



February 19, 2021

Dear YPICS Community,

The conversation about “reopening” schools in California and in Los Angeles is constantly changing. The YPICS leadership team has approached reopening (*hybrid model*) knowing that we **need** to be ready to open our campuses when it is **safe** to do so because our students learn better when instruction is in person. In preparation, the team has followed the science of COVID-19 and monitored the politics of the pandemic.

When YPI Charter Schools (YPICS) closed our campuses in March of 2020 and moved to distance learning, we **promised** that when we reopened the campuses we would follow the science and give our students, parents, and staff **one month notice** before we reopened so that our school community could make the necessary changes required. We are committed to meeting that promise.

As a result, 1) all YPICS campuses will begin supporting high needs students (students with special needs) on campuses in small groups **as soon as possible**. 2) Bert Corona Charter School and Monseñor Oscar Romero Charter School will reopen in a hybrid model together and will be contingent on LAUSD reopening campuses for middle school students. 3) Bert Corona Charter High School will reopen when LAUSD opens its High School campuses. (Please note that LAUSD’s current public statement is that district campuses can not reopen for hybrid instruction until all staff receive vaccinations. We believe LAUSD will reopen campuses for high needs students soon.)

Next Steps

- 1) Special education staff and support staff need to be prepared to be on campus **as soon as possible**
- 2) Please complete the anonymous [YPICS COVID Vaccine Survey](#)
- 3) Please continue to read further to understand what our YPICS “Reopening” Team has done to prepare our campuses for reopening

Step 1: Preparing safety plans and protocols for students and staff

Our Reopening Team has been researching, discussing, and planning safety protocols since the beginning of the pandemic. On February 1, 2021 the **YPICS Board of Directors** gave our Executive Director, Yvette King-Berg, permission to reopen YPICS Schools when it is safe to do so and approved three reopening safety plans which outline the protocols our schools will follow. The documents are the:

1. COVID19 Prevention Program (Cal/OSHA)
2. Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools (County of Los Angeles Public Health)
3. COVID-19 School Guidance Checklist (California Department of Public Health)

Step 2: Purchase and install safety equipment and signage on campuses

Our schools have purchased and received the necessary equipment and signage that is needed to support our students and staff to stay safe when they return to campus. We have:

- Installed air filters (MERV13) and air purifiers.
- Staff and equipment to clean and sanitize every room on our campuses.
- Configured classrooms and facilities to maintain social distance.
- Installed safety dividers for students and staff.
- Masks and personal protective equipment for all students and staff.

- Partnered with community agencies to provide free COVID-19 testing and contact tracing.
- Installed signage on campuses to remind our community about wearing a mask, washing hands, and social distancing.
- Provided and will continue to provide training on health and safety protocols.
- Worked with community organizations to provide vaccinations when available.

Step 3: Reopen campuses when community spread is low

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) announced that Monday, February 15, is the fifth consecutive day that the adjusted daily case rate for the County has been below 25 cases per 100,000 population. Per current school reopening guidance from California Department of Public Health, all schools in Los Angeles County have the **opportunity** to open for in person instruction for all students in grades TK through 6, beginning Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

What does this mean for our Schools?

Middle Schools

- Bert Corona Charter School and Monseñor Oscar Romero Charter School will open to support high needs students as soon as possible.
- Bert Corona Charter School and Monseñor Oscar Romero Charter School will open the campus for elementary grades when LAUSD reopens its campuses. Since the MORCS facility is regulated by LAUSD, MORCS can not open until LAUSD approves the reopening of all their campuses. The current statement from LAUSD is the campuses will open when all teachers and staff have been vaccinated.

High School

Bert Corona Charter High School (BCCHS) will reopen for small group instruction and to support high needs students as soon as possible. The High School facility is regulated by LAUSD, and cannot open until LAUSD opens all of its campuses. The current statement from LAUSD is the campuses will open when all teachers and staff have been vaccinated.

In conclusion, our school will begin supporting high needs students on campus in small groups. Our middle schools campuses will reopen at the same time and will be contingent on LAUSD reopening campuses for middle school students. Bert Corona Charter High School campus will also open when LAUSD opens its High Schools.

Sincerely,



Yvette King-Berg
Executive Director



Ruben Duenas
Chief Operations Officer