

Students begin returning to select AcCEL classrooms countywide

On her first day returning to school, Meryam, a second-grade student with special needs at Vandalia Elementary School in Porterville, ran out of her home and kissed the bus. Meryam's enthusiasm for the in-person instruction she now enjoys twice a week is shared by most of the students in Special Services AcCEL classes around the county allowed to return to campus under state provisions. State guidelines released in late August allow districts the flexibility to identify select students to receive targeted in-person instruction.

Over the past few weeks, Special Services' AcCEL Program has worked very closely with partner school districts to bring small cohorts of students back on campus at 19 Tulare County school sites. The classes average between four and six students at over a dozen elementary schools and a variety of other campuses. Instruction is offered for two to three hours each day students are on campus.

To prepare for the transition to in-person instruction, the AcCEL management team considered student needs, cohort sizes, and schedules, and developed individual plans for each school site

Eric Sonnenfeld wins statewide award

Last week, Eric Sonnenfeld, assistant administrator for Early Childhood Education (ECE), received the Rocky Lee Advocacy Award from the Every Child California organization. Mr.

Annual Legislative Event for early childhood educators and community leaders scheduled	

information about the event or registration, please contact the Choices Prevention Program at (559) 651-0155.

This fall, an increasing number of elementary schools in Tulare County have reopened to small cohorts of students on campus under terms set by the governor and the California Department of Public Health. Over 70 schools have received waivers, with nearly 40 others having applied to resume in-person instruction under the same conditions. To assist schools with the process of applying for waivers and to report to the public those schools that are open or have applied to reopen, the Tulare County Public Health Department has created an online resource.

Through the waiver and reopening process, the Tulare County Public Health Department works closely with schools to ensure they have the protections and protocols in place to safely allow students and staff back on campus. Working in consultation with California Department of Public Health, Tulare County Public Health officials provide the final approval for each waiver. "I have appreciated the vision and leadership Tulare County Public Health has shown in helping school districts apply for waivers and navigate the complicated process of meeting state regulations," said Tim Hire, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools. "The large number of schools on the list that have successfully completed the process in the past two months is an indication to their commitment to accommodate our schools in this difficult time."

To view information on the waiver process and the list of Tulare County schools allowing small numbers of students on campus, visit covid19.tularecounty.ca.gov/school-resources.

Distance Learning Resources

Arts All Around Us