



Lowell Joint SCHOOL DISTRICT



"Home of Scholars and Champions"

Healthy Families Newsletter (Update #28)

Lowell Joint **STRONG**

April 9, 2021



WHAT A TRULY AWESOME REOPENING!!!

THANK YOU AND YOU ARE A BLESSING 😊. Truthfully, it has been wonderful to watch our staff actually in tears as they welcome our students back home. Please remember that during these stormy times we have had our feet planted on solid rock and we are not given more than we can handle. 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:

LA County Public Health Department updated tracking numbers:

- Spread/case rate: Current data is **3.1/100K**. Last week it was **3.1**. (#/100K citizens- target is <7/100K). January 12th it was **77/100K**.
- Test positivity percentage: Current data is **1.4%**. Last week it was **1.5%**. (target is <8%). January 12th it was **20.5%**.
- Health Equity: Current data is **1.9%**. Last week it was **2.1%**. January 12th it was **26.3%**.

Orange County Public Health Department updated tracking numbers:

- Spread/case rate: Current data is **3.0/100K**. Last week it was **2.8**. (#/100K citizens- target is <7/100K). January 12th it was **78.8/100K**.
- Test positivity percentage: Current data is **1.6%**. Last week it was **1.7%**. (target is <8%). January 12th it was **19.5%**.
- Health Equity: Current data is **2.1%**. Last week it was **2.6%**. January 12th it was **24.2%**.

More good news is that the numbers continue to drop significantly 😊. As you are aware both LA County and Orange County have transitioned to the orange tier and are actually on track to transition to the yellow tier in the next couple of weeks– **YA-HOO!**

School/Location	Number of Students & Staff (In-Person)+	Current Confirmed Cases [^]		Proportion of School Population
		Students	Staff	
El Portal	560	0	0	0.00000
Jordan	467	0	0	0.00000
Macy	487	0	0	0.00000
Meadow Green	556	0	0	0.00000
Olita	474	0	0	0.00000
Rancho Starbuck	848	0	0	0.00000
Other District Facilities	40	NA	0	0.00000
Last Updated 4/9/21				
+ This number may fluctuate but will be updated periodically.				
[^] Information updated regularly and as cases are confirmed.				
This includes all confirmed positive cases, who have been on campus, within the last 14 days				
*Contract tracing is completed immediately and anyone who is determine to be a "close contact" has been personally notified.				
*No cases are epidemiologically linked at this time and all HIPAA laws are followed.				
*N/A = Not Applicable				

Current State data ([State Link](#)). National data from John Hopkins: [John Hopkins COVID Resource Center](#). Governor's blueprint: [California Department of Public Health](#). Our LJSD Safe Reopening Plans, *Return to School Adaptable Plan Continuum* and supporting documents are always on our website under [Healthy Families Updates \(COVID19\)](#). These are the links for the [California Department of Public Health](#) and the [Orange County Health Care Agency](#). LJSD continues to have **very- 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.

- Brief summary:

- 1) Reopening has been awesome because of your patience and constant support.
- 2) Thank you to everyone for all that you have done and continue to do; **Ya'll are a Blessing!**

- 3) I am sure you already know that we will have to give the annual CAASPP testing this spring, which is beyond silly. Please know that it is our/my position that we will simply ask our students to try their best, because we always try our best, yet there is absolutely no pressure. Our focus is on finishing this year strong socially-emotionally and preparing academically for the 2021/2022 school year. The 2022 Spring CAASPP test scores will be what we pay attention to and we have time to support our students as we fill any learning loss over the next year and a half.
 - 4) Summer School 2021:
 - a. Dates: June 1st – 24th, Monday-Thursday, from 8:30 am-11:30 (total of 15 days.)
 - b. Focus will **not** be computer screen time, but personal connection, engagement, and starting to fill learning gaps.
 - c. Hosted at Rancho (Grades 7-8) and at Meadow Green (Grades TK-6)
 - i. Rancho: “Themed idea”
Focus areas such as, but not limited to: Writer Workshop activities by levels, outside activities, game based math activities, Read 180 curriculum (including ELL), Great Works reading/writing project, STEAM/robotics activities, arts (could be dance, band, art, etc.), etc.
 - ii. Elementary: “Themed idea”
Focus areas such as, but not limited to: Writer Workshop activities by levels (primary and upper grade), Reading Plus, game based math activities, art (could be art, band, dance), STEAM/robotics activities, Great Works reading/writing project (ex. Hatchet), Engineering is Elementary, etc.
 - d. An official letter and google sign-up form will come out at the end of next week so that families can sign-up if you are going to join us.
 - 5) As we prepare for the 2021/2022 School Year, we will be sending out Virtual Academy Enrollment information to family’s this coming Tuesday and there will be a zoom information meeting in the evening on April 19th. We will be operating Virtual Academy classes for those families who cannot and/or do not feel comfortable returning their students to in-person instruction next year. We will also send the survey to staff for those who wish to teach Virtual Academy classes.
 - 6) We are keeping a close eye on the State colored tier levels as they continue to transition, which in turn will affect our social distance requirements.
 - 7) Based on all of the data, and information coming from Public Health Departments, we are preparing to open the 2021/2022 school in our pre-pandemic format (normal), which means five days a week, full-time. We should all expect some form of ongoing safety measures, which we do not know as of yet (for example extra sanitation, handwashing, masks, etc.). All of that will become clear as we move through June and July.
- As we reopen campuses for in-person instruction, **PLEASE** remember to follow **all** of the safety protocols: social distancing, face coverings, wash hands, etc. Thank you for following these protocols; we have done a great job!
 - The Measure LL Modernization/Construction work continues at a very fast pace and we are very pleased with the progress:
 - We are on track for Macy to move back to their home campus in June.
 - Jordan will move to the Maybrook (temporary campus) in June and remain there for the 2021/2022 school year and move back in June of 2022.
 - Meadow Green is scheduled to move to the Maybrook campus in June 2022.
 - The following campuses are on track to be painted this summer: El Portal, Olita, and Macy. The remaining campuses will be painted as their modernization/construction work is completed.
 - The following campuses are on track to have their new digital marques installed this summer: El Portal, Olita, Macy, Meadow Green, and Rancho. Jordan will have theirs installed along with their construction work in 2021/2022.
 - Final details are being completed for the installation of a new playground for each campus this summer and possibly into the fall.
 - The Board of Trustees is completing the process of reviewing and approving a Master Facility Plan that will be our road map into the next 25+ years.
 - **Please stay connected with your site principal if you have questions, concerns or needs.**
 - You are **GREATLY APPRECIATED, GREATLY VALUED AND GREATLY LOVED!**

We all continue to take a deep breath each day as we juggle the ever changing world. Thank you for supporting each other through the storms as we walk in grace and mercy. Lowell Joint is truly a very special place, we will withstand these storms, and come out stronger 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....

Ever had one of those days....

As you venture back out in the water, be careful of the wild life who have become a little too friendly ☺

