

Subject: Update From Yu Ming Head of School

[Traducción Española](#)

Dear Yu Ming Community,

We have made it through almost three weeks of school! Our teachers and staff, our parents and guardians, and our scholars have all been doing an amazing job. Each of you has played a part in our incredibly strong start.

We know these are challenging times and many in our community are suffering. Our country continues to contend with two unrelenting pandemics: COVID-19 and systemic racism. On top of that, we are coping with wildfires and the physical and social separation we and our kids are all feeling! Please know we see and feel your disappointment, stress, and even grief.

But I also see our community remain kind, resilient, and supportive. In times of crisis, we must fight for the success of each one of us even more fiercely than ever.

In my last communication, I promised a formal update before September 7. This is how our Yu Ming community will move forward together.

The latest guidance from the state and county:

Much of what Yu Ming can and cannot do is controlled by state and county public health rules on COVID-19. Currently, three main guidelines apply:

1. California has divided counties into COVID severity levels by color, ranging from best (yellow) to worst (purple). Alameda County, where Yu Ming is located, is currently in the worst purple zone and not allowed to open schools yet. Only schools in counties in the red zone for at least two weeks can reopen in person.
2. Schools that can't open for in-person instruction are allowed to invite small, unchanging groups of at-risk students to come on campus for help with distance learning and other targeted or specialized services. Yu Ming plans to do this in September after reviewing our student data.
3. Schools in Alameda County may now also express interest in applying for an Elementary (TK-6) Waiver. Yu Ming is currently studying that guidance.

We are planning for the most likely scenario:

Last Saturday, our Yu Ming Board of Directors considered all the available information and made the decision to communicate the following path forward for Yu Ming:

1. Most students will receive 100% distance learning through December and we will focus on further strengthening and refining our remote Distance Learning program.
2. Students who need specialized support are partially served on campus in small groups with precautions beginning in September.
3. We will prioritize K-1 students for on-campus support or in-person instruction when it becomes possible.
4. We will re-evaluate when Alameda County is moved from "Purple" to the "Red" Tier and communicate any change of course to families.

We want to be realistic and transparent and communicate that we currently think a “hybrid” reopening this fall is very unlikely.

We know that this news may come as a relief to some while presenting new hardships for others. Please let us know how we can support you by completing this [short form](#) and joining me and Yu Ming Board Member Lucia Hwang tomorrow, Friday Sept. 4 for a [Zoom Coffee](#) at 8:30-9:15am.

- Zoom Meeting ID: 998 9911 9018; Zoom Passcode: ERxx6B
- Dial In 669-900-9128 US; Dial In Passcode: 045947

We are committed to finding ways to support each of our students to thrive through this unprecedented year. Let us continue to take care of one another, and together remain safe, adaptive, and creative. Let us continue to move forward together, in community.

With gratitude,



Sue Park
Head of School

