



January 12, 2022

Greetings LUSD Families and Staff:

Welcome to the second semester of the school year. As we begin the new semester, we are experiencing a significant increase in COVID-19 spread throughout our community and region. This surge in virus activity is creating significant challenges that all families and staff need to be aware of.

The presence of COVID-19 on campus and in our community has increased dramatically. The table below shows a comparison of confirmed, positive COVID-19 cases that impact LUSD.

	Cases from Semester 1	Cases in January 2022
Staff	16	23
Student	62	55

The increase in cases is directly impacting the District’s ability to provide required staffing levels to operate some school functions. In short, we do not have a sufficient number of healthy staff members to operate our system as required. As a result, LUSD will be implementing a temporary, short-term remote learning plan for all students and sites.

Beginning on Friday, January 14, 2022 students will not report to school. Students may bring some school work home with them on Thursday, January 13th. This work will be independent work and is intended to prepare students for the remote classes that will begin on Tuesday, January 18 since Monday, January 17 is the Martin Luther King holiday and school is not in session that day. Remote classes will run from Tuesday, January 18 through Monday, January 24. Students will return to campus for in-person learning on Tuesday, January 25th.

In order to prepare for the return to in-person learning on Tuesday, January 25th, the District will be offering a free rapid testing clinic on Monday, January 24th. It is our hope that all students and staff who plan to return to campus for in-person learning on Tuesday, January 25th will participate in this testing clinic. During this temporary move to remote learning, please help limit the spread of COVID-19 in our community. Everyone can limit the spread of COVID-19 by implementing good hand-washing practices, wearing a well-fitted mask, testing for COVID-19 when you experience an exposure, and staying home if you do not feel well or experience COVID-19 symptoms (sore throat, runny nose, cough, headache, etc.).

Additionally, the Lake County Department of Public Health released new guidance for schools on January 6th. LUSD will be implementing these recommendations moving forward. A copy of the guidance from LCPH can be found here: [COVID-19 Update: Keeping Schools Open During The Omicron Surge.](#)

Finally, we are hopeful that the break from in-person learning at LUSD will slow the spread of COVID-19 and allow all students and staff an opportunity to return to campus healthy on Tuesday, January 25th. We remain committed to in-person learning and want to keep our schools and classrooms open for instruction. We need everyone's assistance with reporting cases in a timely manner and staying home if you are not feeling well in order to keep LUSD open.

Stay well,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Bullard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "B".

Matt Bullard