



Superintendent
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May 25, 2022

Dear AESD Families,

The following update is provided to keep you informed regarding the Anaheim Elementary School District:

We are all deeply saddened by the tragedy which took place in Uvalde Texas and the innocent lives that were lost at Robb Elementary. This tragic incident reminds us that we always need to be diligent in our awareness of our surroundings. Our District protocols are designed to keep our campuses secure but if you see anything suspicious, report it right away. We will continue to partner with the Anaheim Police Department to immediately follow up on any suspicious activities or threats to our campuses. We all need to work together and take care of our students, ourselves, and each other.

The links below provide you with some resources to assist you in having conversations with your children about this tragedy.

- [Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Families and Educators](#)
- [OCDE How to Help Children Cope with Tragic Events](#)
- [Empowering Young People in the Aftermath of Hate](#)

Update on Weekly COVID-19 Data for Anaheim

Our District continues to prioritize the health and safety of stakeholders as our top priority. Although California no longer reports data within the tiered colored system, the City of Anaheim updates their data weekly. For the seven days through May 24, Anaheim saw 563 new cases, up from 404 a week earlier.

As the school year comes to a close there are a lot of celebratory gatherings. Please continue to be vigilant. The CDPH strongly recommends masking indoors and seeking testing when displaying any symptoms of COVID-19. You can review the current safety measures from the state [here](#).

COVID-19 Vaccines

Per the CDC there are many [benefits of getting vaccinated](#) against COVID-19.

- COVID-19 vaccines are effective at protecting people from getting seriously ill and being hospitalized - especially people who are boosted.

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- You are protected best when you [stay up to date](#) with the recommended number of doses and boosters. As of May 19, the **CDC now recommends that children ages 5-11 receive a booster shot** five months after their initial vaccination series.
- COVID-19 vaccines offer protection to people who had COVID-19, including protection against being hospitalized from a new infection.
- COVID-19 vaccines are safe - much safer than getting COVID-19.

The OC Health Care Agency has several [educational videos](#) about COVID-19 and vaccine safety and effectiveness. The District will continue to host vaccine clinics sending details to all families as they are finalized. You can also book an appointment or find a walk-in site near you by visiting the [OCHCA website](#).

At Home COVID-19 Tests

Thank you for helping keep our school environment safe throughout the school year. On Friday, May 27, each student will bring home two COVID-19 at home test kits. A COVID test is recommended to be completed on Monday, May 30, by 5:00 PM. If negative your child can return to school on Tuesday, May 31. Please report positive cases to the school office.

Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P) Monthly Newsletter

Thank you for your continuous support of our ELO-P before/after school programming at our school sites. On June 3, 2022, you will be receiving our 5th edition of our ELO-P Newsletter. What an AMAZING AESD start we have had to our implementation year. Our current program is hosting almost 8,000 students daily, with the goal to provide programming that supports students' academic and social wellbeing each and everyday. This month we will be highlighting Juarez Elementary School. Make sure to read about all the exciting things that are happening in before and after school programming.

On behalf of our staff and Board of Education, thank you for your continued support of the Anaheim Elementary School District.

Sincerely,
Dr. Christopher Downing
Superintendent