

# *Lowell Joint* SCHOOL DISTRICT

*“Home of Scholars and Champions”*



*Healthy Families and Staff Newsletter* (Update #19)

## *Lowell Joint* **STRONG**



October 9, 2020

I don't know about you, but I have had to stop 2-3 times this week to simply breathe. It seems that every time we turn another challenge and/or another change keeps coming our way. There are times that this whole storm feels overwhelming, but we continue to stand in faith that we will not just get through, but actually exceed through these challenging times. I know that this is true for our families as you juggle 1001 things; thank you for all that you do! We deeply appreciate you as we work together. Please remember to keep taking a deep breath, take one step at a time, and know that we will exceed in spite of the challenges that come our way = GRIT; we are **LOWELL JOINT STRONG**. Thank you to all of our parents for your grace, mercy, and support. **You are amazing!!**

As you will recall Governor Newsom unveiled a new blueprint on August 28, 2020 for the reopening of the business sectors and schools. This new color-coded, tiered system uses two metrics to measure the coronavirus virus: spread rate (needs to be <7/100K) and test positivity percentage (needs to be <8%). Currently Los Angeles County continues in the purple Tier (7.4/100K and 2.9%). Counties must remain at each tier for a minimum of 21 days, then maintain the requirements of the next level for 14 days before moving to the next tier, and finally maintain an additional 14 days in the tier before altering the restrictions for school openings. The State's new website will track the metrics, show an interactive map and list business sectors open by each county: State's new website: [COVID19.CA.GOV](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/COVID19CountyMonitoringOverview.aspx) or at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/COVID19CountyMonitoringOverview.aspx>.

**Based on Los Angeles County Public Health's orders, information, and timing it is fairly clear that Los Angeles County will not allow schools to open any sooner than November 9<sup>th</sup>.** Please also know that even that date is only a guestimate, because the data and health order change every 2-4 days. There will come a time, in the near future, that we will have to determine if we even come back prior to Christmas. We will work to nail that down as soon as possible so that families can plan. Please know that it is our heart's desire to be allowed to have our students back in school so that we can support them even more than we are able to do virtually. The health and safety of our students and staff is our priority and we will follow the directives of Los Angeles County Public Health Department as we take each step forward.

### **Updates and reminders:**

- We want to encourage everyone to be an active member of our community, state, and country by making sure your voice is heard – vote. You can register to vote and make sure you are heard at <https://www.vote.ca.gov>
- We continue our partnership with Saddleback Church to provide a Pop-Grocery Distribution on the first Friday of each month. This past Friday they served over 315 families!! Each family received over 40 lbs. of free food: dry goods, fresh produce, fresh dairy, and frozen meat. Again, it will be the first Friday of each month from 9-11 a.m. at Rancho-Starbuck. Thank you Saddleback Church.
- We are developing another collaborative project with Saddleback to support our families: Family Art Night and Family Game Night. Basically they will provide all of the needed art supplies for Family Art Night and game activities for Family Game Night. Families will be able to sign-up to receive the supplies and then be able to log on to the zoom times for the guided activities. Dates and times to come. The whole purpose is to support families and community with fun activities.
- We do want to remind families that while we are working hard to use Zoom, Google Classroom, Streaming, etc. to stay connected with you and your child, we absolutely must make sure that we work together on proper conduct as it relates to pictures and videotaping. We must maintain students and staff personal legal rights and

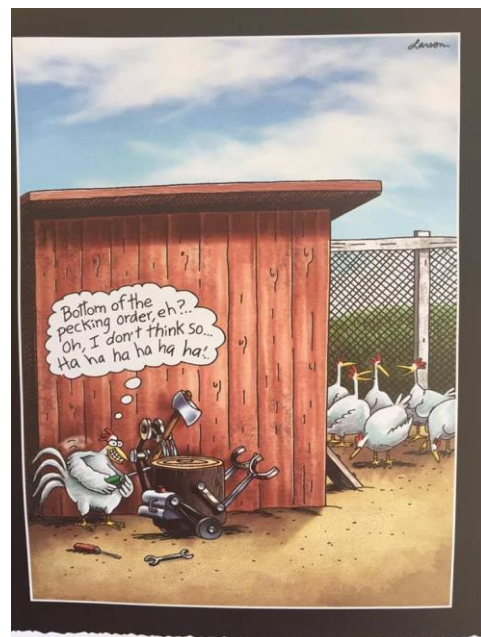
confidentiality. This is one of those very slippery slopes that we must stay away from and we greatly appreciate your help and support. Please make sure no one ever takes pictures and/or video tapes classes. Thank you.

