

October 16, 2020

To Our SMUSD Community,

Please see below for an important notice regarding the November 3rd start date for 2nd and 3rd graders at your school.

On Elections Day, Tuesday, November 3rd, six of our SMUSD school sites will serve as polling stations for the General Election: Carrillo Elementary, Discovery Elementary, La Costa Meadows Elementary, La Mirada Academy, Paloma Elementary, and San Elijo Elementary.

For a brief background, Division 12, Article 5 of the California Elections Code states in part that “If a city or county elections official specifically requests the use of a school building or public building for polling places....The governing body having jurisdiction over the particular school building or public building shall allow its use for the purpose requested.” The San Marcos Unified School District has a long history of its schools being used as polling stations, and in that way, this year is no different.

This Elections Day, however, coincides with the first day of in-person learning for our 2nd and 3rd grade students. After getting feedback from the principals of the six schools affected, receiving input from members of these schools’ communities, and gaining guidance from our Governing Board, we have decided that November 3rd will be a remote instruction day for all students at the six campuses that will be used as polling places.

- November 3rd remains a school day. All students (PK-5) will have a remote instruction day following the Tuesday - Friday remote instruction schedule
- PK/K/1 students will return to in-person instruction on Wednesday, November 4th
- Grades 2 - 3 “Cohort B” students will have their first day of in-person instruction on Wednesday, November 4th
- Grades 2 - 3 “Cohort A” students will have their first day of in-person instruction on Thursday, November 5th

We have made this change out of an abundance of caution for the students and staff of our campuses, and to allow for a smooth “first day of school” for our 2nd and 3rd grade students. We appreciate your continued support and flexibility as we navigate the twists and turns of the 20/21 school year.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Campbell, Ed.D.  
Acting Superintendent  
San Marcos Unified School District