



SANTA MONICA - MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

March 23, 2021

Superintendent's Message: Change to three-foot distancing approved by LACDPH

Dear Parent, Guardians, Staff and Community Members,

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) has announced a reduction in physical distancing requirements between student seating to three (3) feet. This follows the recommendation by the Centers for Disease Control on Friday and by California Department of Public Health on Saturday. Six-foot distancing will still be required between teachers and students, and during times such as while eating and drinking when a mask is temporarily removed. Mask wearing and frequent handwashing / sanitizing will be required.

As we prepare SMMUSD for a full return to in-person school, we are faced with many details to finalize. This is what our negotiating teams continue to work on with urgency right now.

We have been working with our Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association to adapt to this new guidance and our facilities team will be moving furniture back into classrooms from the previous six-foot guideline during spring break.

We expect to have an update by Friday as to what is planned for the return from spring break on April 12.

In the meantime, please understand that everyone is hard at work creating the best and safest educational programs for all students and return to full time school as quickly as possible. Distance learning will continue to be an option for families.

Please watch for a district survey in the next day or two that will help us finalize our plans for full return.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Dr. Ben Drati, Superintendent

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

1651 Sixteenth Street • Santa Monica • California 90404-3891 • (310) 450-8338 • www.smmusd.org

Board of Education: Keith Coleman • Craig Foster • Jon Kean • Maria Leon-Vazquez

Laurie Lieberman • Jennifer Smith • Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein

Superintendent: Dr. Ben Drati