Dear SCCS Families,

Yesterday, we shared information on the new statewide system for COVID monitoring.  Our community is seeing relief from our first surge of the COVID virus, but county health is telling us to expect a second surge of COVID cases as a result of families being required to evacuate and mix outside of their households because of the fire. Whatever our county's COVID status is, there are some additional supports that districts may implement.  As I shared a couple of weeks ago, our Board accepted our School Reopening Advisory Committee's recommendation to remain in distance learning until the end of the semester in January. The following outlines our planning for additional student and family support as we continue with distance learning this fall.

### *Family Distance Learning Nights September 24th and September 30th 5:30 PM*
Save the date:  Google Classroom Training and Questions & Answers
Families will learn how Google Classroom works from a student's perspective to better support your student in turning in assignments and tracking work and class sessions.  A Zoom link and more information will be shared next week.  For now, save the date -- September 24th and 30th 5:30 PM on zoom.

### *Family Support Networks Tuesday Nights 6-7 PM (English) and 7-8 PM (Spanish)*
**Beginning next week, on TUESDAY'S 6-7pm (English) and 7-8 PM (Spanish) via Zoom (NEW!) Positive Discipline Family Support Networks** will begin for all Santa Cruz City Schools' families. Please take a moment to fill out this survey on topics to select to get the support you need! This will be an ongoing drop in network with topics selected in advance by participants. Come with an open mind, root yourself in self-compassion and be ready to discuss a challenge you are facing.  [Survey Link](Survey Link)

### *Small Academic Cohorts*
The California Department of Public Health has established guidelines that allow schools to bring in small groups of students for targeted instructional support.  The guidance specifies that schools should prioritize support for students with disabilities, English learners, students at higher risk of further learning loss or not participating in distance learning, students at risk of abuse or neglect, foster youth and students experiencing homelessness.  In addition, the guidance outlines the safety requirements that must be implemented.

Our district team is currently working on plans to begin to bring in small cohorts of students who need these targeted supports.  We are working on different models to support the small cohorts. We are planning to use the outdoors whenever possible. We are collaborating with the County Office of Education on an Outdoor School model to create the safest possible environment for these in-person supports.

A part of our planning is a pilot.  The County Office of Education Outdoor School will be providing childcare for the children of SCCS staff members that will begin this next week at three of our school sites.  We are implementing an outdoor school model with small groups of TK-5 students that will serve as a pilot for our small cohorts. We are grateful to the County Office of Education for their support in establishing this program.

***Virtual Tutoring***
As part of our Learning Continuity and Attendance plan, we will be implementing virtual tutoring groups for students needing additional supports at each of our campuses.  Look for more information and details from your Principal as we work to get these support services rolled out over the next several weeks.

***Athletic Conditioning***
Beginning September 14th, our high schools will be able to restart athletic conditioning utilizing the safety measures outlined by the state guidance for youth sports.  Although athletic seasons have been delayed until at least November, this will allow small groups to do socially distanced conditioning.

We hope that you and your family are doing as well as possible this fall.  Please do not hesitate to reach out to your school site for support when needed.  We are here to serve and support you.

Best regards,

Kris Munro
Superintendent