



RESOLUTION 2021.1

MUSD EducatEveryWhere Distance Learning Phasing into 2020-21

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization officially declared COVID-19 a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom ordered all individuals living in the State of California to stay home except as needed to maintain continuity of operations in critical infrastructure sectors such as education; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, March 31, April 29, and again on May 18, 2020 the Santa Clara County Public Health Department extended the Shelter in Place Order for all except essential workers, and

WHEREAS, the week of March 16, 2020 marked the launch of MUSD EducatEveryWhere with only three days of preparation before the Milpitas Unified School District's planning was implemented, and chromebooks were issued so that students would continue to have learning and instructional experiences while sheltering at home; and

WHEREAS, between April through July 2020 the District surveyed students, team members, parents and guardians about their experiences and needs for distance learning in MUSD EducatEveryWhere with over 6,000 respondents, and MUSD leaders met weekly and monthly with parents and team members regarding their experiences with MUSD EducatEveryWhere; and

WHEREAS, as of July 28, 2020, District leaders including Board members, the Superintendent, Executive Cabinet, Principals, and Association Presidents, have met with 1,118 parents, guardians, and 596 team members, with at least seven more Q&A sessions planned to discuss phasing in the 2020-21 school year with MUSD EducatEveryWhere v. 2.0 distance learning, and in-person support when conditions are safe; and

WHEREAS, Parents, Guardians, Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Principals, Secretaries, Custodians, Specialists, Support Staff, District and Associations Leaders have all expressed a deep desire to serve every Learner in the safest means possible, and in a Culture of We; and

WHEREAS, the MUSD Child Development Centers provide our youngest learners with preschool experiences, and are modeling how to provide distance learning, while also providing childcare for parents and guardians who are essential workers or are in need of financial support; and

WHEREAS, MUSD Elementary Schools serve our learners who have high levels of need for parent and guardian engagement to ensure student safety; and

WHEREAS, research shows our youngest learners need hands-on activities, social experiences, and closely monitored screen time to ensure healthy brain development; and

WHEREAS, parents, guardians and elementary teachers are partners in providing learning experiences that promote children's healthy development; and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics states, “schools are fundamental to child and adolescent development and well-being, and provide our children and adolescents with academic instruction, social and emotional skills, safety, reliable nutrition, physical/speech and mental health therapy, and opportunities for physical activity, among other benefits;” and

WHEREAS, MUSD Middle Schools provide our learners with opportunities for self-discovery and experiences in social dynamics; and

WHEREAS, middle school provides learners with experiences in understanding how literature, science, math, the arts, and athletics are interwoven across content areas through the lens of interdisciplinary teaming; and

WHEREAS, middle school teachers, parents, and guardians, team together to support learners as they grapple with the developmental transition period from childhood to teenager; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Education states, “research has shown that the human brain experiences a growth spurt during the young adolescent years that enables the brain to be highly receptive to learn new information and skills. This provides an inspiring opportunity for middle grades teachers to take advantage of their students' optimum capacity to learn”; and

WHEREAS, MUSD High Schools provide our learners with secure learning environments in which to develop further their own interests and sense of purpose in the world; and

WHEREAS, high school teachers, parents, and guardians work together to provide students with autonomy in their learning and development as they explore pathways towards their future careers; and

WHEREAS, the high school experience is one in which students explore different interests through an array of subject areas, learning modalities, campus events, extracurricular, athletic, affinity groups, clubs, and social activities; and

WHEREAS, every student, and in particular those learners who need targeted assistance such as our English Learners, homeless and foster youth, and students with learning difficulties, needs support and regular contact with their teachers and support team; and

WHEREAS, the MUSD Special Education program strives to serve students in a way that best meets their needs; and

WHEREAS, Special Education teachers, specialists, and paraprofessionals, as well as the parents and guardians of students within the program desire the best possible learning outcomes for their children; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that in pre-COVID19 times and even more so during the pandemic that social emotional learning is essential for all, and The Aspen Institute's National Commission on Social, Emotional, and Academic Development Council of Distinguished Educators states, "When social, emotional, and academic development are deliberately and thoughtfully interconnected, students benefit from learning experiences that enrich their understanding of academic content and strengthen their critical thinking skills"; and

WHEREAS, the MUSD Adult Education teachers and support personnel in conjunction with our learners are making it possible for adult students to gain certifications, high school equivalency, English language skills, and competencies that enable them to further develop their job skills and ability to participate in civic responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2020 Governor Newsom laid out a Pandemic Plan for Learning and Safe Schools in which he stated that schools may not implement in-person learning in schools until conditions are safe and Santa Clara County has had zero COVID19 cases for 14 consecutive days; and

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2020 the Superintendent in her COVID19 report to the Board outlined a phasing in approach to the 2020-21 school year with at least the first month being in MUSD EducatEveryWhere 100% distance learning, and more recently in parent, guardian, and staff meetings with the Board President and Vice President, has moved the phasing in period to six weeks or more depending on conditions for safety; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent and the Board of Trustees want to ensure to the greatest extent possible that every team member and learner are in an environment where safety precautions are adhered to as per state and local county health guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent and the Board of Trustees adhere to the MUSD Mission: *We have high expectations for every learner, and provide multiple opportunities and pathways for success. We provide learning opportunities for all, and create nurturing environments where students are inspired and empowered;*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that until the State and/or Santa Clara County Public Health Departments deem conditions safe for the phasing in of in-person instruction and learning supports, that the distance learning component of MUSD EducatEveryWhere shall be the primary mode of learning, teaching and working; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MUSD Strategic Goals shall be evident in all aspects of distance learning:

1. Building a Culture of We in which parents and guardians are provided with supports through school and district programs such as MUSD Parent 2 Parent, professional development for team members is robust and frequent within the MUSD Colleague 2 Colleague platform, and cultural sustainability is both a part of professional learning and is embedded in instruction; and
2. Improving Communication systems through continuous quality improvement in areas such as virtual meetings, social media, Parent Square, uniform learning management systems across grade spans; and
3. Developing educational pathways that allow students to apply their passions towards future careers both in virtual learning modalities and extracurricular activities conducted virtually, such as Robotics, Aven Seagulls Art, and student led activities to strengthen school culture and spirit, as well as the development of a MUSD Student 2 Student learning platform; and
4. Focusing service and academic supports to ensure students are engaged in their learning, and are making social emotional and academic gains, and ensure social emotional learning is a regular component of distance learning; and
5. Identify creative student-focused strategies to ensure healthy learning environments virtually; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that student nutrition will continue to provide students with breakfast and lunch as allowed by state and federal school meal guidelines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MUSD will continue to seek and provide opportunities for child care for essential workers and team members in conjunction with the City of Milpitas and other community based partners; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MUSD will continue to seek out and develop revenue building funding streams to address the costs of COVID19; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that when possible, and conditions are deemed safe by the Public Health Department, in-person instruction and supports will be phased in to MUSD EducatEverywhere, and that the Board of Trustees recognizes the exceptional collaboration between parents, guardians, teachers, specialists, paraprofessionals, student nutrition, support staff, school site administration and district leaders, that is ongoing to ensure the best possible educational experiences for all MUSD learners throughout the 2020-21 school year.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Milpitas Unified School District Board of Education at a meeting held on July 28, 2020 by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Hon Lien, President
Milpitas Unified School District
Board of Education

Kelly Yip-Chuan, Clerk
Milpitas Unified School District
Board of Education