



From the Superintendent's Desk

Weekly Update From Supt. Jerry Almendarez

February 14, 2022



Dear SAUSD community,

On Friday, I joined a coalition of Orange County superintendents in issuing a statement asking Gov. Gavin Newsom and the California Department of Public Health to announce criteria for easing school masking requirements and other COVID-19 protocols based on countywide health data.

The superintendents noted that they have been in discussions with the OC Health Care Agency and County Health Officer Dr. Clayton Chau, who, in his own [Feb. 11 letter to the CDPH](#), proposed using hospitalization rates and ICU capacities as the basis for making mask mandate decisions impacting schools.

In Orange County and across the United States, COVID-19 case rates and hospitalizations are falling rapidly in the wake of the recent Omicron spike. Now, with two years of data points from which to draw, it is time to have a conversation about what comes next. In the meantime, SAUSD will continue following the latest guidance from local and state health experts. See the full statement at: <https://newsroom.ocde.us/coronavirus-update>.



Latest News

SANTA ANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

FREE COVID-19 TESTING

WEEK OF: FEB. 14-19, 2022

SAUSD is offering free COVID-19 testing for the community. No appointment necessary.

MONDAY
8 AM - 6 PM @ SAUSD, 1601 E. CHESTNUT AVENUE, 92701
8 AM - 6 PM @ SA VALLEY HS, 1801 S. GREENVILLE ST., 92704

TUESDAY
8 AM - 6 PM @ SAUSD, 1601 E. CHESTNUT AVENUE, 92701
8 AM - 6 PM @ SA VALLEY HS, 1801 S. GREENVILLE ST., 92704

WEDNESDAY
8 AM - 6 PM @ SAUSD, 1601 E. CHESTNUT AVENUE, 92701
8 AM - 6 PM @ SA VALLEY HS, 1801 S. GREENVILLE ST., 92704

THURSDAY
8 AM - 6 PM @ SAUSD, 1601 E. CHESTNUT AVENUE, 92701
8 AM - 6 PM @ SA VALLEY HS, 1801 S. GREENVILLE ST., 92704

FRIDAY
8 AM - 6 PM @ SAUSD, 1601 E. CHESTNUT AVENUE, 92701
8 AM - 6 PM @ SA VALLEY HS, 1801 S. GREENVILLE ST., 92704

SATURDAY
8 AM - 12 PM @ SAUSD, 1601 E. CHESTNUT AVENUE, 92701
8 AM - 12 PM @ SA VALLEY HS, 1801 S. GREENVILLE ST., 92704

accuratelabtesting.com

SANTA ANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PRUEBA GRATUITA DE COVID-19

SEMANA: FEB. 14-19, 2022

SAUSD ofrece pruebas de COVID-19 gratuitas para la comunidad. No se necesita cita previa.

LUNES
8 AM - 6 PM @ SAUSD, 1601 E. CHESTNUT AVENUE, 92701
8 AM - 6 PM @ SA VALLEY HS, 1801 S. GREENVILLE ST., 92704

MARTES
8 AM - 6 PM @ SAUSD, 1601 E. CHESTNUT AVENUE, 92701
8 AM - 6 PM @ SA VALLEY HS, 1801 S. GREENVILLE ST., 92704

MIÉRCOLES
8 AM - 6 PM @ SAUSD, 1601 E. CHESTNUT AVENUE, 92701
8 AM - 6 PM @ SA VALLEY HS, 1801 S. GREENVILLE ST., 92704

JUEVES
8 AM - 6 PM @ SAUSD, 1601 E. CHESTNUT AVENUE, 92701
8 AM - 6 PM @ SA VALLEY HS, 1801 S. GREENVILLE ST., 92704

VIERNES
8 AM - 6 PM @ SAUSD, 1601 E. CHESTNUT AVENUE, 92701
8 AM - 6 PM @ SA VALLEY HS, 1801 S. GREENVILLE ST., 92704

SÁBADO
8 AM - 12 PM @ SAUSD, 1601 E. CHESTNUT AVENUE, 92701
8 AM - 12 PM @ SA VALLEY HS, 1801 S. GREENVILLE ST., 92704

accuratelabtesting.com

Free community COVID-19 testing

Santa Ana Unified School District this week is continuing free Covid-19 testing for the community at various locations.

Check the adjacent flyers for details on clinics for Feb. 14 to Feb. 19. No appointments are necessary, and any Santa Ana community member is eligible.

Please scan the QR code, or visit [accuratelabtesting.com](https://www.sausd.us/covid-resources), to register prior to your visit to help expedite the process.

COVID-19 Data

Here are the latest COVID-19 positivity rates and trends for zip codes in Santa Ana

Source: O.C. Health Care Agency (prepared Feb. 10, 2022)

| 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 | 55,137 | 50 | 3.6% |
| 92703 | 68,242 | 54 | 5.3% |
| 92704 | 89,021 | 61.3 | 4.9% |
| 92705 | 47,039 | 46.8 | 9.1% |
| 92706 | 37,260 | 64 | 5.8% |
| 92707 | 62,175 | 58.8 | 3.9% |
| Orange County Averages | | 47.7 | 9.7% |

Visit www.sausd.us/covid-resources for free resources and testing information.



Latest education news from across the region

EDSOURCE COMMENTARY: Stop isolating students with disabilities -- The pandemic has given us all a taste of forced isolation. We've seen how it can leave individuals feeling lonely, scared and depressed.

EDSOURCE: State. Supt. Thurmond adds his support to funding schools by enrollment, not attendance – Supporters of legislation to change how districts are funded from daily attendance to yearly enrollment continued to press their case last week.

LA TIMES: New threat to COVID-era education: Black and Latino teachers are leaving the profession – A national survey published by the National Education Assn. on Feb. 1 found that 55% of teachers planned to exit earlier than anticipated, up from 37% in August 2021. The numbers were highest among Black (62%) and Latino (59%) educators.

LAist: What happens if LAUSD's enrollment doesn't stop dropping? 2 schools offer painful previews – Twenty years ago, Los Angeles Unified schools were badly overcrowded. More than 737,000 students attended district schools back then. Today, just over 430,000 students attend LAUSD-run schools.

Upcoming Board Meeting

Feb. 22

- Public session begins at 6 p.m.
- To livestream visit www.sausd.live
- [Agenda will be available here](#)

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