

# Superintendent Chat FAQ

## 11.4.20

### TK-2 Waiver:

Where is the District in the TK-2 waiver process? We have submitted waivers for all ten schools. LA County is currently reviewing our applications. We expect to hear back in the next week or two. Priority is given to sites with the highest percentage of free or reduced lunch students. The order for NSD would be:

1. Newhall
2. McGrath
3. Wiley Canyon
4. Peachland
5. Old Orchard
6. Pico Canyon
7. Valencia Valley
8. Meadows
9. Oak Hills
10. Stevenson Ranch

Will the upper grade live meet times be adjusted to accommodate drop off and pick times for the younger kids when the waiver is granted? If this is a concern, communicate to your site principal about a desire to potentially take the PM slot so you can be home with your upper grade child during their morning live meets.

What are we supposed to do with our older kids when our younger ones go back to school, during drop off and pickup vs live meets at home vs school lunch pickup, etc? Older kids are not old enough to be left home alone or do their distance learning on their own. Similar to above, reach out to your site principal to see if one of the two slots might better meet your needs. We also have childcare support if that might better meet the needs for your family.

How is the District meeting the social emotional needs of students? The District has hired a full-time counselor at each school to provide supports for students. If you believe your child could benefit from additional support, please reach out to your school to let them know. They are providing friendship groups, lunch buddies, and other fun activities throughout the week.

Is the District required to report positive cases of COVID? The District is required to quarantine any cohort that has someone test positive or shows symptoms of COVID. The return is dependent on the results and ongoing symptoms. Below is a link that explains the process our nurses use to determine next steps:

<https://www.newhallschooldistrict.com/cms/lib/CA01902607/Centricity/Domain/109/COVID%2019%20Management.pdf>

### Small Cohorts:

I heard that Districts can now bring back 25% of their students not just 10%? Yes, that is true. This will allow us to expand the number of students on each site and this number does not include childcare students or students in TK-2 if the waiver is approved at a school.

What is the rollout plan? We have currently launched in-person partial day live teacher for our SHINE program at Old Orchard, Severe SDC Program at Pico Canyon, and TK and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Dual Language Immersion Program at Old Orchard. The Wiley Canyon SDC program comes back next Thursday 11.12.20. On 11.30.20, the pre-school SDC program at Peachland and the High Functioning Autism program at Oak Hills will return. All Mild/Mod SDC programs will return on or before 12.14.20. Following winter break, we plan to return other student support services programs like RSP and Speech.

### Miscellaneous Topics:

Can my child opt for Independent Study and stay with their same teacher, instead of applying for a switch to DLA and back and forth? A student can choose long term independent study, but that is an entirely different program and is with a different teacher who works at Newhall Elementary.

If we are still in this position next year, is the district considering 4 hours twice a week like most other districts as opposed to 2.5 hours a day four days a week? We will plan to survey parents and bring recommendations to our School Start Task Force later in the spring.

Will the District consider still offer a 100% Digital Learning Program next fall? We will be surveying families to determine the interest for a permanent on-line school.

What are the instructional minute requirements? K-180 minutes, 60 min of synchronous time; 1st-230 minutes, 75 min of synchronous time; 2nd & 3rd- 230 minutes, 90 min synchronous time; 4th-6th-240min, 90 min synchronous time. These are minimum requirements and live instruction is required in math, English Language Arts, and English Language Development each day.

Will there be State testing this year? Currently we are being told that there will still be State testing, but tomorrow they are discussing at the State level to shorten the length of the assessment.