



## **COVID Response and School Reopening Guiding Principles**

### **Background**

The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting school closures in March, 2020 have caused the most significant disruption to public schools in our lifetimes. In the ensuing months, legislation from California's lawmakers, orders from Governor Newsom's office, technical guidance from the California Department of Public Health and local health orders from San Diego Public Health Services gave direction to local school districts on school reopening. The Lakeside Union School District, along with districts across the state, has developed and refined our reopening plans in accordance with these guidelines, and on September 21, 2020 reopened for in-person instruction for all students desiring to return to campus.

### **Guiding Principles**

Recognizing that reopening guidance has changed multiple times, often without warning and with significant implications for school district's reopening plans, the Lakeside Union School District Board of Trustees is committed to the following guiding principles as we continue to work together towards a full reopening of our schools:

#### **1. Safety for Staff and Students**

LUSD will follow all applicable health orders and guidelines to ensure the safety of staff and students while on campus for in-person instruction. This includes providing required PPE, adopting recommended procedures for sanitation, and following CalOSHA and other required procedures for workplace safety measures, the handling of positive COVID cases and contact tracing. We will actively pursue means for regular COVID testing and providing vaccinations for staff and/or students as they become available. Additionally, we will pursue measures to support the wellbeing of staff through this challenging time.

LUSD administration will make decisions to pivot in-person classes and/or schools to distance learning in accordance with SD Public Health guidelines and in consultation with SDPH staff as necessary, on a case by case basis.

#### **2. Transparency and Collaboration with Staff and Families**

In developing particular procedures in alignment with CDPH and SD Public Health guidance, LUSD will collaborate with staff and bargaining units to develop safety protocols for classrooms and school campuses. All plans will be posted on school websites, as required by SD Public Health, and school principals will communicate to parents the location of safe reopening plans. The district will maintain a COVID-19 dashboard on its website for updated information on active case rates of students and staff. We will actively solicit input from families on learning models and supports in areas where the district has discretion.

#### **3. Choice of Instructional Program/Setting**

As permitted by local and state guidelines, LUSD will provide to students the option of in-person instruction, distance learning, and our Home Flex program. Enrollment in these instructional programs will be accommodated to the greatest extent possible.

#### **4. Meeting Student Needs**

LUSD staff will monitor the academic needs of students through the use of regular formative assessments and implement interventions for English Learners, Socio-economically disadvantaged students, foster youth, students with disabilities and other struggling students. We will monitor the social-emotional needs of students and support student wellbeing through counseling, Socio-Emotional Learning and other means. We will work diligently to meet the IEP goals of students with special needs. While resources and regulations permit, we will continue to meet the nutritional needs of students through food distribution during school and on breaks.