

Opening of Schools 2020-2021



Presented by:
Superintendent's Cabinet
July 20, 2020

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Purpose

- Update on the **order from the Governor's Office and California Dept of Public Health**
- Outline our **options for Opening Schools August 10**
- Share **input from three Community and Staff Forums**
- **Get input/feedback** from the Board on Opening of Schools



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Current Conditions

- COVID-19 infection is **spreading in Stanislaus County - 3,900+ positive cases** in the past two weeks
- **Hospitals** are reporting they are **understaffed**
- **Social events** are shown to cause case infections – we have not **realized the fourth of July** at this point
- County Health is **backlogged** with contact tracing



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County Superintendents

- On July 13, Stanislaus County Superintendents met with Public Health Officer, Dr. Vaishampayan
- **Dr. Vaishampayan's Determinations:**
 - Schools should open in August with a Distance Learning Model.
 - All conditioning for **MCS sports were suspended** until further notice.
 - **Co- and Extra-curricular activity** (i.e., band, sports, theater/drama, etc.) was also **suspended** until further notice.



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For Schools to Open

- To be determined by **State & Local Health Officials**
- **State announcements on Friday, July 17:**
 - **Governor's Office & California Department of Public Health:**
 - Updated guidance
 - In-person re-opening criteria
 - Guidance once re-opened to in-person instruction
 - Guidance on school closure



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For Schools to Open

- Schools may **reopen** once the **local health jurisdiction** where they are located has **not** been on the state's **county monitoring list** for **14 consecutive days**.
- Stanislaus County **is** on the monitoring list.



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Opening of Schools: August 10

- **Distance Learning Model**
- **Expansion of Modesto Virtual Academy**



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Preparations for August Opening

- Developed **Distance Learning Platform TK-12**
- Professional Development for **Online learning**
 - **37 modules** created to learn at one's own pace
 - **126 videos** created for certificated, classified, and parents
 - **46,000** views of the courses
- **Instructional Coaching Supports**
 - **Daily “office hours”** provided by 25+ Instructional coaches
- **Expanded Modesto Virtual Academy TK-12** from 9-12



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Preparations for August Opening

- **Robust summer PD opportunities for Teachers**
 - Schoology 101 - 105 (**5 courses**)
 - Live Video Conferencing Tools (**2 courses**)
 - Essential Tech Tools
 - Google for Education (**7 courses**)
 - Various other applications (**7 courses**)
 - Checking for Understanding (**4 courses**)
 - Setting up a Digital Classroom (**1 course**)
 - Curriculum Adoptions (**7 courses**)
 - Instructional Tech YouTube Channel (**1 course**)



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Distance Learning Model

- **Expectations grounded in Senate Bill 98 / Ed Code 43500, 43503, 43504**
- **Implementation of Distance Learning model:**
 - **Access for all students to connectivity & devices.**
 - **Content aligned to grade level standards equivalent to in-person instruction.**
 - **Academic and other supports for pupils performing below grade-level or need supports in other areas.**
 - **SPED / related services**



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Distance Learning Model

- **Implementation of Distance Learning model (cont.)**
 - **English Language Development (ELD)**
 - **Daily live interaction** with certificated employees & peers (instruction, progress monitoring, connectedness)
 - Document **daily student participation**
 - **Teachers** shall ensure **weekly engagement** record
 - **District** written procedure for **tiered re-engagement**
 - Strategies for all students absent (DL) for **3 or more days** or **60% of the instructional days in a week.**



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Distance Learning Model

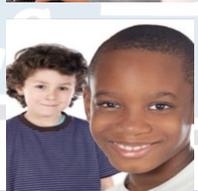
- **Implementation of Distance Learning model (cont.)**
 - **Instruction** comprised of a **blend** of:
 - **Direct** instruction
 - **Small group** instruction
 - **Intervention** opportunities
 - **Independent work** without direct facilitation



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Distance Learning Model

- **Implementation of Distance Learning model (cont.)**
 - **Required minutes of daily instruction:**
 - **Grades TK - K:** 180 minutes
 - **Grades 1 - 3:** 230 minutes
 - **Grades 4 -12:** 240 minutes
 - **Working with Modesto Teachers Association on Letter of Agreement that will outline expectations.**



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Modesto Virtual Academy

- **Letter of Agreement signed July 14th:**
 - Staffed by our **existing workforce**
 - Established **caseload maximums**
 - **Weekly meetings** with students (one hour per week)
 - **Academic and social-emotional check-ins / support**



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Modesto Virtual Academy

● **Teacher Responsibilities:**

- **Support** students
- **Social-emotional** wellness checks
- **Monitor** progress
- Provide **instructional support**
- **Assess learning** and provide **feedback**
- Establish **office hours**
- Assign **student grades**



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Modesto Virtual Academy

- **Special Education:**

- **MVA and Distance Learning Option Available**
- **Established caseloads maximums**
- **Requires an IEP** to change to independent study
- **Special Education Department guidance**



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Community / Staff Input

Dr. Noguchi led three online forums:

- Community Forum: Students, Parents, & Community
 - Thursday, July 16 from 11:00am - 12:00pm
 - Thursday, July 16 from 5:30pm - 6:30pm
 - *More than 1,000 participants total*
- Community Forum: Staff & Teachers
 - Friday, July 17 from 11:00am - 12:00pm
 - *More than 720 participants total*



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Community / Staff Input

- In the Spring, what **worked well** for Distance Learning?
- How can **Distance Learning be improved**?
- In an online Distance Learning environment, **what additional supports** do you or your student need to be successful?
- Do you have **additional feedback** or input? If so, please share it here...



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Teacher / Staff Themes

Themes:

- Student **accessibility**
- **Assessment** and **grading**
- **Hours** of work
- **Safety** - Home vs. Classroom
- **MVA staffing**
- **Desire** for students **to return**



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Community Themes

Themes:

- **Schedule & questions** for both **DL** and **MVA**
- **Safety** when schools open
- **Students with disabilities** and concerns with distance learning
- **Nutrition services**
- **Accessibility** for distance learning
- **Internet access**



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Next Steps

- **Administrator Week**
- **Ongoing support for parents, teachers, and students** on the website and other resources
- **Frequently Asked Questions**
- **Developing Parent Support Materials – Videos**



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Feedback/Comments/Questions



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