

WOODLAND JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Excellence for All"

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WJUSD and Teacher Negotiations Update – October 30, 2020

The District and WEA bargaining teams held their fourth negotiating session yesterday regarding the effects and impact of the District's plan to initiate Phase 2 of reopening to provide in-person instruction and services to special day class students, as well as in-person counseling services for designated students. The Board previously authorized implementation of Phase 2 effective on Monday November 9, 2020 consistent with Yolo County's movement into the Red Tier 2 for COVID-19 which permits in-person instruction of students.

The District's team presented its proposal for Phase 2 to WEA at its first session on October 19, which included the language below regarding in-person special day class instruction and counseling services. The District held a second session with WEA on October 20, and a third session on October 26, with no response from WEA to the proposal below. The District expected to receive a response from WEA during its fourth session yesterday on October 29, but WEA was not prepared to respond to this part of the proposal. As stated in the proposal below, the District has already begun collaborating with special day class teachers to seek their input in developing the format and schedule for in-person instruction and services commencing on November 9. Specifically, the District held meetings on October 19 and 21 with special day class teachers whom took an active role in leading brainstorming sessions to develop the format and schedules for in-person instruction. These schedules were shared with WEA at our third session on October 26 and again at our fourth session on October 29. Despite the work already performed by the special day class teachers, WEA's bargaining team has not signed off on those developed schedules or responded to the District's proposals below. The District and WEA will convene their fifth session regarding Phase 2 on November 5, 2020.

2. INSTRUCTION

Paragraph 2 Instruction is amended to include a new sub-paragraph 2.8 as follows:

2.8 During Phase 2, unit members that provide in-person instruction or services to SDC students (e.g. SDC teachers and SLPs), or in-person services for students receiving counseling (e.g., Counselors and School Psychologists), will do so from their regularly assigned room/classroom or in a room/classroom as designated by site administration. These unit members must follow social distancing practices and shall adhere to safety precautions as implemented and posted at their work sites. These guidelines include wearing a face mask at all times unless working alone in an enclosed space, participating in the daily screening process for symptoms of COVID-19, and practicing social distancing.

2.8.1 In-Person Instruction or Services for SDC Students. The District will ensure that all in-person instruction provided to SDC students will occur in small cohorts and in accordance with CDPH, YCDPH, and CDE guidelines and requirements. SDC students may also receive in-person services from SLPs based on student need and coordinated by that service provider in accordance with CDPH, YCDPH, and CDE guidelines and requirements. The District will survey families to determine the number of SDC students that desire to attend in-person instruction and/or in-person services, or to continue receiving virtual instruction or services. The District will collaborate with SDC teachers and SLPs to seek input on the format and schedule for in-person instruction or in-person services. Unit members who are deemed safe to assume the risks associated with providing in-person instruction or in-person services to SDC students may provide such instruction or services in-person. Unit members who are deemed unsafe to assume the risks associated with in-person instruction or in-person services for SDC students may be considered for providing virtual instruction or services to SDC students, or other reasonable accommodation through the interactive process.

2.8.2 In-Person Services for Students Receiving Counseling. The District will ensure that all in-person counseling services provided to students receiving counseling occur in a one-on-one setting, or in small groups in accordance with CDPH, YCDPH, and CDE guidelines and requirements. Students receiving counseling in-person may also receive in-person services from School Psychologists based on their professional determination, identification of students with the highest need and coordinated by that service provider in accordance with CDPH, YCDPH, and CDE guidelines and requirements. Unit members (e.g. Counselors and School Psychologists) will consult with their site administration and/or Tier 2 team in determining which students to invite for in-person (one-on-one or small group) counseling services. The District will collaborate with Counselors, School Psychologists, and their site administration to seek input on the format and schedule for in-person counseling services. Unit members who are deemed safe to assume the risks associated with providing in-person counseling services may provide such services in-person. Unit members who are deemed unsafe to assume the risks associated with in-person counseling services may be considered for providing virtual counseling services or other reasonable accommodation through the interactive process.

Thank you,

WJUSD Negotiations Team

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