

Kingsburg Joint Union School District

Kingsburg Elementary Charter School District



WESLEY SEVER, ED.D.
Superintendent

MELANIE SEMBRITZKI
Assistant Superintendent
Curriculum & Instruction,
Special Projects

September 22, 2020

Kingsburg Elementary Families,

Based on the improving COVID-19 case counts in Fresno County, health officials announced they will now consider elementary waiver applications for TK-6 in-person instruction. Kingsburg Elementary is taking steps to prepare and submit a waiver application. If approved, a waiver would allow us to begin on-campus instruction using an AM/PM schedule with some instruction delivered online. After implementing the waiver for elementary students, and if Fresno County conditions allow, we will focus our efforts on bringing back students in grades 7-8.

We are eager to return children to the classroom because we know the most impactful learning comes from teachers interacting in person with students. Our planning for a return to campus will continue to focus on safety and with recommended health and safety measures in place. These safety measures include:

- Six feet of distance between students and staff
- Health and temperature screenings that will occur as students enter the campus
- Increased disinfecting
- Limiting shared supplies
- The use of face coverings will be recommended for grades TK-2 and required for grades 3-8. Face coverings will be required for all students while entering, exiting, and during transition times while on campus.

Under current health guidance, we are already providing on-campus services to some students with special needs that cannot be met through online learning. We are continuing to expand these services during September including small groups of students in our general education population who are at high risk of learning loss.

For Fresno County schools to reopen grades TK-12 (without a waiver application approved), Fresno County must be at 4-7 cases of COVID per 100,000 people and a 5-8% positivity rate for two consecutive weeks. Two weeks after entering the red tier, TK-12 schools can reopen following specific health and safety guidelines. As of September 12, Fresno County reported 6.5 cases of COVID per 100,000 people and a 4.8% positivity rate. This is the first week the county has qualified for the red tier. If the numbers stay the same or improve again next week, Fresno County will move into the red tier.

We intend to observe the AM/PM or distance learning choice that you selected prior to school starting. We recognize that this news will come with many questions. We will closely watch the case counts on positivity rate data released each week and await our waiver application status.

Thank you for continuing to check your email and social media for updates. Please email your ideas, concerns, or questions to covidinfo@kesd.org. Thank you for your continued partnership as we work together to stay healthy while supporting your child's educational needs. We are a team. It is only together that we can successfully navigate a safe and careful path back to campus.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wesley Sever
Superintendent