



LAKE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

TO TEACH. TO SERVE. TO LEARN.

May 12, 2020

TO: Families of Lake County

RE: Plans for Reopening Schools

Dear Parents,

As you are aware, Governor Gavin Newsom stated on April 28th that he was, “considering the prospect” of an early start to the academic year, as early as July, provided that schools and businesses were able to continue implementing safe social distancing practices. This was not a directive, but merely a possibility among many others that is under consideration. On May 4 he announced that California is “entering Stage 2 of reopening starting Friday”, but then indicated that this stage does not include schools.

Locally, our Lake County school district superintendents are working together to develop contingency plans for a range of circumstances schools may face once public health authorities and the Governor agree that it is safe to reopen schools. Any decision to change the start dates for the approved 2020-2021 school calendars, however, would need to be proposed by each district superintendent for approval by their school district’s governing board.

It is likely that social distancing practices will still be required when schools are permitted to begin reopening, and schools will face many operational challenges to properly implement these new systems. This will affect transportation, food service, classroom layouts, scheduling, and ongoing cleaning and sanitizing of school buildings in order to keep students safe.

While we are eager to return to work and school, Lake County schools will take action to reopen schools only when enough information becomes available to create a plan that **minimizes health and safety risks to students, staff, and families.**

In the meantime, we are working hard to provide meals to students, deliver high-quality distance learning, and support the social and emotional needs of all our students. Please let us know how we can improve our partnership with you, the parents, so that our students have the resources and services they need to continue their academic progress despite the closure of our school facilities.

Thank you for your assistance, patience, and encouragement as we all try to navigate our way through this once in a lifetime pandemic.

Sincerely,

Brock Falkenberg, Lake County Superintendent of Schools
Giovanni Annous, Superintendent, Upper Lake Unified School District
Mike Brown, Superintendent, Lucerne Elementary School District
Jill Falconer, Superintendent, Lakeport Unified School District
Dave McQueen, Superintendent, Kelseyville Unified School District
David Miller, Interim Superintendent, Middletown Unified School District
Rebecca Salato, Superintendent, Konocti Unified School District

Brock Falkenberg, Superintendent of Schools
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