

December 10, 2020

Due to an alarming surge of COVID-19 cases throughout the state, Governor Gavin Newsom and public health officials announced last Thursday that regions of California where hospitals are in danger of exceeding capacity will be subject to a new stay-at-home order. This order took effect Saturday and was triggered Sunday, when the Southern California region reached less than 15 percent availability in our intensive care units (ICUs).

The new stay-at-home order does not apply to schools that are already open for in-person learning, including the cohort model currently being implemented at El Sol Academy. Therefore, student cohorts will meet on campus as scheduled for the week of December 7th-11th. Administration and support staff will continue working on-site. Although we are confident that the learning hubs have been operating in accordance with all safety guidelines, we have decided to transition to 100% distance learning for the week of December 14th. Starting on December 14th, we will no longer have students at the school until further notice.

With regard to January 6th, the new stay-at-home order does not allow schools to expand their current on-site programming without permission from the County Health Care Agency. We will be seeking clarification this week to more fully understand our options for the first of the year. I know that you are all anxious to plan for 2021, but the situation continues to evolve, and we want to maintain our flexibility to respond to changing conditions, especially with the vaccine distribution so close. We are committed to providing you with updates as they become available.

Remote learning is unaffected by the new orders and meal distribution will continue. Please reach out to office staff if you have any connectivity issues or contact Sara Flores if you are in need of other resources. El Sol Academy will continue to work closely with health officials and maintain stringent safety protocols to protect our staff, our students, and their families.

Please stay safe!

Sincerely,

Monique Daviss
Executive Director
El Sol Science and Arts Academy