



**DEL NORTE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEL NORTE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

Jeff Harris, District and County Superintendent
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Board Members: Don McArthur Area 1 Angela Greenough Area 2 Frank Magarino Area 3 Charlaune Mazzei Area 4 Jamie Forkner Area 5

September 12, 2022

Dr. Mark Ghaly
Secretary, State of California Health and Human Services Agency
Dr. Tomas Aragon
Director and State Public Health Officer
California Department of Public Health
PO Box 997377
MS 0500
Sacramento, CA 95899-7377
Email: CHHSMAIL@chhs.ca.gov

Jeff Killip, Chief
Cal/OSHA/Division of Occupational Safety and Health
1515 Clay St. Ste. 1901
Oakland, CA 94612
Fax: 510-286-7000

Dear Drs. Ghaly and Aragon and Mr. Killip,

On behalf of the Del Norte County Unified School District Board of Trustees, the Del Norte County Office of Education, our employees, and the thousands of students we serve, I am writing to request that the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Cal/OSHA amend current mandates and align COVID-19 practices with those recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) published on August 11, 2022.

We are deeply concerned that staff continue to be held to a mandate that was issued over a year ago and that required staff to be fully vaccinated or to submit to testing if unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated, a practice that has not kept pace with changes to CDC guidance. Our staff is our most valuable resource in providing education and related services to our students, and the continued imposition of outdated mandates places an undue and inequitable burden on them.

Again, on behalf of the Board of Trustees and the County Office of Education, I strongly request that each of you honor the professionalism of our staff and remove the requirements for LEAs to verify vaccination status and for staff to submit to weekly testing in lieu of being fully vaccinated.

Sincerely,

Jeff Harris
Superintendent-
Del Norte County Unified School District
Del Norte County Office of Education

CC: Gavin Newsom, Governor of California – 1303 10th Street, Ste. 1173, Sacramento, CA 95814 – Fax 916-558-3160
Tony Thurmond, CA State Superintendent of Public Instruction, California Department of Education – 1430 N St.
Sacramento, CA 95814-5901 – email: Superintendent@cde.ca.gov