

November 11, 2020

Good evening South Lake Tahoe Community, LTUSD students, staff, and families:

LTUSD wishes to thank all of our Veteran's in our community who have served and all of our active military who continue to serve to support the democracy of the United States of America. We thank you for your service!

Let us start by saying once again, thank you for all of your patience and understanding as we continue to navigate the COVID 19 Pandemic. At this time, we would like to address concerns that were brought up at the school board meeting on November 10, 2020 regarding the Coronavirus and the impact it is having on the community and our schools. In July 2020, LTUSD in collaboration with staff and community stakeholders, presented to the Board of Trustees a plan for a phased approach to opening schools. This plan was approved at the end of July with consensus that the school district would start school in Phase 1, a full distance educational model, due to the level of community spread in SLT and within the state of CA. This phased in approach was approved to continuously reevaluate every six weeks to determine movement forward through the phases gradually increasing the amount of time and number of students on campuses at every level. This movement through the phases is based upon the recommendations and data provided by CDPH, CDC, and El Dorado Public Health Department.

The criteria used in the decision making process in July analyzing community spread, continues to be used to date to determine if LTUSD can move forward through the phases. LTUSD is currently in Phase Two, a decision that was made in collaboration with local Coronavirus health experts, and El Dorado County Public Health. LTUSD continues to meet weekly with our local health experts and gets weekly input on the health and safety of the community from the El Dorado County Public Health Department. Although LTUSD closely monitors the El Dorado County Public Health Website, we also rely on current health data provided to us by the experts. LTUSD will continue in Phase Two due to the increased community spread and recommendation from our local health experts. Additionally, if at any time our local health experts, El Dorado County Public Health Department, or CA State Department of Public Health recommend we enter into full distance learning, we will immediately pivot to the full distance learning platform. This can occur at any time - it is not contingent on the Phases of reopening. This decision to pivot to full distance is based on the recommendation of our health departments. At this time it should be noted that the full reopening of schools continues to be the recommendation of the El Dorado County Health Department who are closely monitoring not only El Dorado County, but South Lake Tahoe as a separate community. Should this recommendation change, LTUSD will respond immediately to their recommendation. LTUSD has an incredible team that is working daily on ensuring the health and safety of our staff and students, we will continue with this commitment as we move through our Phased re-entry approach to having students on campus.

Sincerely,

Lake Tahoe Unified School District