



Lakeside Union School District

TY BRYSON, DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

"BUILDING ON EXCELLENCE"

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October 14, 2020

Lakeside Families and Friends,

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a significant presence in Kern County. But, we have had some recent status changes in Kern County in regard to COVID 19 restrictions. On Tuesday, October 13, 2020 the State of California moved Kern County from the Widespread – Purple Tier to the less restrictive Red-Substantial Tier. This new assignment eases many of the restrictions our county has been operating under during the past six weeks. If we can keep our COVID 19 numbers down for an additional 14 day waiting period, our schools may begin to open for limited in-person instruction as early as October 28, 2020.

As we have been distance learning throughout the first quarter of the 2020-2021 school year, the Lakeside Union School District has been preparing our school sites and procuring personal protective equipment to ready ourselves for the return of students and staff to our schools. Our District Advisory Committee has continued to monitor the effects of the pandemic and revise recommendations for planning and preparations for an anticipated return to in-person instruction. The DAC is currently considering options and providing stakeholder input to the District Leadership to ensure that student and staff safety remain the priority in all decisions.

LUSD is currently providing in-person instruction for small cohorts of students who require specialized services at our Suburu school site. These TK-8th grade students have been attending classes since September 28, 2020. The return of these small cohorts has been very successful and we have learned that in-person instruction can safely be implemented with the prescribed guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control.

During this difficult time, we will continue to work with the Kern County Public Health Department, Kern County Superintendent of Schools, and other partners to monitor the situation and ensure the health and safety of everyone in the Lakeside Community. We want what is best for our students and recognize that the return of students to our school sites will be a challenging task. We appreciate your continued patience and support during this difficult time.

The opportunity to return more students to in-person instruction at our schools may be in our near future. Watch for more communications from LUSD and your school sites, as we move closer to getting our children back into the schools. We will keep you posted as new information becomes available.

Take care and be safe!