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ETIWANDA SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE TO FAMILIES

November 9, 2020

We will continue to provide updates about how the pandemic is impacting our schools through our district website, email communications and our social media platforms (Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter). We encourage you to check these platforms regularly.

Have Questions or Need Assistance? - Our District Office and school offices are open to assist families. Questions can also be emailed to ESDAssistance@etiwanda.org.

The nearing holiday season provides another opportunity to express my gratitude to the entire Etiwanda community for the kindness extended to our employees during these uncertain times. The pandemic has undoubtedly taken a toll on everyone in a variety of ways, yet we have received countless expressions of encouragement. As we once again thank you for your patience and flexibility, please know that our Etiwanda team remains committed to learning continuity, solution seeking, and the health and wellness of our community.

In our last update I shared information about the waiver process for reopening schools. If approved, the waiver will allow the district to begin the process of reopening elementary schools in the AM/PM Hybrid model with safety and social distancing protocols in place. (The Department of Public Health does not currently allow waivers for intermediate schools to reopen.)

Etiwanda School District's waiver application was submitted last Thursday, November 5, 2020 and now we await approval from the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health. The review and evaluation of the waiver process is expected to take two weeks or longer. If our waiver is approved our elementary schools will reopen in two phases. Transitional kindergarten through second grade and elementary Mild/Moderate Special Day Class (SDC) students enrolled in the Hybrid Learning Model will begin in-person instruction approximately two weeks after approval has been granted. Third through fifth grade students enrolled in the Hybrid Learning Model will begin approximately two weeks after the return of our primary students.

For detailed information about the reopening of elementary schools, please review our [Elementary School Waiver Reopening Plan](#).

Our district continues to monitor the COVID-19 transmission rate in our county. San Bernardino County is currently placed in the Purple “Widespread” tier based upon the most recent report. Our county has not yet moved to the Red “Substantial” tier, and remained in that tier for two consecutive weeks, which could allow for in-person instruction with social distancing for all students enrolled in the Hybrid Learning Model at all of our school sites.

Schools will return to a traditional/normal schedule as soon as state and local officials indicate that it is safe to relax social distancing measures.

We look forward to sharing additional information with families as we move forward and thank you for flexibility and support.