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Office of the Superintendent

December 13, 2020

Subject: Statement in Response to CTA/SDFA Cease and Desist Letter

On Wednesday, December 9, 2020, The California Teachers Association emailed the San Dieguito Union High School District a letter on behalf of the San Dieguito Faculty Association demanding the district cease and desist from further expansion of our reopening. The basis for this demand, they assert, is that the district, by expanding reopening while San Diego County is in the Purple Tier, is unlawful and contrary to the guidance issued by the California Department of Public Health. Attached to the district letter was one that was sent to the San Diego County Office of Education that asserted they were responsible for giving school districts incorrect advice about expanding reopening plans.

The district did not, and is not, relying on advice from the SDCOE for our expanded reopening plans. The controlling authority regarding whether schools can open or expand openings in San Diego County is the Public Health Officer, Dr. Wooten. She issues orders, which we are required to follow. We have been in constant contact with her staff and rely on them for guidance. The Chief Resilience Officer for San Diego County is responsible for compliance and he has assured us that unless a written clarification comes from CDPH that changes San Diego County's interpretation of existing guidance, we can continue to expand our reopening. If we do receive updated guidance from San Diego County that indicates we must pause or change our expanded reopening plans, we will comply.