

Dear Newcastle families,

On **July 17th**, Governor Gavin Newsom announced updated COVID-19 guidance for opening schools. The Governor's guidance includes recommendations and directives concerning when to close and open schools. Schools within a county on the State's monitoring list must begin the school year with distance learning. Placer County is currently on the State's monitoring list.

The safety of our students, staff, and families is paramount, and will ultimately determine how we provide learning in the fall. While we desire to open school five days a week with extra health and safety precautions, we must follow the state and local directives. **We must start our school year with a period of distance learning before transitioning to in-person instruction.** If we see COVID-19 infection rates begin to trend downward, this will increase our opportunity to reopen schools in-person.

Please join the Newcastle School Board meeting regarding the upcoming school year on **Thursday, July 23rd, at 6:00 PM**. The Newcastle School Board invites you to attend and share your thoughts and concerns via the ZOOM Board meeting. If you can't attend, please email me your thoughts, and I will forward all emails regarding this topic to the Board.

Links and directions to the meeting will be posted on both the School and the District websites 24 hrs before the meeting. www.newcastle.k12.ca.us

Denny Rush, Superintendent

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