



December 16, 2020

**We Expect
Excellence**

Dear Ripon Unified Staff and Families,

As you may be aware, San Joaquin County and the entire state of California is facing a large increase in COVID-19 cases. Our town of Ripon has experienced this same type of increase. Throughout our school district we have quarantined a number of classes at different school sites as a result of positive COVID-19 cases in staff and students.

Last night, at our regularly scheduled Ripon Unified School Board meeting, the trustees unanimously voted to move all of our schools to distance learning from January 5, 2021 through January 8, 2021. This allows for a period of self-isolating after the holiday prior to returning to full instruction for all schools on January 11, 2021. As part of the decision there were three exceptions made and they include the following: Tier 3 classes, Career Technical Education (CTE) classes and the Ripon After School Program (RAP) are to return as scheduled for the week of January 4, 2021. Tier 3 classes and the CTE course will resume on Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

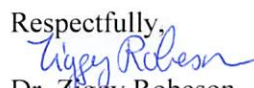
We appreciate our families understanding and patience during these challenging times. Our district goal continues to be the safety of our students while preparing them for their future. At this time, students in 7th through 12th grade who have opted for distance learning will still have the option to remain on distance learning. Meals will be provided at Ripon Elementary School in the morning from 7:30 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. and at Ripon High School in the afternoon from 11:00 a.m. until 12:45 p.m.

Please remember the importance of continuing our efforts to keep our community safe. Per the CDPH guidelines, remember to wear a face mask, do your best to social distance, wash hands frequently, and stay home when you feel sick.

COVID-19 & the Flu are both contagious respiratory illnesses with similar symptoms. Testing may be needed to confirm a diagnosis, but there are some differences. Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 vs. the Flu, and when to seek medical care. A person can test negative for COVID-19 and later develop symptoms. It may take up to 14 days to test positive for COVID-19 once exposed. If you think you have been exposed or have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, self-quarantine and monitor for symptoms. If your child exhibits any of these symptoms, even if mild, please keep him or her at home. Contact your healthcare provider and get tested for COVID-19.

Again, since March it has been our desire to have all of our students return to all school campuses as soon as it is safely possible. Your support has been overwhelming and we feel lucky to call our Ripon Community part of our family.

Wishing you and yours a Happy Holiday!

Respectfully,

Dr. Ziggy Robeson
Superintendent

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