue to work with my Senate colleagues to increase federal funding for public schools and review recommendations to provide relief for Americans suffering as a result of this pandemic.

Once again, thank you for writing. Should you have any other questions or comments, please call my Washington, D.C., office at (202) 224-3841 or visit my website at feinstein.senate.gov. You can also follow me online at [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#), and you can sign up for my email newsletter at feinstein.senate.gov/newsletter.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

SPECIAL VIRTUAL ZOOM BOARD MEETING: Tues., July 28th @ 5pm

Please save the date of Tuesday, July 28th beginning at 5:00 p.m. for a Special Board Meeting via Zoom. This board meeting will focus on two topics:

- Revised Budget Aligned w/ State Adopted Budget
- DRAFT Reopening of Schools Plan Utilizing the County of San Diego & SDCOE Template

REGULAR VIRTUAL ZOOM BOARD MEETING: Thurs., August 13th @ 5pm - Change of Location - Virtual Zoom Board Meeting

On Thursday, August 13th beginning at 5:00 p.m. there will be a Regular Board Meeting. This governing board meeting 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 email for public comment is: publiccomment@sysdschools.org. Board agendas will indicate the need for the public to submit their public comment via email at

publiccomment@syzdschools.org. There will be a 300 word limit to the public comments to align with our district's 3 minute public comment board policy.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2020-21 continues via a contactless process. This year preschool students are also enrolling via the online registration process. In order to support families with this new process, we have implemented a system of support, please see the details of this system of support by clicking the link below:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1H-fLs-LX9ZHbMBDCR_xsRv5_I5HF9GshH33HIIADFd8/edit?usp=sharing

REOPENING SCHOOLS TASK FORCE

The Reopening Task Force met on July 22, 2020 to go over the Expanded Safe Reopening Plan for K-12 Schools, and meet in subcommittees to finalize recommendations for the plan.

BUSINESS SERVICES

SEAMLESS SUMMER MEAL PROGRAM: *Began Wednesday, June 10th @ La Mirada Elementary*

The district's summer meal program begins on Wednesday, June 10th and will run through Wednesday, August 5th. 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. Please wear a face covering when picking up your meals.

Free breakfast & lunch will be available for pickup at **ONE** school location: La Mirada Elementary. A full week's worth of breakfast and lunch meals will be distributed. The schedule will be as follows:

Location: La Mirada Elementary
Date: Wednesdays, June 10th - August 5th
Time: 11:30 am to 1:00 pm or until meals run out

Total summer meals served to date: 50,400

REVISED 2020-2021 ADOPTED BUDGET

On June 29, 2020, Governor Newsom signed the State Budget which included the restoration of the LCFF revenues and increase in cash deferrals. Also, included in the 20-21 State Budget were the CARES Act federal stimulus funding allocations. The Revised 20-21 Adopted Budget was presented to the Board at a Special Board Meeting scheduled on July 28, 2020.

NEWS & COMMUNITY RELATIONS

WILLOW FOOD DISTRIBUTION

On Monday, July 13, 2020, the district hosted another successful food pantry at Willow Elementary school. We were honored by the presence of Councilmember Vivian Moreno and CEO of San Diego Food Bank, Jim Floros. Also in attendance was our district's Board Clerk Rudy Lopez. With the continued support of Casa Familiar and church 180 we distributed over 450 meal packets to all committee members in need.



FOOD PANTRY @ WILLOW ELEMENTARY

Through our partnership with Feeding San Diego, the district was able to provide 2 bags of groceries each to 230 of our families on Friday July 17th at Willow Elementary. A big "Thank You" to our community partners; Casa Familiar, Church 180 and all the volunteers for handing out grocery bags to our families. Members of our district and school staff also provided much needed help. Omar Calleros, Coordinator Full Service Community Schools helped reestablish our relationship with Feeding San Diego for the Willow Food Pantry, held every 3rd Friday of the month.



MEDIA UPDATE

Please click on the links to view articles:

- NBC 7 News: NBC news video that references our school district with regards to distance learning and the impact on families and students (Dated 7-18-20)
 - <https://www.nbcsandiego.com/videos/digital-divide-compounds-distance-learning-challenges/2367793/>
 -
- Fox 5: Sweetwater school district details reopening plan
 - <https://fox5sandiego.com/news/local-news/sweetwater-school-district-details-reopening-plan/>