Dear SYSD Families,

May this message bring glimmers of hope to you and your families as notable progress to successfully combat the COVID pandemic have been made by the collective efforts of our country, state, county and community within the last few months.

On March 11th, the SYSD Governing Board authorized the district to continue the Distance Learning Program and to begin a Hybrid Learning Program after spring break. The Hybrid Learning Program will begin the week of April 12th and will offer either 1 day per week or 2 days per week of in person instruction, depending on staffing availability. A survey will be emailed on Friday, March 19th so families can learn more about the Hybrid Learning Program and choose if they would like their child to participate in the Distance Learning Academy or the Hybrid Learning Program for the last few months of school.

The week of April 5th all students will remain in the Distance Learning Academy. During this week students will be provided with new daily schedules which will begin the week of April 12th. Also the week of April 5th, students will be trained virtually on the school's COVID safety procedures, and the district will offer a Virtual Parent School Reopening Telebriefing on April 8th.

Safety is our district's top priority. The district's <u>COVID Safety Plan</u> is aligned with the California Department of Public Health guidelines for school COVID safety procedures. Thankfully, the county's COVID case rate has dropped to 6.8/100,000 (Feb 28-March 6) and our district zip code case rates have fallen to 9/100,000 in 92173 and 10.2/100,000 in 92154, for the period of February 21st-27th. San Diego County moved to the Red Tier on March 17th which allows for all schools to reopen. Our district is grateful that all of our educators will have had the opportunity to schedule both COVID vaccine appointments by about April 2nd, if desired.

I am proud of our students for their resilience, perseverance, and strength during this difficult school year. Our district extends a sincere, heartfelt "thank you" to our families for the tremendous support and sacrifices you have made to ensure the children of our community are cared for and continue to learn despite the challenges this year has brought. Together our district will continue to survive the pandemic and we will emerge stronger as a community.

With Hope & Gratitude,

Gina Potter, Ed.D.

Superintendent