



New Designs Charter Schools
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Dear NDCS Families,

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation and support throughout the last school year. We began the previous school year with full distance learning. In April 2021, we successfully reopened in a hybrid model with our safety protocols in place, and so the school year ended successfully.

We believe that there is no substitute for in-person instruction. Therefore, we have planned to fully open our school for in-person learning. The **2021-2022** school year starts on August 17, 2021, with a **five-day in-person full schedule** that includes expanded opportunities for academic success. We will do everything possible to make sure students and teachers safely return to the classroom as we did during the last school year. Over the summer, we continued to work hard to educate our students by offering credit recovery courses and robust summer school offerings. We also continued to take measures that will ensure the safe return of our students and staff for the 2021-22 school year. The measures we have taken include the following:

1. All teachers and staff on campus will be fully vaccinated
2. Our safety protocols are aligned to the LACDPH reopening guideline and best practices that will keep our students and staff safe.
3. There will be weekly COVID19 testing and wearing of masks on campus at all times.
4. The ventilation systems in our classrooms have been upgraded to improve air circulation and filtration. All classrooms have MERV13 filters and HEPA Air filters.
5. We will conduct health screening and temperature checks daily for all students and staff.
6. We have increased our custodial staff to provide more cleaning and disinfecting services throughout the day. We will sanitize all classrooms, restrooms, and other commonly used areas at the end of the school day.
7. We have partnered with a local clinic. The clinic will be on our school campus daily to provide immunizations, health screenings, and COVID19 vaccines to our students who choose to do so. **We highly recommend that all students take the COVID19 vaccine for their safety and the safety of all.**
8. We are also partnering with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) to provide mental health services to students.
9. We have improved our afterschool program to include other enrichment activities such as robotics, coding, dance, visual arts, cooking, etc.

For this school year, there will be a focus on learning recovery and mental health support for all students, especially our special groups. We are looking to the new school year as an opportunity to continue improving our schools and to re-engage with our students and parents. Thank you for your continued support.

Dr. Paul Okaiteye, CEO