



July 20, 2020

## Update on School Opening

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Dear OVS Parents and Guardians,

California Gov. Gavin Newsom laid out new rules on Friday regarding the reopening of schools. Specifically, the order requires schools in counties with high rates of COVID-19 to remain closed and move to online learning until infection rates decline. While cases in Ojai remain low, our larger Ventura County is included on the state's watch list, which means we cannot open for in-person instruction until certain health benchmarks are met.

With six weeks before we start school, we are hopeful that Ventura County will be removed from the watch list in time for Ojai Valley School to open with in-person classes. We are also looking into options to operate our primary grades as a daycare center, and we are pursuing a waiver to open the elementary division. We will update you as plans continue to evolve.

At the same time, OVS is preparing for the potential, and we hope temporary, switch to distance learning if necessary. The school administration has been planning for either path and we are confident that OVS will continue to deliver quality education throughout this pandemic and ensuing government orders.

Our [Roadmap to Reopening](#), which we shared earlier this month, includes different opening models and safety protocols that meet and exceed the guidelines from the CDC and Ventura County Public Health.

In the coming weeks, more information will be sent to you regarding the opening of school. Please do everything you can to help in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 so that students may return to campus.

Warm regards,



Craig Floyd,  
Head of School  
Upper Campus



Laurie Clark,  
Head of School  
Lower Campus