

# **Lowell Joint** **SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*"Home of Scholars and Champions"*



*Healthy Families and Staff Newsletter* (Update #26)

## **Lowell Joint STRONG**

February 19, 2021



We are so proud of our students and families as we have all worked together to best serve our students!!! It is both exciting, and with some apprehension, that we look forward to starting the phased re-opening of our classrooms and schools on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff are working through the hundreds of details as we excitedly plan for students to return back to their schools. Thank you in advance for the incredible flexibility and patience as we constantly adjust to help support the various campus needs in a format that we have never done before, which is a big reason we are implementing our phased reopening. Please recall that many of our Lowell Joint families and staff are working through loss and serious life challenges; the grace and mercy we give to each other is so precious; thank you. We are reminded that during these stormy times we have our feet planted on solid rock, we are not given more than we can handle. I have to be honest though, there have been a few times I have wondered 😊. We are **SO** blessed to have a staff with such heart, compassion, care, and hardworking; **THANK YOU!** We continue to stand in faith as we are **LOWELL JOINT STRONG** and we will stand strong against the storms that come our way; you are the beacon/lighthouse of educational excellence; **THANK YOU!**

Cliff-note versions of a multifaceted/ever changing world:

The LA County Public Health Department updated tracking numbers are:

- Spread/case rate: Current data is **20/100K**. Last week it is was **31.7**. (#/100K citizens- target is <7/100K)
- Test positivity percentage: Current data is **7.2%**. Last week it is was **9.5%**. (target is <8%)
- Health Equity: Current data is **10.1%**. Last week it is was **13%**. (accounting for high poverty aspects; no real target established)

The Orange County Public Health Department updated tracking numbers are:

- Spread/case rate: Current data is **20.7/100K**. Last week it is was **29.7**. (#/100K citizens- target is <7/100K)
- Test positivity percentage: Current data is **7.8%**. Last week it is was **9.4%**. (target is <8%)
- Health Equity: Current data is **10.7%**. Last week it is was **12.4%**. (accounting for high poverty aspects; no real target established)

This good news is that the numbers continue to significantly drop 😊.

Current State data ([State Link](#)). National data from John Hopkins: [John Hopkins COVID Resource Center](#).

Governor's blueprint: [California Department of Public Health](#).

- As we shared in the last couple of Healthy Family Updates, the Governor - Cal Dept. of Public Health (CDPH) – LA and Orange County Public Health issued new orders on January 14<sup>th</sup>. All of these have been incorporated into our existing Safe Reopening Plans, which have been in place since last August as part of our *Return to School Adaptable Plan Continuum* and supporting documents, which are always on our website under [Healthy Families Updates \(COVID19\)](#). Brief summary:

- 1) LA County Schools are open now and able to reopen TK-6 because the positive case rate is below 25/100K (Currently 20/100K). The 7<sup>TH</sup>-8<sup>TH</sup> grades will reopen when the positive case rate are less than 8/100K. The County Public Health projects that that this will be within the next couple of weeks, which is in alignment with are projected date for Rancho (March 29, 2021).
- 2) As a reminder, our phase reopening schedule is:
  - ✓TK-K-1 March 1
  - ✓2-3-4 March 8
  - ✓5-6 March 15
  - ✓7 March 29/30 (pending case rate data)
  - ✓8 April 5 (pending case rate data)

- 3) Each grade level will have 3 days of preparation prior to the students returning to class. They will still have synchronous time on those days, basically it is a Wednesday schedule. This allows time for them to get their rooms ready. 😊
  - 4) As an early heads-up; it is anticipated that the State will fund summer school programs to help engage students, support their social-emotional needs, and start to fill in some of the learning gaps that have developed. We will be sending out more information over the next few weeks. This is absolutely voluntary for students and staff. It will not be for the whole summer, but probably mirror the high school district structure and schedule. The focus will **not** be computer screen time, but personal connection, engagement, and starting to fill learning gaps.
- These are the links for the [California Department of Public Health](#) and the [Orange County Health Care Agency](#).
  - LJSJ continues to have **very few** staff or students that have notified us that they tested positive; thank God.
  - As a reminder all former and new [Safe Reopening Plans](#), [CAL/OSHA order](#) and [Injury & Illness Prevention Program \(IIPP\)](#) have been completed and are posted on our webpage.
  - As we reopen campuses for in-person instruction, **PLEASE** remember to follow all of the safety protocols: social distancing, face coverings, wash your hands, etc. Thank you for following these protocols; we have done a great job! Also know that we will not allow any additional folks on campus unless they have school business and only after they have completed the Wellness Screening in the front office.
  - **Please, please, please** know that during these times everything really does change and adjust every 2-4 days and now sometimes every 2-4 hours. Thank you for your patience, mercy, and grace.
  - You are **GREATLY APPRECIATED, GREATLY VALUED AND GREATLY LOVED!**

