

**DATE:** 11/10/2020  
**FROM:** Krista Croteau  
**SUBJECT:** Recommendations for Schools from HCDPH

**LCAP Goals:**

**Goal 1:** Provide a safe and productive learning environment for all students

**Goal 2:** Improve Student Achievement

**Goal 3:** Improve regular student attendance, parent involvement, and continued school engagement

**Core Values:**

1. Academic Rigor
2. Strong Sense of Community
3. Social Responsibility
4. Shared Leadership
5. Well-Rounded Students

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:**

On Tuesday November 17th Humboldt County Superintendents and Charter Leaders received an email from Dr. Frankovitch with this recommendation:

*At this time, Humboldt County Public Health is strongly recommending that schools move to distance learning for the 14 day period following the Thanksgiving holiday. Although schools have done a remarkable job of implementing preventive measures to promote safety in on-site education, we anticipate a marked increase in local infections due to travel and gatherings occurring around Thanksgiving. This would threaten rapid identification and containment of cases, leading to increased transmission in the school setting.*

This is tough timing given that the DIBI Board just made a decision related to school format last week. We requested a Special Board meeting so our board can discuss this recommendation and set a course for Redwood Prep as we move forward. Our school calendar has three weeks between Thanksgiving and Winter Break. I recommend that the board make a decision that encompasses both of these breaks as well as President's Week and Spring Break, in terms of a policy that families can depend on as they make travel plans. Changes to the local health landscape can change very quickly, as we've seen this past week. This decision is not an easy one since we don't know to what extent our school might be impacted. The travel guidance suggests that people quarantine at home for two weeks following travel outside the County to areas that are seeing high levels of community spread and/or you've had out of town visitors from these areas and have not worn masks or observed social distancing. Given that most of us have already made plans for Thanksgiving and that a number of families and staff members will travel, it is important that we discuss the impacts to school operations. Prior to Dr. Frankovitch's email, our plan was to put the onus on families and staff to follow the recommendations and encourage everyone to be cautious.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. Receive staff presentation and review questions with staff
2. Open public comment
3. Close public comments
4. Board Discussion
5. Recommend that the DIBI Board votes to:
  - Continue blended learning model after each week-long break.
  - Transition to distance learning for two weeks after each break that is one or more weeks.
  - Transition to distance learning from November 30, 2020 to January 19, 2021.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

**Travel Guidance from HCDPH**

**Email with recommendation from HCDPH**