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March 10, 2022

Dear AESD Families,

The following update is provided to keep you informed regarding the Anaheim Elementary School District:

Update on Weekly COVID-19 Data for Anaheim

Our District continues to prioritize the health and safety of stakeholders as our top priority. Although California no longer reports data within the tiered colored system, the City of Anaheim updates their data weekly. There were 401 new cases reported across Anaheim's seven ZIP codes for the seven days through March 8, down from 415 the week prior.

If your child is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please keep him/her home and contact your child's health care provider. Please contact your school to report the absence; a COVID-19 related absence is excused. If someone in your household tested positive for COVID-19 and is currently under quarantine or self-isolation, your child should follow the [guidelines](#) from the Orange County Health Care Agency (OCHCA) on how long to remain at home and when to return to school.

Update on Masking Requirements

In alignment with the February 28th guidance from the California Department of Public Health, beginning Monday, March 14, 2022 masks will change from being required to strongly recommended both indoors and outdoors at our AESD schools and offices. The state has cited factors including lower hospitalizations, cases, and positivity rates as part of the metric for the masking change. We continue to collaborate with the county health care agency and department of education. Our district supports the state guidance in allowing the wearing of masks to be a personal choice for our stakeholders. We will continue to provide masks to all staff and students upon request and will support anyone's right to continue to wear a mask if they so choose.

While masks will become optional, other safety protocols remain in place including:

- Contact Tracing
- Quarantining when necessary
- Dashboard data displayed to show the most recent positive COVID cases
- Mask availability for students and staff upon request
- Daily testing availability at Key ES
- Testing for the community and family members at Mann and Ponderosa

Also beginning Monday, March 14, visitors will be allowed to return on campus and will be screened prior to entry. School activities and field trips will also begin to resume.

Report Cards

Your child's trimester 2 report cards were scheduled to be sent out by teachers via email this week. For information about how to interpret your child's report card, visit [Report Card Overview](#) and [AESD Report Cards](#). Please reach out to your child's teacher with any questions about report cards.

English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC)

Summative ELPAC testing is underway for our students who are emergent bilingual. Summative ELPAC assesses students' progress in Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing each year until they are reclassified as fluent English proficiency. One-on-one portions of the assessment take place from February through May. Group administrations for our 3rd-6th graders are scheduled between March 7th-18th. For more information about ELPAC including sample items, check out [ELPAC Starting Smarter](#).

Sincerely,
Dr. Christopher Downing
Superintendent