



District Highlights

January 8, 2021



SUPERINTENDENT

Gina Potter, Ed.D.

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT REGARDING VIOLENCE IN OUR NATION'S CAPITOL IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Welcome back and happy new year! I hope everyone safely enjoyed their holidays with close family and loved ones.

I would like to take a moment to reflect on the violence that occurred in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, January 6th. While peaceful protest is a protected right, the disruptive and volatile events that took place have left many of us wondering what this means and what impact it will have on America and our community? The physical assault, chaos, tragic loss of life that took place in our nation's Capitol threatened the very foundation of our Democracy. This was not representative of the America we live in and love.

Our country now tasks our national leaders to immediately restore peace and confidence in our great nation. We are THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and we are a caring, respectful and resilient people! We live in this great country to provide a better life for our families and to ensure that our children receive the best education possible, and have the opportunity to succeed in life. This alone will help our nation heal and we, in our community, will continue to focus on what's important; family and loved ones.

As parents, families and educators, we bear the responsibility to protect and help our students through crisis in an objective manner that respects all perspectives. Our district Resolution 19/20-0018 regarding Civic Learning allows our schools to serve as a critical place for students to develop the civic knowledge, skills and values needed to effectively participate in our democracy. Below are some resources that you may utilize at your discretion to help your child/student process our recent national unrest.

- [PBS classroom resource: Three ways to teach the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol](#)
- [ADL Discussing Political Violence and Extremism with Young People](#)
- [ADL 7 Ideas for Teaching about the Presidential Inauguration](#)
- [PBS How to engage students in civil discourse following events at the U.S. Capitol](#)
- [Our children are watching](#) blog by Dr. Fabiola Bagula
- [Resources for Teachers on the Days After the Attack on the U.S. Capitol](#) from Beyond the Stoplight
- [Facing History and Ourselves: Responding to the Insurrection at the U.S. Capitol](#)
- [Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Parents and Teachers](#) from the National Association of School Psychologists
- [NEA: Talking to Kids About the Attack on the Capitol](#)
- [Trump Supporters Break Into US Capitol, Halting Congress](#) from News for Kids

- [Ways to Teach About Today's Insurrection](#) blog by Larry Ferlazzo

We must not lose hope that our nation will recover, move forward TOGETHER, and reestablish our country as the worldwide gatekeeper of peace.

SUNSET HOLIDAY VIDEOS

Students and staff from Sunset Elementary produced and sent out a heartwarming holiday message to all parents, staff and community.

Please click on the link to watch the Sunset Holiday Videos:

- Video #1: Sunset Elementary Holiday Program 2020
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZwTuwAq3Xg>
- Video #2: Sunset Christmas 2020 Mrs Hernandez 1
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-E7meXvTOHg>

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Fri. Jan. 15th	Hearts & Hands Food Distribution 8:00 am - 11:00 am	Plaza Las Americas 4061 Camino de La Plaza Tommy Hilfiger San Ysidro, CA 92173
Mon. Jan. 18th	Martin Luther King Holiday NO SCHOOL All Schools & District Office Closed	All Schools & District Office NO SCHOOL
Tues. Jan. 19th	Casa Familiar Food Distribution 11:00 am - 1:00 pm	Old K-Mart Parking Lot 4330 Camino de la Plaza San Ysidro, A 92173

REGULAR VIRTUAL ZOOM BOARD MEETING: Thurs, January 21st @ 5pm - *Change of Location - Virtual Zoom Board Meeting*

On Thursday, January 21st beginning at 5:00 p.m. there will be a board meeting. This governing board meeting will be held virtually.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP, PUPIL SERVICES AND SAFETY

GOVERNOR'S SAFE SCHOOLS FOR ALL PLAN

Recently, Governor Newsom pledged to advance, with approval by the California State

Legislature, California's Safe Schools for All Plan. The plan is built on four essential pillars: Funding, Safety and Mitigation, Oversight and Assistance, Transparency and Accountability. The link to summarize the plan is here: [Summary: California's Safe Schools for All Plan](#)

Utilizing the four pillars, this plan would prioritize opening schools for grades TK-2 “as early as” Feb. 15th and progress to opening schools for grades 3-6 “as soon as” March 15th. School districts will be responsible for updating the safety plan for reopening schools which is based on the four pillars. A key data point to re-open schools has now been set at a case rate of less than 28 per 100,000 for a county. At this time San Diego county’s COVID case rate is above the 28 per 100,000 requirement embedded within California’s new plan for reopening schools. **Thus, elementary schools not yet open in our county will need to wait until the COVID case rate in San Diego drops below 28 per 100,000 to open. San Ysidro School District will most likely open schools after the state’s Feb. 15th beginning target date due to the current COVID surge we are experiencing in southern California.**

VACCINATE ALL 58

Recently the new initiative Vaccinate All 58 was released by California. The primary goal of Vaccinate All 58 is to successfully administer the COVID-19 vaccine to everyone in all of California’s 58 counties by summer 2021. Distribution of vaccinations in San Diego county have begun for individuals falling within Phase 1A which primarily includes healthcare personnel and long-term care facility staff and residents.

