



# Bonita Unified

## SCHOOL DISTRICT

### NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 5, 2021

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## Bonita Unified Staff Receive COVID-19 Vaccine Ahead of Return to In-Person Learning

**LA VERNE/SAN DIMAS** – Bonita Unified School District will welcome elementary school students back to campus for in-person instruction on April 5, following the continued decrease of COVID-19 case numbers and rising vaccination rates among District staff.

Elementary students will be taught in a hybrid model, designed to meet state and county health and safety protocols. The District also set an April 12 target date to reopen its middle and high schools – grades six to 12 – using a similar hybrid model. Bonita Unified students will also have the option to remain in distance learning for the remainder of the year.

“We are very excited to reopen our campuses for in-person instruction,” Bonita Unified Superintendent Carl J. Coles said. “Thank you to our teachers, staff, administrators, students and community for their resiliency, patience and partnership throughout the path to reopening. This effort is possible thanks to our community’s commitment to rising above the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Ahead of the April reopening, the District has continued to bolster COVID-19 safety protocols and provide its community with resources to support their health and well-being.

The District also provided staff access to the COVID-19 vaccine through a series of clinics, held at Lone Hill Middle School, in partnership with Mercy Pharmacy Group.

Most staff received their first dose of the vaccine during the clinic, which concluded March 5; the second dose will be administered during a follow-up clinic in the coming weeks. The partnership helped simplify the documentation process and streamline access for BUSD employees, encouraging strong turnout and high vaccination rates.

Following the success of the first clinic and the partnership with Mercy Pharmacy Group, Bonita Unified is exploring opportunities to serve as a resource for local districts and support their vaccination efforts.

More information about the District’s phased reopening, COVID-19 safety protocols and staff vaccinations is available on the [Bonita Unified website](#).

“We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with Mercy Pharmacy Group on staff vaccination and help ensure a safe return to school,” BUSD Board of Education President Chuck Coyne said. “The health and safety of our school community is our top priority, and with the success of our vaccine clinic, we are even better prepared to reopen our campuses.”

#### PHOTO:

**Bonita\_VACCINE\_3\_5\_2021:** A Bonita Unified employee receives the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine during a series of clinics, held at Lone Hill Middle School from March 3-5.



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