- Our next Healthy Family update will share details related to the Hybrid Model of instruction, once we are allowed to return to campuses. We have worked hard with our Strategic Planning Team, associations, and Board of Trustees to chart our way forward. The goal is to provide the best education we can with the best continuity for students as possible. We all know that nothing is truly smooth these days, but we do our best☺. I can share that students will be able to keep their current teachers☺ and not make drastic changes whether they can return or need to remain 100% virtual.
- The entire Lowell Joint Family is working so hard, overcoming 100's of challenges, and most importantly lovingly caring for our precious students. You are to be commended; please remember to give each other and yourself a healthy dose of grace and mercy.
- We will continue to update everyone bi-monthly, or sooner if needed, so that we work to keep everyone informed and updated on our “road-map”, but please remember that they keep changing our map☺.

So many things are out of our control these days, yet we know it is our family and the school family that helps bring stability. Thank you for taking the time to listen, take walks, and give your children/our students the extra hug and “I love you”. Grace and mercy seem to be in short supply these days, but is exactly what our students, our staff, and we ourselves need. Lowell Joint School District is called to speak life into or students, staff, and families; please help us speak life into each other. Your continued strength, compassion, and resilience are an incredible testimony to the shared dedication and commitment of our students, staff, parents, and community; **THANK YOU – WE ARE BLESSED!**

# LOWELL JOINT **STRONG!!**

*A littler laughter helps bring joy-  
Barnyard humor....*



*Sometimes it feels we are walking up these stairs....*

Many resources available at no cost:

- Suicide Prevention and SPORT2 Resources Page  
<http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0019Ly1se6ghxU3y3IrmzuDaapSLFmDbfgejwmlGVimY6stCy7zzMM3yVVVxl0m>

[afTwbrLY\\_o7LTIDpQ5VOP9JOFDmEkvhftR0TzKFfbGlfQmoc28AlknxuEa3HzlZixWvre7AT\\_Orjo6qd49FNrCmqJSCWdYCRxog&c=WME00NIL-](http://afTwbrLY_o7LTIDpQ5VOP9JOFDmEkvhftR0TzKFfbGlfQmoc28AlknxuEa3HzlZixWvre7AT_Orjo6qd49FNrCmqJSCWdYCRxog&c=WME00NIL-)

- Youth Suicide Prevention Program Channel (YouTube)  
[http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0019Ly1se6ghxU3y3IrmzuDaapSLFmDbfgejwmlGVimY6stCy7zzMM3yVVVxl0maFTwrxhNMi-K9yOL55shL-rZsE0UmrEqsZfMzC5j60-ORVqRBbOLS5RT3-zYvTHHcLfCwz7tCYdD2hc5bs89z\\_UFFg==&c=WME00NIL-RqBkObXQb42FTkmNoghfkWyrHDrfKyBHF8NPhYslaf7TQ==&ch=dGOPLpy\\_Rml20U88b6BuNMdqjsGfLTz\\_0pFjM14Kx9z0wbpFgUNw==](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0019Ly1se6ghxU3y3IrmzuDaapSLFmDbfgejwmlGVimY6stCy7zzMM3yVVVxl0maFTwrxhNMi-K9yOL55shL-rZsE0UmrEqsZfMzC5j60-ORVqRBbOLS5RT3-zYvTHHcLfCwz7tCYdD2hc5bs89z_UFFg==&c=WME00NIL-RqBkObXQb42FTkmNoghfkWyrHDrfKyBHF8NPhYslaf7TQ==&ch=dGOPLpy_Rml20U88b6BuNMdqjsGfLTz_0pFjM14Kx9z0wbpFgUNw==)
- Five tips for distance-learning: <https://newsroom.ocde.us/5-tips-to-help-families-to-make-the-most-of-distance-learning/>
- The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. 1-800-273-8255 is a 24-hour, toll-free, confidential suicide prevention hotline that's available to anyone in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. It provides Spanish-speaking counselors, as well as options for deaf and hard of hearing individuals.  
<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/>
- The Crisis Text Line. The Crisis Text Line is the only 24/7, nationwide crisis-intervention text message hotline <https://www.crisistextline.org/>. Text HOME to 741-741.
- OC WarmLine. Available 24/7, the OC WarmLine is a free and confidential telephone service providing emotional support and resources to Orange County residents. Call 714-991-6412.
- NAMI Orange County. NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization. Its local affiliate, NAMI Orange County, has been offering online classes and support groups via Zoom. Visit <https://www.namIOC.org/>