On January 13th, the county opened a Vaccine Superstation at Petco Park. Please click on this link for more information:

https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/community_epidemiology/dc/2019-nCoV/vaccines/vax-schedule-appointment.html

Our district nurse and school health clerks fall within Phase1A and are now eligible to make an appointment for the COVID vaccine.

Essential workers within education are prioritized in the multi-tiered COVID vaccine distribution grid within Phase 1B. This will expedite the vaccination delivery to school employees which in turn will assist in the opening of our schools. Vaccination is one of the four pillars presented in Governor Newsom’s California’s Safe Schools for All Plan. The following link is a summary of the new initiative for vaccine distribution in California: <https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/>.

Click on this link for San Diego County vaccine information: [County Vaccine Link](#)

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY - COVID-19 EDUCATION SECTOR: GOOD NEWS LETTER - SPOTLIGHT ON SCHOOLS

“The San Ysidro Women’s Club hosted their 19th Annual “Teddy Bears For Kids” drive-thru event at Willow Elementary and San Ysidro Middle School! There were many children’s smiles and happy faces inside the hundreds of cars that participated in the event! Thank you to the many volunteers who helped make this event a phenomenal success! Among the volunteers were Board President Humberto Gurmilan, Board Clerk Rudy Lopez, City Council Member Vivian Moreno and Superintendent Gina Potter!”

https://drive.google.com/file/d/15yXP4t_DGfj9LbfgzK4Jmpl1p-h6x9aE/view?usp=sharing

STAFF COVID-19 TESTING COVID-19 TESTING FOR ALL SCHOOL STAFF

Our district has implemented COVID safety procedures that have been effective within our schools, facilities and our YMCA program. We encourage staff and families to practice COVID safety measures at all times outside of the workplace and schools, which include but are not limited to: face coverings, social distancing, hand washing, and adherence to state and county health guidance regarding gathering restrictions.

Thanks to the County of San Diego and San Diego County Office of Education, our district staff is able to be tested for COVID-19 safely, and at no cost. As of October 1st, testing sites were opened throughout the county. These sites aim to produce results sooner than 48 hours after an individual is tested. This is helpful as it supports our number one priority of keeping all SYSD schools and facilities safe.

All district employees working onsite shall test for COVID-19 every other month. All school districts have access to the free County of San Diego COVID testing locations. [County's public testing sites](#)

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

As we continue to ensure access for all of our students and teachers in the digital platform, please see the chart below that outlines the current status of technology that has been provided as well as the next steps that will help to ensure that students and staff will not have a gap in their access to technology should an issue arise.

Hotspots for internet accessibility continue to be available for students and staff for service until June 2021. If you need an internet hotspot please notify your school principal or supervisor.

Schools are beginning to plan a drive-through distribution date/s to provide headphones to students who would like to use them for their distance learning program. Stay posted for more information.

Technology	Status	Next Steps
Student Chromebooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Students have Chromebooks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each school has 50-70 Chromebook supply for new students or as replacements
Staff Laptops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers who requested were provided with a laptop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70 new laptops are being processed to complete list with Instructional Aides and other Staff
Hot Spots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students and Teachers requesting Hot Spots have them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites have supply of Hot Spots to support additional requests
Headphones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headsets have arrived for 4 sites and are awaiting distribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expecting additional headset to cover all students
Mice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determining need at each site versus available supply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Site Inventory Quote from Vendor to create order

VIRTUAL TUTORING PROGRAM

The district has launched the Virtual Tutoring Program. Please click on the link to view virtual tutoring program flyer:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13yo9jZuIMu7kJ8zoDxZJnRg8KXZ3Ke2V/view?usp=sharing>.

Parents can click on the registration link to sign up for the virtual tutoring program. Teachers may also work with their principals to identify students who may benefit from virtual tutoring. Coordinator of Community Schools and After School Programs, Omar Calleros, has designated 5 tutors for each elementary school K-2, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th grades. Each tutor will host 3 tutoring sessions per day, each session for 1 hour.

