February 25, 2021

Dear Live Oak Community:

I want to update you all on where we stand regarding campus reopening conditions. While we have to acknowledge we are still in an ever-changing COVID landscape and conditions tend to change rapidly, we have new guideposts to share with you. We estimate our first phase of reopening our campus for in-person learning will be (tentatively) mid April for grades TK- 3, followed by grades 4-6 a week later. Specific dates, and updates on grades 7-8, will be available soon. In this email you will find: 1) updates on where Live Oak currently stands on each condition for reopening our campus, and 2) [a link to our new campus reopening "Dashboard"](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1p3NIbBsJZSDzEz2ht-3QNvkfVLfn7UiE/view" \t "_blank) which highlights the status of the key LOCS campus reopening requirements - we hope families find this dashboard a helpful reference. It will be updated weekly on Mondays.

Read on for a summary of where we stand, a link to our LOCS Board resolution for reopening our campus, and more information:

Last week during the LOCS Board meeting we had a thoughtful and collaborative dialogue around reopening our campus for in-person learning.  The Board then passed a resolution outlining 4 conditions for reopening our campus - you can read [the full 2/18/21 resolution here](https://www.liveoakcharter.org/uploads/1/2/7/2/127253963/locs_resolution_2021-0218.pdf" \t "_blank). Please keep in mind, COVID and campus reopening has a lot of moving parts, some in our control and some outside our control. Stay tuned for more communications and ways to help in the near future as we progress toward fulfilling campus reopening conditions. (Look on our [COVID Hub](https://www.liveoakcharter.org/covid-19-responsehub.html" \t "_blank) on our LOCS website for Board resolutions, the new Dashboard and more.)

**Resolution Condition #1**, Case Rate: The state is allowing schools to open campuses for grades TK-6 when the COVID case rate in the county is below 25 per 100k.  Sonoma County is now seeing a consistent trend of staying below this threshold.  The state requires the county to have a case rate of less than 7 per 100k for students in grades 7 and 8 to return to campus, and that threshold has not yet been met.

**Resolution Condition #2**, Vaccinations:  Our TK-3 staff members are beginning to have access to an FDA approved COVID vaccine this week.  Thank you to the Petaluma Health Center for their collaboration on this.

**Resolution Condition #3**, Hybrid Schedule and Campus preparations:  We are reviewing and making detailed adjustments to the rhythm of our school day and our campus facilities in order to accommodate multiple cohorts of students in each grade (class cohorts for in-person learning are a maximum of 16 students). Our schedule adjustments include cohorts for students who choose to remain in distance learning.  We continue our ongoing facilities preparations for COVID prevention. Please stay tuned for volunteer opportunities to help in this effort.

**Resolution Condition #4**, Required Plan Approval:  The county currently requires approval of two documents for schools to reopen their campuses. First is a COVID Prevention Plan (CPP). Ours  is complete. The second is a State COVID-19 School Guidance Checklist. Ours is in process and soon to be submitted for approval.  The Sonoma County health department has agreed to approve or provide areas for revision within 7 days of submission.

There clearly is light at the end of the tunnel!

Moving forward, there are two ways that we will communicate and track our campus reopening progress and change:  One is our Campus Reopening Dashboard which highlights the status of our main areas of campus reopening.  We plan to update this weekly on Mondays and you can find it on our website under our [COVID-19 hub](https://www.liveoakcharter.org/covid-19-responsehub.html" \t "_blank).  You can see our current dashboard [here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1p3NIbBsJZSDzEz2ht-3QNvkfVLfn7UiE/view?usp=sharing" \t "_blank).

Second, our CRT/Community Response Team plans to send out weekly emails that will highlight questions and answers in the community and/or announce volunteer opportunities. Submit your suggested questions to the CRT at: [locscovidresponseteam@gmail.com](mailto:locscovidresponseteam@gmail.com" \t "_blank).

Thank you!

Justin Tomola