



Yuba City Unified School District

July 22, 2020

Dear YCUSD Community,

Governor Gavin Newsom announced Friday, July 17, that counties on California's COVID-19 monitoring watchlist will not be allowed to open the school year with in-class instruction.

Unfortunately, Sutter County is on this list; therefore, all Yuba City Unified School District (YCUSD) schools will begin the 2020-2021 school year with a Distance Learning model. School is scheduled to begin on August 12th for all schools with the exception of Albert Powell High School and Yuba City Independence Academy which will start on August 6th.

The reopening of YCUSD schools in a full Distance Learning format is not ideal, and not what we had hoped. Our priority is, and always will be our student's safety, and our goal is to return to "normal" as soon as it is safe to do so.

Many parents, staff, and community members have expressed their expectations of YCUSD to be better prepared for the current pandemic situation and to provide our students with the best education possible regardless of what learning model is being used. We could not agree more, and here are some examples of the actions that we will be taking to improve the distance learning experience for our students in the Fall:

- Comprehensive professional development for all teachers covering multiple aspects of instructional delivery
- Regularly scheduled teacher office hours for parent and student support
- Opportunities for intervention for those students who are in need of additional support
- Daily structured schedules to avoid conflicts and provide predictability
- Daily synchronous contact between students and instructors
- Daily social-emotional wellness check-ins by staff
- Assignment of grades and routine feedback
- Continued meal distributions
- Regular surveys to give parents and students the opportunity to provide feedback about implementation

- Distance learning options will also be available when schools reopen for in-school instruction

In addition to the Governor's orders, the YCUSD Governing Board took action on Monday evening to address how YCUSD schools will respond to the ever-changing health crisis (see attached phases). We understand that the educational models for Phases 1, 2, and 3 are not ideal for all students, families, or staff. We will work diligently to provide a high-quality educational program until we can return to our traditional educational model without any restrictions (Phase 4).

We will continue to provide communication over the next few weeks leading up to the start of school. Please continue to check your email, school/district website, and AERIES Parent Portal frequently so we can keep you apprised of any changes. School offices will reopen on August 3rd. Please call to schedule an appointment or call the school office number when you arrive as office doors will be locked.

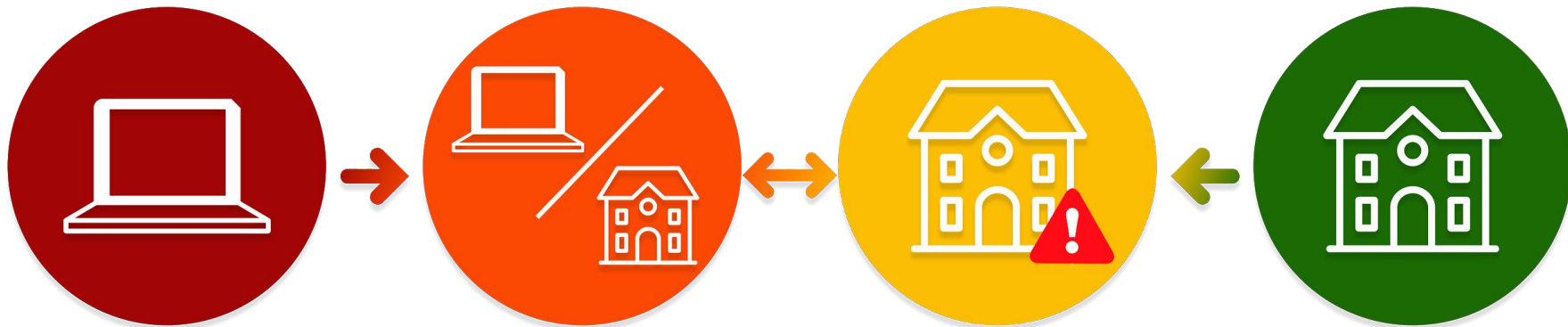
On behalf of our YCUSD Board of Education, I would like to thank everyone for your patience and understanding during this confusing and frustrating time. Belief in the best intentions of others is appreciated and reciprocated.

Sincerely,

Doreen Osumi

YCUSD Superintendent

Phases to Open School



PHASE 1

All Distance Learning

PHASE 2

Blended Learning

PHASE 3

*Classroom Learning
(with restrictions)*

PHASE 4

*Classroom Learning
(without restrictions)*

This framework provides guidance on the level of in person instruction that can be accommodated based on circumstances associated with the health pandemic. Movement is fluid and dependent on health orders/guidelines. If Social Distancing is in place, the number of students that can be accommodated on a school campus at one time is approximately 50%.

PHASE

1

All Distance Learning

- School Facilities closed to the public
- All students learning from home
- Order for Distance Learning from authorized agency

PHASE

2

Blended Learning

- 50% of students are at school at one time
- Optional Distance Learning for families to select
- Social Distancing
- Frequent Disinfecting
- Attention to hygiene
- Masks strongly encouraged for students preschool through 2nd

- Masks required for ALL students in grades 3rd through 12th and ALL staff
- Limited size of gatherings based upon current orders
- Modified meal service
- Extra-curricular activities and athletics possible depending on orders

PHASE

3

Classroom Learning (with restrictions)

- All students on campus together
 - Optional Distance Learning for families to select
 - Frequent disinfecting
 - Promote healthy hygiene practices
- Masks strongly encouraged for preschool through 2nd grade
 - Masks required for ALL students in grades 3rd through 12th and ALL staff
 - Restrictions on gatherings, guests, field trips, athletics, extra-curricular clubs
 - Social Distancing

PHASE

4

Classroom Learning (without restrictions)

→ No restrictions

→ Optional All Distance Learning for families to select

→ All students on campus

→ Continued focus on proactive health measures