BUSINESS SERVICES

FREE MEAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR ALL CHILDREN 1 TO 18 YEARS OLD/NUEVO HORARIO DEL PROGRAMA DE COMIDAS GRATIS PARA TODOS LOS NIÑOS DE 1 A 18 AÑOS

The free meal service program will resume on Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

Day/Día: Wednesdays/*miércoles*

Schools/Escuelas: La Mirada & Willow Elementary

Time/horario: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

School/Escuela: San Ysidro Middle School
Time/horario: 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE LONG RANGE MASTER FACILITY PLAN (LRMFP)

The next Virtual Town Hall Meeting for the development of the Long Range Master Facility Plan will be held on January 26, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. The focus of this Town Hall Meeting will be about the Beyer location.

- English Flyer:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UsEnIUQZ0M87gYsNCRXgDirNatKF7SZF/view?usp=sharing>
- Spanish Flyer:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NC9qXGw-SDphSaL.GJzsl-6_1rtjqgqpb/view?usp=sharing

NEW COVID RELIEF FEDERAL STIMULUS FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS

The federal government has authorized new COVID federal stimulus funding to support schools nationwide to implement safety guidelines and reopen schools. California is estimated to receive approximately \$6.8 billion of the \$54.9 billion (ESSER #2) in COVID-19 relief funding for K-12 schools.

Allowable expenditures for this federal stimulus funding are detailed on the California Department of Education website:

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/cr/caresact.asp#use>

Allowable uses for this round of ESSER funding includes the following:

1. School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs
2. Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and non-mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacements

NEWS & COMMUNITY RELATIONS

COVID COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Free COVID-19 Testing Information

Información sobre prueba gratis para COVID-19

https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/progr_ams/phs/community_epidemiology/dc/2019-nCoV/testing.html

Vaccination Super Station SD

https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/progr_ams/phs/community_epidemiology/dc/2019-nCoV/vaccines/COVID-19-VaxEvents.html

San Diego County Vaccine Information

https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/community_epidemiology/dc/2019-nCoV/vaccines.html

Vaccinate All 58

State Vaccine Website:

- **English** <https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/>
- **Spanish**
<https://covid19.ca.gov/es/vaccines/>

County of San Diego: COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Website:

<https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/sdhcd/community-development/COVID-19-Emergency-Rental-Assistance-Program.html>

Condado de San Diego: Programa de Asistencia de Alquiler de Emergencia de COVID-19

- **English Flyer**
<https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/sdhcd/graphics/Info-Flyer-ERAP-5-English.pdf>
- **Spanish Flyer**
<https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/sdhcd/graphics/Info-Flyer-ERAP-5-Spanish.pdf>

State of California - Health and Human Services Agency California Department of Public Health (Dated 12-3-20)

Website:

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/12.3.20-Stay-at-Home-Order-ICU-Scenario.pdf>

County of San Diego: Temporary Lodging Program

English and Spanish Flyer:

[https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/2020.09.29_FINAL%20\(Updated\)-Temporary%20Lodging%20Flyer.pdf](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/2020.09.29_FINAL%20(Updated)-Temporary%20Lodging%20Flyer.pdf)

Condado de San Diego: Programa de Alojamiento Temporal

San Diego Hunger Coalition: Food Assistance Resources - Fall 2020

English Flyer:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/55130907e4b018f9300f3e63/t/5fcec4801eaf4591e16de83/1607388149116/General+food+assistance+Winter+2020+English.pdf>

Recursos de asistencia alimentaria - otoño 2020

Spanish Flyer:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/55130907e4b018f9300f3e63t/5fc82919d32d012678ef291e/1606953243601/General+food+assistance+Winter+2020+Espaol.pdf>

Child Abuse Hotline

Línea Directa Para la Prevención de Abuso Infantil

For more information, or to report suspected child abuse, call 858-560-2191.

Within the State of California you may call toll free 1(800) 344-6000.

Please click on the link to access the County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency Child Abuse Hotline website: https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/cs/child_welfare_services/child_abuse_hotline.html

Suicide Hotline

Línea Directa Para la Prevención del Suicidio

“The Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals.” The phone number is 1 (800) 273-8255.

Please click on the link to access the website: <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

CASA FAMILIAR: FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION/DISPENSA DE COMIDA GRATUITA

Days and times for the Casa Familiar Free Food Distributions can be found in the chart below:

Day/Date	Time	Location
Tuesday, January 19th, 2021	11:00 AM	Old K-Mart Parking Lot 4330 Camino de la Plaza San Ysidro, A 92173

Please click on the link to view the Casa Familiar Flyers:

- Free Food Distribution - English Flyer
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tPCLXdX2WASUX3FjRila17E8nuJa-HK/view?usp=sharing>
- Distribución de Alimentos Gratis - Spanish Flyer
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qUGGlb3gjsCXzKGoUJZG3iCA7tEeuW0f/view?usp=sharing>