

Subject: Yu Ming Reopening Survey Update

Date: October 12, 2020

[Traducción al español](#)



Dear Yu Ming Families,

I hope this message finds you healthy, safe, and enjoying the beginning of fall break. It appears that Alameda County continues to trend in a positive direction with fewer new COVID cases each day, and although we are approaching the “orange” level indicators, we remain at the “red” level on the state’s [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#).

[On October 2nd](#), I shared that Alameda County will permit elementary schools to begin to reopen starting on October 13th with county approval of a comprehensive reopening plan. On October 6th the county released the reopening plan requirements.

As part of our re-opening transition planning, last week we surveyed our staff and families to share their current preferences for our transition to hybrid learning (a combination of in-person and online learning). Here are some highlights from the surveys:

From our staff survey:

- 35% of staff are willing to come back on-campus to work before there is a COVID vaccine, assuming we have effective safety protocols in place
- 85% of staff said that after winter break is a reasonable starting date for reopening

From our family survey:

- We received 448 survey responses (representing 81% of Yu Ming student enrollment)
- 29% of families would have students return to in person/hybrid school in the fall
- 40% of families prefer to remain in distance learning until January
- 30% of families prefer to remain in distance learning until June
- 87% of families feel supported or very supported during distance learning

**Given our community feedback, we have made the decision not to reopen any full grade levels prior to Winter Break.** We will continue the work of planning and creating the necessary readiness conditions and timeline for our hybrid model transition. We will also continue to study the possibility of supporting additional small pods of students based on need prior to Winter Break, but will only staff these pods on a volunteer basis.

Additionally, during the 8 weeks of school before winter break, we will spend our time finalizing assessments and reporting for Trimester 1 (which concludes on November 13th), and finalizing

our operations and instructional plans and systems for phasing in the reopening of our school campuses for in-person learning.

We know that our current situation is not a sufficient replacement for our in-person school and that our students are craving more in-person, off-screen connections and learning experiences. If the health conditions of our region continue to trend positively, we know that this goal is within reach.

We are deeply grateful for all the ways that our community - students, families, teachers, and staff - continue to do their best in these challenging times. We hope that you have a restorative fall break.

In community,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sue Park", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Sue Park  
Head of School