

**Superintendent**Christopher Downing, Ed.D.

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June 11, 2020

Dear Anaheim Elementary School District Families,

During the past months, our District has convened a committee of stakeholders to review available COVID-19 safety guidance and identify a plan to reopen our schools for the 2020-21 school year. In the last few days, our efforts have been aided by guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the California Department of Education that reaffirms our plan to implement social distancing, smaller daily class sizes, and districtwide safety protocols.

It is our intent to reopen our schools on August 13, 2020, with a phased-in approach and to follow appropriate guidance until we are able to safely return to a full traditional schedule.

During the June 10 meeting, the AESD Board of Education approved the following two options for all families. Please know that in the next two months, prior to the start of the school year, we will communicate any changes that are driven by guidance from state and local authorities.

Our options provide the opportunity for your children to participate in either a Blended Learning program that combines in-person attendance with virtual learning or to enroll your child in our new Distance Learning school that is 100% virtual. Please see the following additional information on both options:

## Option 1- Blended Learning:

- Available at all 23 AESD sites and consists of only half of students on campus at one time.
- Students will receive in-person instruction at school two times a week and participate in Distance Learning at home three days a week.
- Student online participation will include a learning platform including both live interaction and recorded lessons.
- When at school, students will participate in staggered breaks in small groups with appropriate social distancing.
- Classrooms, bathrooms, and other high-traffic areas will be cleaned and sanitized every evening.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
At school (in-person)	Class Group A	Class Group B	Class Group A	Class Group B	All students Distance Learning at home.
At home (Distance Learning)	Class Group B	Class Group A	Class Group B	Class Group A	

If you need to enroll a kindergarten student, please call (714) 517-7500. If your child will be continuing in 1st through 6th grade at their home school, you don't need to take any additional action at this time.

We understand that this option may be difficult for some of you; however, we are actively working with the Anaheim YMCA to create a plan to provide daytime and afterschool programs to support those families with emergency child care needs. More details on the YMCA's programs will be shared in the coming weeks.

## Option 2- Anaheim Elementary Online Academy:

- o Available to support families that prefer to continue distance learning.
- o Anaheim Elementary Online Academy will provide an interactive 100% at-home Distance Learning option for children.
- o Through this option, students will receive instruction online and engage with their teacher and other students through a live virtual classroom setting every day.
- o Dual Language classes will be available.
- o This program will allow for small group instruction and also offer programs available at all other AESD schools such as music, art, and coding.

<u>Linked here</u> are a video and a <u>flyer</u> with more information. If you are interested in this 100% Distance Learning option for your child, please complete the interest form <u>linked here</u>. A member of our staff will contact you to assist you with the enrollment process.

We continue to give you our commitment to keeping the health and safety of students and staff at the center of the decisions we make. We would like to thank the many parents, teachers, administrators, classified staff, and community members that worked with us to ensure our plan meets the needs of our community, follows the state's safety guidelines, and will provide a safe reopening for our students, staff, and families.

Please know that we will continue to share new information as we get closer to the start of the school year. We know that the return to traditional teaching and learning is on the horizon and our District will adapt as necessary to provide the best learning environment possible.

Kind Regards, Dr. Christopher Downing Superintendent