

# Ontario-Montclair

## School District

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*Superintendent*

February 24, 2021

Dear OMSD Parents/Families and Staff Members:

I hope this letter finds you and your family healthy, safe and well. I am writing today to share important information about our current efforts to help create a safe start for OMSD schools and departments in the coming weeks.

Based on decreasing cases of COVID-19 trends within OMSD, San Bernardino County, and adjacent counties, as well as increasing ICU bed availability in Southern California, now being at **19.5%**; I am authorizing increased discretion for all teachers, other certificated staff, classified staff, and management employees to work from either their OMSD school site, department office or remotely.

All OMSD school sites and departments will be reopened for public and staff access, no later than Monday, March 1, 2021 and all OMSD administrators will report to work daily to support public access to the District and school site offices. I continue to ask those working remotely to monitor all phone calls and emails and return calls/emails promptly within each business day.

**With a tentative start date being forecasted for April 5, 2021** for the return to an in-person hybrid learning model, I will provide staff, students and parents/families ample notice to make the necessary preparations, once this date has been firmly established or modified. The District will be asking parents to participate in an upcoming Google survey. This survey will ask parents to identify their preferred learning options (including blended in-person and online only).

In addition to the parent survey, staff will be asked to participate in a survey regarding the vaccination process. The results of this survey will help gauge the number of staff who have participated in the vaccine procedure. Although not a mandate at this time, the vaccine continues to be an important safety measure for those interacting with students, families and community.

We continue to encourage families and community members to use telephone and/or email whenever possible, when communicating with OMSD school sites or departments.

**“Our Community, Our Children, Our Commitment, Our Future”**

As we proceed closer to in-person instruction, please remember our plans in OMSD must be nimble and adaptable so we can adjust and update our efforts as needed, as the public health landscape continues to evolve and further improve. The District will continue to closely monitor COVID-19 infection rates to best determine when a safe return to in-person instruction may be possible.

I want to again remind us all of the importance for continuing social distancing, mask wearing, washing hands frequently and other important safety protocols, particularly as we return to school sites and offices.

I appreciate all of your continued efforts, dedication and compassion for the academic learning and social development of all OMSD students as we collectively work towards getting back to in-person learning. Together, we will address the concerns related to COVID-19 while maintaining a concerted focus on the health and well-being of our students and staff while ensuring OMSD students continue to receive a world-class education.

Sincerely,  
James Q. Hammond, Ed.D.  
Superintendent