There is not a day that I don't need a little time to pause, hit my knees, and take a deep breath. Thank you for doing the same as we support each other through the storms right now as we walk in grace and mercy. Lowell Joint is truly a very special place, we will withstand these storms, and come out strong on the other side.

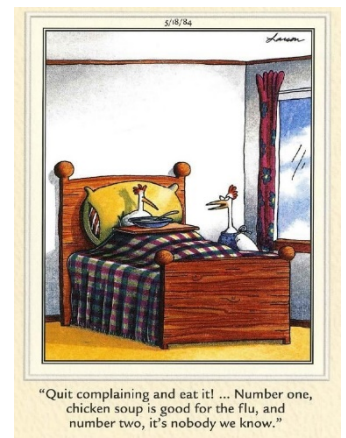
Your continued strength, compassion, care, resilience, GRIT, and heart are an incredible testimony to the shared dedication and commitment of our students, staff, parents, and community. *Yes, this is the same thing we say each time, but it is so true and I will keep reminding you...*

# THANK YOU – YOU ARE A BLESSING! LOWELL JOINT **STRONG!!**

*A littler laughter helps bring joy....*

*Just some bad barnyard humor....*

*Back to school, country style. No I am not of the little boys in the picture 😊 ....*



Just as reminder:

<b>Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday</b>		
<b>1st - 6th Grade</b>		
<b>Arrival</b>	8:15-8:30am	Arrive at assigned gate, temp check, go directly to class
<b>Instruction</b>	8:30-10:00am	Core Content Instruction
<b>Recess</b>	10:00-10:20am	Staggered recess times so that class remain together
<b>Instruction</b>	10:20-12:45pm	Core Content Instruction
<b>Dismissal &amp; Grab-n-Go Lunch</b>	12:45-1:15pm	Supervised dismissal/all students can pick-up grab-n-go lunches
<b>Asynchronous virtual</b>	1:45-2:30pm	Office Hours, asynchronous instruction, intervention and enrichment.
<b>Virtual Student grab-n-go lunches (drive-up): 1:15-2:15pm</b>		
<b>Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday</b>		
<b>TK/K</b>		
<b>Arrival (AM Cohort)</b>	8:15-8:30am	Arrive at assigned gate, temp check, go directly to class
<b>AM Cohort</b>	8:30-10:30am	Core Content Instruction
<b>Dismissal/Lunch</b>	10:30-11:15am	AM Cohort supervised dismissal/all students can pick-up grab-n-go lunches
<b>Arrival (PM Cohort)</b>	11:00-11:15am	Arrive at assigned gate, temp check, go directly to class
<b>PM Cohort</b>	11:15-1:15pm	Core Content Instruction
<b>Dismissal &amp; Grab-n-Go Lunch</b>	1:15-2:15pm	PM Cohort supervised dismissal/all students can pick-up grab-n-go lunches
<b>Asynchronous virtual</b>	1:30-2:30pm	Office Hours, asynchronous instruction, intervention and enrichment.
<b>Virtual Student grab-n-go lunches (drive-up): 1:15-2:15pm</b>		
<b>Virtual Learning Wednesday</b>		
<b>TK - 6th Grade</b>		
<b>Distance Learning from home</b>	8:30-9:30am	Instruction: morning business, core subjects, synchronous
	9:30-1:15pm	Asynchronous Instruction TK/K
	9:30-1:45pm	Asynchronous Instruction 1st - 6th
<b>7th - 8th Grade</b>		
	8:15-8:30am	Homeroom
	8:30-9:30	Teacher Office Hours
	9:30-1:45	Asynchronous Instruction/Planning Time
<b>Lunch &amp; Grab-n-Go available at school</b>	11am-1pm	Lunches available at school for grab-n-go