



Upland Unified School District
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September 25, 2020

Dear Upland Unified School District families,

Hope you are all well! This week, the District received an official Elementary Education Determination Letter approving our request for a waiver from the state's ban on in-classroom instruction. This approval is based on Upland's low daily case rate, which is less than half of the County's rate, and well below the required threshold. Another consideration for waiver approval is our reopening plan and efforts, which exceed all of the state required elements.

As superintendent, I want to be clear that we are not hastily reopening schools. Safety is our first and highest priority, and prior to moving forward, all appropriate safety measures will be in place.

As a first step, our plan remains to pilot a small-group in-person cohort at each school site. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has released guidance allowing small-group in-person cohorts of no more than 16, including students and staff, to receive educational support services on campus. For us, this first step will take place as soon as each school has completely secured safety. From there, we will increase the number of cohorts we bring back on campus until we reach the need or the maximum capacity of 25% of enrolled students on each campus. Our first priority is to offer in-person support to students based on needs.

The next step in our plan to reopen schools is to activate the Elementary School Waiver, which allows us to reopen our elementary schools in a blended model. *Only those families who selected the blended option* and would like to continue in the blended model will receive in-person instruction during your designated a.m. or p.m. synchronous learning blocks. This could occur as early as November but depends on the status of the installation of our safety precautions. For more information, you may want to access the September 16 update meeting at <https://linktr.ee/UplandUSD>.

Please keep in mind that we are proceeding cautiously to ensure safety protocols and measures are successfully in place. I know that many of you are eager for your children to return to the classroom, but please continue to be patient with us – safety first.

Thank you again for your support and grace,

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Lynn Carmen Day
Superintendent of Schools
Upland Unified School District