

Superintendent Christopher Downing, Ed.D.

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1001 S. East Street Anaheim, CA 92805-5749 Phone: 714-517-7500 Fax: 714-517-8538 www.aesd.org July 28, 2022

Dear AESD Families,

We hope that you are all enjoying the summer break and quality time with your family. As we prepare for the August 11th start of the 2022-23 school year, we wanted to take this opportunity to share information about the steps our district is continuing to take to address COVID-19; provide information on registering your child for our Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) before and after school program; and share how you can become a school volunteer.

COVID-19 Update

For this year, we are continuing our current health and safety protocols including:

- Air purification units and increased ventilation for all classrooms and offices
- Continuing access to handwashing and/or sanitizing stations
- Daily sanifizing of all classrooms, offices and buses
- Masking remains optional, but is strongly recommended.

We will continue to follow the guidance for COVID-19 safety from the CA Department of Public Health. The updated District's Safety Plan can be found on our website at <u>AESD.org</u>.

• Positive Cases and Exposure Notifications

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, please notify your child's school for information on quarantine requirements. Notification of positive cases will still be given to everyone with a possible exposure. Every student who shares an indoor space for 15 minutes or more with a COVID-19 positive person will be notified with a letter containing recommendations from the CA Department of Public Health.

COVID-19 Testing

Beginning with the new school year, we will now accept photo results of at-home COVID-19 tests. Student initials and date of test must be written on the test before a photo is taken and submitted to your child's school. The District will be providing at-home tests on a regular basis for use by a parent or guardian. All AESD schools will be providing Grab n Go's on August 8 to share home testing kits and masks prior to the start of the school year. Schools will send out information regarding times and locations next week. If you have any questions, please contact your child's school.

COVID-19 testing will continue to be available at our Key site for all AESD staff and students. To register and make an appointment, please click <u>here</u>. Letter to Families 7-28-22 Page 2

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. For the seven days through July 26, Anaheim saw 1,759 new cases, up from what was likely an underreported 570 cases a week earlier. Two weeks ago, Anaheim saw 1,309 new weekly cases.

It is important that we all remain vigilant in our safety protocols and it is **still highly recommended by CDPH to continue to wear masks indoors when in close proximity to others.** Other safety protocols include frequently washing our hands and seeking testing when displaying any symptoms of COVID.

Anaheim Succeeds! (ELO-P)

The Expanded Learning Opportunities Program - Anaheim Succeeds! will begin on August 11, 2022 at every school site. Our before and after school program will be available for all students TK-6. If you are interested in enrolling your child in a free, high quality, on-site enrichment program, please note the following dates for registration: August 5th, 9th and 10th from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Registration will take place on site at each school. Once school begins, registration will be ongoing throughout the school year. English

For the safety of all students, your child must be registered and receive a confirmation form before beginning the expanded learning program. Attached is the <u>brochure</u> for more information about the program.

<u>Volunteers</u>

If you are interested in becoming an AESD volunteer, you must complete an online application at <u>www.aesd.org/volunteer</u>. There are two volunteer tiers available. A tier 1 volunteer offers support on or off campus for school activities. A tier 2 volunteer also supports school activities but will also have frequent and prolonged contact with students. Frequent and prolonged contact is defined as 8 or more hours in a school year working directly with students. Please contact your school administrator to discuss tier 2 volunteering before submitting an application. A tier 2 volunteer requires fingerprinting and TB testing. The School, Family & Community Engagement Office will contact you and assist in completing these steps when your tier 2 application is received. If you have questions about becoming a volunteer please call (714)517-7150.

In closing, we are extremely proud to inform you that AESD has been voted by readers of Parenting Orange County as **Best North Orange County School District**!

On behalf of our Board and dedicated staff, thank you for your support of the Anaheim Elementary School District. We are looking forward to an "amazing" school year!

Sincerely, Dr. Christopher Downing Superintendent