



Office of the Superintendent

Thomas Butler

805.462.4200

5601 West Mall, Atascadero, CA 93422

November 18, 2020

Dear AUSD Community,

As of this week all of our elementary school campuses are open for in-person instruction. Thanks so much to all of our students, staff, and parents for following our health and safety protocols. This commitment to health and safety is allowing us to keep our elementary campuses open for in-person instruction. As a school district we are very pleased to offer three excellent educational choices for families: in-person, distance learning, and independent study. It is our intent that these options allow families to make the best decision to meet their children and family's needs.

Currently, our secondary school sites are working diligently to develop student schedules (based on family choice) for the second semester which will begin on January 5, 2021.

As many of you are aware the County of San Luis Obispo recently moved into the more restrictive Purple Tier of the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy. Naturally, this has caused a lot of questions about how this change will affect our schools. Here are some answers directly from Public Health:

- *In the Purple Tier can the elementary schools remain open for in-person instruction?* **Yes.**
- *What would cause the closure of our elementary schools?* **A change in Public Health requirements or a significant local or county outbreak of COVID-19 cases.**
- *In the Purple Tier can the secondary schools (high school and middle school level) open for in-person instruction on January 5, 2021?* **No.**
- *When will secondary schools (high school and middle school level) be able to open for in-person instruction?* **Secondary schools can open for in-person instruction once San Luis Obispo County has been in the Red Tier for two consecutive weeks.**

To summarize, our elementary schools will remain open for in-person instruction and we will be closely monitoring the status of COVID-19 in our County to determine when our secondary schools will be able to open for in-person instruction. Please stay tuned for future communications.

Thanks everyone for your ongoing support of AUSD.

Sincerely,

Tom Butler
Superintendent