

## Family Communication #49

January 19, 2021

Dear St. Francis Families,

On January 18, the St. Francis School Board heard a [presentation](#) from the Administrative Leadership Team about why they are recommending SFSD offer both in-person and virtual learning effective February 1st.

**Board Action** - The Board voted to approve the Phase-In to In-Person Learning as presented.

**Next Steps** - To plan for the return of students, please complete the [follow-up survey](#) to indicate which learning environment you will be choosing for each of your children. More detailed, school-specific information will be coming from your Building Principal.

### ***Why is the Leadership Team Recommending the Phase-In to In-Person Learning?***

- Updated Guidance from the CDC
- Learning Management Systems in Place - SeeSaw and Schoology
- Mitigation Processes in Place
- SM SF Health Department Supports the Phase-In Plan
- Student-Centered and Focused on Improving
  - Student Engagement
  - Student Performance

### ***The recommendations were as follows:***

- **January 18**
  - Board Meeting - Action Items
    - Recommendation to shift to internal metrics.
    - Recommendation to have only two (2) learning environments for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year: In-Person or Virtual
    - Phase-In to In-Person learning starting February 1, 2021
- **January 19**
  - All staff report to buildings.
  - Survey to parents on selection of learning environment.
  - Approved student support groups restart.
- **February 1**
  - In-Person Learning 4 days/week begins (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday); Virtual Instruction on Wednesdays with student instruction ending at 11:15 AM.

Thank you for your support ,

Sincerely,

Dr. Mark Elworthy

***Guidance from the Health Department as students and staff return to school.***

There are some very important things to remember as we return to in person learning. Please take some time to read this very carefully so we are able to remain in person and not have to return to virtual.

### Masks/Face Coverings

A 2-ply mask is required. 1 layer buffs/gaiters, and loose fitting bandanas do not meet this requirement . The mask must fit snugly over the nose and mouth and must be worn at all times (except when eating or drinking). This includes when students or visitors are on school grounds during normal pre- and post- school hours or during events.

### Staying Home When Sick or After Contact

Students must stay home when they are sick. Please use this [Screening Tool](#) to decide if your student is well enough for school. Please use the normal method of letting the school know your student is ill, including their symptoms. Some important things to remember:

- The District Nurse will most likely follow up with you when you call a student in ill. Please answer/return the phone call so the district can determine the time period that your student will need to stay at home. Students will not be allowed to return without having communicated all of the information requested by the district.
- Keep your student home if they had contact with a person who tested positive for the virus. Again, a member of the district's health team will be reaching out to you to talk through the details and find the earliest date your student can return to school.
- If your student becomes ill during the school day, you or another adult will need to pick up your student as soon as possible.
- After a student has been out for quarantine/isolation, the student will need to check in with the office in the building prior to returning to the classroom for a temperature and symptom check.
- Students will generally need to remain home for 10 calendar days after having contact with a person who tested positive, getting tested with a positive result, or having COVID19 symptoms. The District Nurse will be following up during this time to give you further guidance.
- The district will notify all students and staff members who have been in close contact with a person who tested positive and was in school within two days prior to the positive test and or start of symptoms.
- Please see this [FAQ](#) document for further information.