



March 17, 2021

Dear Jefferson School District 7th and 8th Grade Families,

I'm writing with information on the status of 7th and 8th grade classes opening to in-person instruction.

As you know, per the California Department of Public Health, we cannot reopen our 7th and 8th grade classes until San Joaquin County reaches the Red Tier in the state's reopening criteria known as the "Blueprint for a Safer Economy." We expected San Joaquin County to enter the Red Tier on March 16, 2021. Unfortunately, this didn't occur and San Joaquin County actually took a step backwards into the Purple Tier. This means that earliest grades 7th and 8th may open will be March 31, 2021. Because Spring Break begins two days after March 31, it makes sense to wait until after Spring Break to return to in-person instruction for 7th and 8th graders.

We are now projecting that the earliest we would be opening our 7th and 8th grade classes to in-person instruction is Monday, April 12.

Please keep in mind that this date is a moving target and its entirely speculative at this point. Per State requirements, San Joaquin County needs to reach the red tier BEFORE we can reopen 7-8th grades to in-person instruction.

You can check the "Blueprint for a Safer Economy" website for San Joaquin County's tier status at covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy. You'll then enter San Joaquin County in the search window near the top of the page, or scroll down to the interactive map at the bottom of the page and click on San Joaquin County for detailed information.

Sincerely,
James W. Bridges
Superintendent