



# RENO REPORT

6/9/20

Dear AVS Parents,

I wanted to provide you with the latest information regarding our school reopening status for the Fall. Yesterday the California Department of Education released a 62-page guidance document titled, “*Stronger Together*”. This document was designed in partnership with the CDC to provide schools with reopening guidelines, standards, protocols, and recommendations. After reviewing this document, our team is preparing for the likely event of reopening AVS in the Fall. Over the next several weeks I will be working with our internal team to develop new protocols and standards on how to best successfully reopen and maintain in-person teaching/learning at AVS starting on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Our goal is to think through a safe and responsible reopening and build a communication plan for all so you know what is happening along the way. It is important to note that this plan will most likely include choices for parents when it comes to the instructional delivery from our staff. As learned through the recent parent survey, just over 90% preferred Socially-Distanced In-Person Learning, while the other 10% of parent’s surveyed were still opting for an On-Line Distance Learning platform.

To help fine tune our plan, the teachers and I will be meeting in mid-July to discuss our master scheduling, classroom configurations, instructional minutes, start/end times, enrichment offerings, lunch/recess, as well as canceling/postponing large school wide community events. Our reopening plan needs to be fluid as we don’t know what is in store for us in the Fall. In late July, I will be meeting with our Board of Trustees and will be submitting a recommendation plan on what our potential reopening plan will look like. It is my goal to inform all of you by July 28<sup>th</sup> of the adopted plan and what returning to AVS will look like for your child and your family.

Financial Impacts as we move into the 20-21 school year and beyond...

Shifting from reopening plans to another important topic...our budget. We are very fortunate to be entering into the Fall with smaller class sizes than many of the other districts in the county. AVS has been able to sustain years of smaller class sizes because we are a community-funded district and are a District of Choice. Revenue for our district is primarily property tax driven vs. LCFF (Local Control Funding Formula) districts where their revenue is tied directly to enrollment. That being said...historically, when LCFF districts take a financial hit, often community funded districts will experience proportionately less of a financial hit, but a hit non-the-less. Some of you may have heard recently about the headlines regarding the California state budget shortfalls and how schools will be impacted. Again, not being an LCFF district eases some of the projected financial challenges, but, we are not immune either. The projected state budget is a moving target right now, so we don’t know the final impacts the budget making decision process will have on AVS this upcoming year. The larger and more impactful component regarding district revenues has to do with the 2019 Kincade fire property tax loss projections. With nearly 100 (district boundary) property structures burned in the Kincade fire, property assessed revenues are projected to decrease by 18% for our district this upcoming year, and are projected to decrease at 9% for 21-22 school year. In 22-23, it is of the belief that the majority of rebuilding of the lost structures would have been completed and rebuilt properties will be reassessed to normal assessed valuations, thus keeping us whole moving forward. In the meantime, to weather the shortfall, our district will rely on our reserves to get through these next couple of years. It is through years of very careful financial planning by our Board of Trustees that we are able to sustain holding off making staffing and programmatic cuts moving into 20-21.

I remain optimistic on all fronts and look forward to seeing all of you again in the near future! Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions you may have via email [mreno@alexandervalleyusd.org](mailto:mreno@alexandervalleyusd.org)

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Wishing all of you a great summer!

Mr. Reno