



February 12, 2021

Hello, SUSD Parents and Guardians,

As we head into the Presidents Day holiday weekend, we are excited to report that 2,100 SUSD employees will receive their second COVID-19 vaccination over the next three days. This is a significant milestone that supports the District's ability to continue to offer in-person instruction to our students.

Weekly COVID-19 Update from Supt. Menzel

For the first time since December, the [15 SUSD zip codes](#) have a category in the yellow. The COVID-like illness benchmark, a county-wide statistic, is at 7.4%, but the percent positivity and cases per 100,000 within SUSD remains at the substantial spread level. The good news is that the numbers continue to decline pretty significantly each week. We hope to see this trend continue as our third quarter of instruction wraps up. Our total number of [confirmed active cases](#) has also gone down. Two Virtual Evaluation Teams (VET) met this week, both related to athletic cases.

I am extremely proud of our SUSD staff, who have consistently gone above and beyond to ensure we are able to offer in-person learning opportunities for our students who want and need that option. I am equally proud of our staff members who are supporting our EDL and SOL students who need to be online for the entire year. Being able to shift learning modalities from live instruction to remote learning every day is a challenge they have embraced. The resilience and dedication of our staff members is unparalleled.

Today, the CDC issued [additional recommendations](#) for schools. Last week, I noted the *potential* for implementing a full-day schedule at our middle and high schools following Spring Break. The Governing Board will take up the topic at its meeting next Tuesday, February 16 at 5 p.m., with possible action coming on Tuesday, March 2. If you are unable to attend, Board meetings are carried live (and can also be viewed later) on the [SUSD YouTube channel](#). We are considering all of the factors that are relevant to finalizing a decision for the fourth quarter, and I appreciate the feedback received to date to help inform what will be thorough, thoughtful conversation and consideration by the Board.

Strategic Planning

I also want to update you on our work to create a future-focused path for SUSD. A 43-member Strategic Planning Design Team will begin meeting with Dr. Connie Kamm of Kamm Solutions next week. The team represents diverse stakeholders across all five of our learning communities. Over the course of the planning process, we will also be reaching out to our internal and external stakeholders to participate in the process of articulating a compelling vision for the future. By design, the process will be inclusive, and it is the charge of the Design Team to ensure that we consider the voices of the broader community. While responding to COVID has consumed the majority of our time and attention this school year, I am excited about the opportunity to begin focusing on the future!

Community Education

The SUSD Community Education Department has a new home! Community Ed, which offers the District's Early Learning, Kids Club and Enrichment Zone programs, is now located on the Oak Learning Academy campus at 7501 E. Oak St., Scottsdale. While their address has changed, their phone number has not. You can still reach Community Ed Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., at (480) 484-7900.

As a reminder, regular registration for next year's Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten programs gets underway at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, February 16. Find more information about the application process and all of our Community Education programs at www.susd.org/CommunityEd.

Lastly, Monday, Feb. 15 is Presidents Day and all SUSD schools and offices will be closed.

Thank you, and be well.

Scottsdale Unified School District [Cabinet](#) and [Leadership Team](#)

Community COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing Information

- [Arizona Department of Health Services](#) –
 - [Vaccinations](#), including an increasing number of Scottsdale Albertsons, Fry's, Safeway and Walgreens pharmacies
 - [Testing](#)
- Maricopa County Department of Health Services –
 - [Vaccinations](#), [Vaccination Locations](#)
 - [Testing](#)
- [City of Phoenix Mobile Testing Sites](#)
- CVS Pharmacy Testing Sites
 - [Drive-Thru Testing Sites](#)
 - [Vaccination Information](#)
- [Embry Women's Health Testing Sites](#)
- Walgreens Pharmacy
 - [Drive-Thru Testing Sites](#)
 - [Vaccination Information](#)