

Dear Scholars, Staff, Families, and Community,

The Aromas-San Juan Unified School District has closely monitored local data and consulted with public health experts at the San Benito County Health Department throughout this school year. I am writing to share that the Delta variant of COVID-19 has become an increasing concern in our community.

This variant appears to spread more easily than other forms of COVID-19 and may have a greater impact on younger people than we have seen in the past. As such, we are keeping a close eye on this variant as we make decisions moving forward.

At this time, we do not plan to adjust our learning models or school schedules. However, changes may become necessary if this variant keeps spreading and we continue to have increases local positivity rates.

One of the ways we can mitigate the effects of all COVID-19 variants is to increase vaccination rates in our community. At this time, the Pfizer vaccine is approved for individuals 12 and older, while the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are approved for those 18 and over. Although we will not require students to get vaccinated to attend school, we highly encourage all eligible individuals to get the vaccine if they have not done so already.

If you and/or your student have already received the vaccine, thank you. If you have questions about the vaccines, their safety, or their effectiveness, please see the following resources:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>
- <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/coronavirus/in-depth/coronavirus-vaccine/art-20484859>
- <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Covid19Vaccines.aspx>

For more information on receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, contact your healthcare provider or the San Benito County Public Health Department at 831.636.4113. Keep in mind that the vaccine is free, although some providers may charge your insurance company for administration. The Hollister Youth Alliance will be hosting a **vaccine clinic on August 29, 2021**, from noon until 3 p.m. at:

Hollister Youth Alliance (Back Parking Lot)
310 Fourth Street
Hollister, CA 95023

As always, thank you for your support as we work to protect the health and safety of our students, staff, families, and community members.

Sincerely,

Michele Huntoon, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Aromas-San Juan Unified School District