

April 30, 2020

Dear parents, guardians, and staff,

As the COVID-19 outbreak continues to evolve, the Stanislaus County Office of Education and school districts remain diligent in our efforts to provide families with essential services, support student wellness, and ensure continuity of our students' education.

We understand many of you have questions following Governor Gavin Newsome's press conference on April 28 in which he suggested schools might start the 2020-21 school year as early as late July.

At this point, we do not see starting the 2020-2021 school year in July as a likely option for schools in Stanislaus County. School Districts are already scheduled to return in early to mid-August. Additionally, school calendars take a great deal of planning and coordination; any changes also could have significant fiscal implications.

The District Superintendents and I meet each week and are in the process of creating a plan for how schools will address the needs of students next school year. We understand that this will look different for each school and grade level. Details about what learning looks like next year will depend on a variety of factors. As a result, we are putting together several scenarios that will address social distancing requirements to keep our students and staff safe while also supporting student learning.

This summer, the distance learning format will continue for summer schools and the Extended School Year for students in special education. Parents will receive specific information from districts in the next few weeks.

In case you missed it, the Governor did provide an update on the state's [roadmap](#) to reopen the economy and public services in a phase-by-phase approach:

Stage 1: Safety and Preparedness      Stage 2: Lower Risk Workplaces  
Stage 3: Higher Risk Workplaces      Stage 4: End of Stay at Home Order

Under Stage 2, the governor included schools and childcare facilities opening in a modified manner to provide support for parents transitioning back to the workforce and address gaps in students' education. We will keep student and staff safety at the forefront of planning in Stanislaus County.

The Superintendents in our county are committed to working together to ensure our students continue to receive high-quality instruction and other essential services. We are proud of the work accomplished over the last month by our students, parents, and staff. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this time.

Sincerely,



Scott Kuykendall,  
Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools