

November 2, 2021

Dear Lion Country,

The district extends its appreciation to each of you who have worked to change the trajectory of covid that we were once on, and we recognize the hard work and effort that has gone into this task. Today, our COVID numbers are at zero for both staff and students for the first time since the pandemic first started on March 13, 2020. The shutting of school down in early September was a decision we did not take lightly, and since that point, our working together has shown clear positive results.

The district continues to make data-driven decisions regarding the health status of the virus, and we understand that COVID has not been eradicated in our community. Still, we are lowering our mitigation protocols back to the level one status we started at the beginning of the school year. Please review the Planning Forward document to familiarize yourself with those mitigation strategies. The only difference between the start of school procedures compared to the current Planning Forward document will be that the district will keep the current close contact definitions as directed by the Texas Education Agency.

We clearly can see that the social and emotional toll has been substantial over this last year. There is a clear need for human interaction and unity throughout our society. While our campuses still have restrictions, there are currently opportunities to serve and interact with one another. Due to maintaining maximum social distancing and lowering the risk of exposure, our classrooms and lunchroom areas remain closed to the public. We do have opportunities for mentoring programs on several of our campuses. If you would like to serve on campus and district-level committees, please contact your campus to serve or add your name to the waiting list to serve. Also, while there are still restrictions, our PTO's and booster clubs are in need of your help and service.

Thanks for your continued help and support through this long and difficult time. We will continue to monitor the progress and look forward to more normalcy as we move through the Spring semester.

LISD Administration