



Jeremy Decker  
Superintendent

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April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dear Windsor Community,

I have stayed relatively silent with regard to the updated guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) that allows us to reduce social distancing in classrooms to 3 feet from 6 feet. Admittedly, for the week of April 5<sup>th</sup>, I didn't ask the site administration or the teachers to begin assessing how our classrooms might look different if the 3 foot distancing guidance was used in place of the current 6 foot guidance. I wanted to make sure I gave everyone the opportunity to simply focus on welcoming students back to our classrooms for the first time in over a year.

Having said that, over the past week we began to assess how the new guidance could help us to welcome students back for more time in the classroom. On Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, the district met with the WDEA Teacher Bargaining Team to discuss modifying our current agreement that was outdated and based upon the old guidance of 6 feet. We both agreed that we want to continue to follow the science, and as 3 foot distancing is now the recommendation from the CDC and CDPH, we should modify our current MOU language to fit the updated guidance. Be that as it may, this does not mean that we are able to immediately welcome back all students.

For many classrooms that have individual desks, it is relatively easy to plan. For many of our other classrooms, it isn't quite as straight forward as we would like. For those classrooms with individual desks, we can simply space the desks 3 feet apart and fit most students back into the classroom. However, about half of our classrooms in the district don't contain individual desks. These classrooms contain double desks that are 4-5 feet wide where two students normally sit next to each other. These classrooms are requiring a greater amount of planning.

Following this analysis, we will then be engaging teachers in the conversation to discuss what we could do to potentially improve the experience for our students with a transition to 3' versus 6' (schedule, delivery of instruction models, meeting the needs of both "roomers" and "zoomers", etc.). Once we have thought through classroom setup, potential schedule changes, etc. we will identify our plan for how we will utilize the new guidance to our advantage.

In summary:

- CDPH adopted 3' distancing in classrooms versus 6' distancing in classrooms.
- WUSD has adopted 3" distancing in classrooms versus 6" distancing in classrooms, but has not moved forward with implementing any changes yet.
- Upcoming planning:
  1. Assess which classrooms can/can't accommodate more students based on size and current furniture.
  2. Problem solve for those classrooms that are unable to accommodate an increase in students due to classroom size and/or furniture limitations.
  3. Design instructional delivery model utilizing the new guidance.

I can't believe that I am sending you another email detailing how we are going to go about planning for the new guidance, but here I am doing so. While I am excited at the thought of getting more students on campus for more days, we want to make sure that we are thoughtful in our planning so we can effectively meet the needs of both students in-person and those who have chosen to not return to in-person instruction for the remainder of the year.

Thank you for your continued partnership, and all you are doing for our students. More to come!

Sincerely,

*Jeremy Decker*