



Santa Ana Unified School District

Jerry Almendarez
Superintendent of Schools

December 7, 2020

Dear SAUSD community,

Southern California officially dropped below the 15 percent capacity mark for available intensive care units over the weekend, triggering the regional stay-at-home order that was announced prior by Governor Gavin Newsom.

As a result, Orange County residents – along with millions of residents from 10 other Southern California counties – will be required to stay at home as much as possible and not mix with other households to reduce exposure to COVID-19. The restrictions took effect at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday and will remain in place for three weeks, according to the [Orange County Emergency Operations Center](#).

These new restrictions do not apply to schools that already have in-person learning and other activities. However, out of an abundance of caution, Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD) leadership has decided to suspend all in-person group activities involving students effective Tuesday, December 8, 2020. These activities include SAUSD's Learning Labs and group athletic conditioning programs. The suspension of these programs and activities will remain in effect at least through January 11, 2021.

It is important to note that remote learning for all of our students will remain unaffected. Additionally, meal distribution services will continue uninterrupted. Families of students having connectivity issues are encouraged to reach out to their schools for additional tech support and resources. All other essential activities at school sites will continue following District established safety protocols. Athletic conditioning will also resume in a virtual-only environment.

SAUSD will continue to monitor the latest health data and other relevant information. If the suspension of in-person group activities is extended beyond January 11, the SAUSD will notify the community by January 4, 2021.

I encourage everyone to remain extremely vigilant and take all necessary precautions as we continue to navigate through one of the most dangerous periods of this pandemic. Please visit www.sausd.us/coronavirus for up-to-date information on free COVID-19 testing, and other valuable resources. More information will be provided as soon as it becomes available. Thank you as always for your unrelenting support for our schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Almendarez".

Jerry Almendarez
Superintendent of Schools

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