



**CHULA VISTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
84 East J Street, Chula Vista, CA 91910  
News Release  
"EACH CHILD IS AN INDIVIDUAL OF GREAT WORTH"

For Immediate Release  
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## **County's Move to Red Tier Paves Way for CVESD School Reopening**

The Chula Vista Elementary School District has announced that its in-person, hybrid instructional model for students will begin on Monday, April 12. Parents can select the in-person hybrid model or keep their child(ren) in distance learning for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. It would be the first time that schools have reopened to daily instruction since the pandemic forced school closures a year ago.

Starting school in a hybrid format ensures that a limited number of students are on campus at any one time, allowing protocols such as physical distancing to be more easily implemented. In CVESD, the hybrid model consists of half-day instruction in an a.m./p.m. format Mon.-Thurs., with Fridays reserved for distance learning.

At a Special Board of Education Meeting on Tuesday, a Board majority noted that the District is on track to move forward with in-person instruction because it has met the conditions laid out in its Memorandum of Understanding with Chula Vista Educators, the bargaining group that represents teachers. A key condition for reopening was that San Diego County return to the Red Tier, as defined in the state's tiered system. This week, County officials announced that COVID-19 case rates lowered enough for the state to redesignate San Diego from the most restrictive Purple Tier to the less restrictive Red Tier—paving the way for school districts across the region to reopen or expand in-person instruction.

CVESD teachers will return no sooner than April 5. This ensures teachers and staff have appropriate time to prepare without interfering with upcoming parent-teacher conferences and scheduled spring break. A formal school reopening notice for parents will be communicated, and reopening details will be shared at a Virtual Town Hall Meeting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 23.

"We are very excited to welcome back students to in-person instruction," said Superintendent Francisco Escobedo, Ed.D. "We are going above and beyond when it comes to safety protocols and requirements. We also know that students and families have suffered immensely during the pandemic from the prolonged school closures. Now, it is time to heal. It is time for all of us to recover and rebuild together."

The reduction in COVID-19 case rates goes hand in hand with increased vaccination rates. All of the approximately 4,700 District employees (including substitutes) were eligible to receive the vaccine. The overwhelming majority will be fully vaccinated prior to students' return.

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