From the Superintendent's Desk

Weekly Update From Supt. Jerry Almendarez
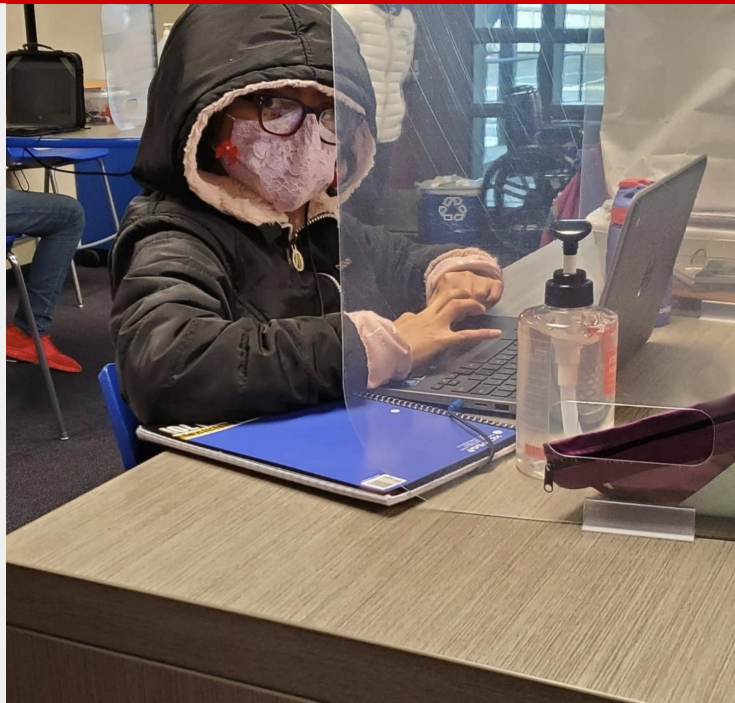
Feb. 22, 2021

Dear SAUSD community,

As many of you have been hearing in the news, there are ongoing efforts at the state and the federal levels to reopen schools for in-person instruction as soon as possible.

We continue to believe that face-to-face instruction is the best learning option for our students. This is why we have been working for several months to prepare our schools for the safe return of students.

However, we haven't established a date yet for when our schools can reopen. I assure you this remains a top priority, and much of the work we do daily is aimed at reaching this goal. Things are moving rapidly, and I expect to have more concrete information soon. Thanks again for your patience.
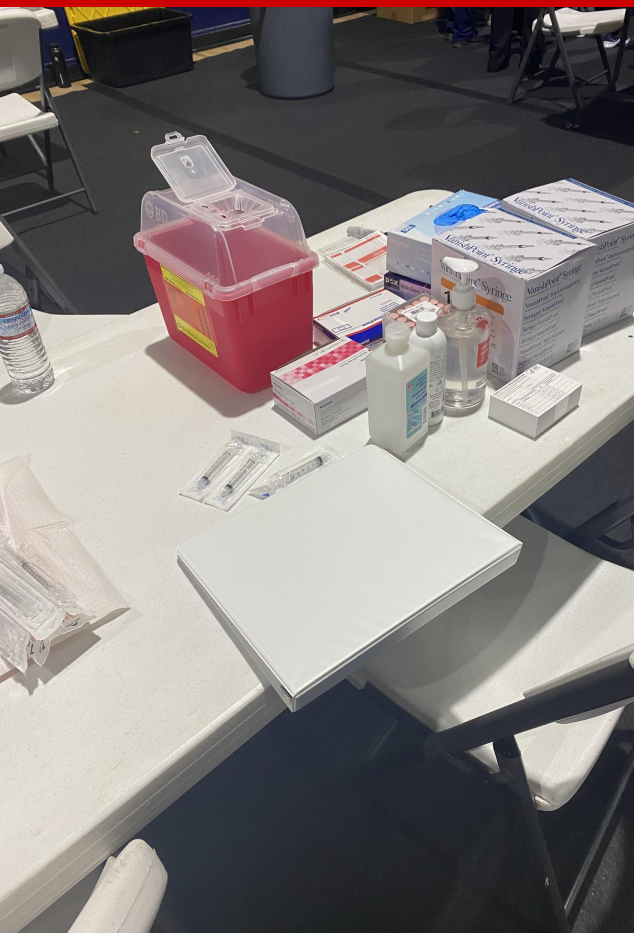

Latest News

Vaccines for those 65 and older

We are continuing to supply vaccines at our school sites to SAUSD community members ages 65 and older. This past weekend, with support from our community partners, SAUSD helped provide vaccines to more than 500 community members in the 65 and older age range at Valley High School and Villa Fundamental Intermediate.

These efforts are being coordinated by our individual schools. Families can reach out to their child's school for information for registering family members ages 65 and older, while District employees 65 and older can check with their supervisors.

Vaccines for education workers

We are working with community partner Serve the People and OC Department of Education to expand vaccinations to education workers under the age of 65 through "educator pods." The next educator pod is scheduled to open in Anaheim next week and Santa Ana the week after that. All of these pods are open to all educators, but registration through the OTHENA app is required. An education specific link will be available this Friday on the app.

Here are the latest COVID-19 positivity rates and trends for zip codes in Santa Ana
Source: O.C. Health Care Agency **(prepared Feb. 16, 2021. This are the same figures provided last week)**

ZIP code	Population	Case Rate per 100,000 (7-day day average, excluding LTCFs & Inmates)	Testing Positivity Percent (7 day avg. + 7 day lag)
92701	55,534	26	12.5%
92703	69,190	31.4	9.2%
92704	90,205	23	12%
92705	46,883	21.6	9.1%
92706	37,406	22.2	10.5%
92707	62,894	34.4	14%
Orange County Averages		20.7	7.8%

Visit www.sausd.us/coronavirus for free resources and testing information regarding Covid-19.

More news on efforts to reopen schools

– **EdSource:** Dr. Fauci on the complexities of school reopening and vaccinations

– **OC Register:** Partial herd immunity' emerging, but some challenge the value of that status

– **Los Angeles Times:** LAUSD to launch Covid-tracking app that generates a code for students to enter campus

– **Bloomberg:** Biden's economy will depend on school reopenings

Upcoming Board Meeting

Stay Connected

Tuesday, Feb. 23

- Public session begins at 6 p.m.
- To livestream visit sausd.tv
- Agenda will be available here

www.sausd.us