

Hello Red Hawk Families,

Hope you all are doing well.

Following are updates and important information for the week of November 16 - 20:

- **Traditional School Reopening:** Elementary schools will reopen after winter break as follows:
 - Year-Round Elementary Schools: January 4, 2021
 - Traditional Elementary Schools: January 11, 2021.Please note these opening dates apply to elementary schools only. Secondary schools do not have a reopening date yet. We know you are anxious for information about a return date. As soon as we have information we will notify you. If you have any questions feel free to reach out.
- **Thanksgiving Break:** As a reminder no classes will be held the week of November 23 – 27 due to Thanksgiving break.
- **School Safety:** As we get closer to the reopening, you can expect to hear about safety from CNUSD and ECMS. For information about how safety will be addressed across CNUSD when we physically return to school, please access the [2020-2021 School Opening and Safety Plan](#). Information about the ECMS safety plan will be shared prior to reopening.
- **Quarter 2 Progress Report:** The Quarter 2 progress reports/in danger of failing (IDF) are now available in Parent Connect. Please refer to the attached document if you need assistance accessing the report.
- **ECMS Virtual Science Fair:** The science department would like to invite any remote or virtual ECMS student to compete in our virtual science fair. Participants need to submit a digital display board and a digital notebook by December 4 (please note the extension of the submission deadline from December 1 to December 4). Information about the virtual requirements and templates can be found in our ECMS Science Fair Google Classroom. Submissions will also take place in our Google Classroom. Please click [HERE](#) for the Google Classroom code. If you have any questions, please feel free to email [Ms. Arias](#) or [Mr. Ramsey](#).
- **Counseling Corner:** As a reminder, your counselors are here to support your student academically and social-emotionally. To schedule an appointment with Mrs. Mruz (Student's with Last Name A-O) → [Click Here](#). To schedule an appointment with Mr. Fraise (Student's with Last Name P-Z) → [Click Here](#). Enjoy Counselor's Connections [November Newsletter on Kindness](#). Help your student understand different acts of kindness and ideas, how to be kind to themselves, ideas for random acts of kindness. You can translate the newsletter into any language by click the circle icon at the bottom right of the SMORE document.

- **GoToTutors Offers Free Tutoring To Students By Students:** GoToTutors was established by three Santiago High School students. The free online service provides peer-to-peer tutoring in a wide range of subjects for students in grades K-12. You can find more information in the [CNUSD Connection](#) community newsletter or by visiting the GoToTutors website: www.gototutors.org
- **ECMS PTSA Membership:** Please join the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) and help support our students as they navigate this ever-changing learning environment. The PTSA provides resources to administrators, teachers, and students so they can focus on what they need to do to succeed. This year's membership drive is entirely online. Please follow the link and sign yourself and your student(s) up today (**list your child's fifth period teacher when asked**)! Each membership is \$7 (plus a small processing fee that we don't control). Thank you for your continued support! <https://jointotem.com/ca/corona/el-cerrito-middle-school-ptsa>.
- **Child Nutrition Services Meal Program:** CNUSD Grab & Go meals are FREE for all students through December 31, 2020. Meals will continue to be distributed curbside at most CNUSD school sites on the first day of each week. Students will receive breakfast and lunch for each school day. Students need not be present, but parents and/or students are asked to provide valid CNUSD pin numbers for all meals, just as we do during the typical school year. A student may receive only one bag of food per week. [Click here for times and locations.](#)
- **ECMS Office Soft Opening:** We will continue our soft opening until further notice. As a reminder, our front office is open to the public by appointment only and restricted to those that cannot do business virtually. Appointments are available from 9 am-11am and 1pm-3pm.

Guidelines:

- Limit 2 visitors per family
- Limit 4 visitors in the lobby at a time
- Mandatory Temperature screening
- Mandatory Facemasks
- Mandatory Sign In
- Please call 951.736.3216 to make an appointment

Again, we ask that you only come to campus if you cannot do business virtually, and that you have an appointment before coming to campus. You can reach us by phone during our regular office hours – 7 am to 3:30 pm.

- **Digital Library:** ECMS subscribes to Overdrive/Sora, which gives our students access to ebooks and audiobooks through the [CNUSD Digital Library](#). Students can access the digital library through MyCNUSD or by using the [direct link](#). Students also can download the Sora app and sign in to El Cerrito Middle School.

- **General Reminders:** To make sure you have the latest information from CNUSD regarding the current school year, please visit [2020-2021 School Year](#). Also visit the [El Cerrito Middle School website](#). To stay up to date, visit both sites regularly. If you are not receiving notifications from CNUSD or El Cerrito Middle School, you can visit our [website](#), and click on the Parent tab for directions on getting started. You also can use the [SchoolMessenger](#) app or website to receive texts and emails with the latest district updates. For specific classroom or learning questions, email your child's teachers. You can access teacher emails on our website. For general questions not answered through any of the suggested resources, please contact ECMSAdmin@cnusd.k12.ca.us.

Have a great week.

Sincerely,

The El Cerrito Middle School Admin Team

- Dr. Shelly Yarbrough, Principal
- Mr. Scott Brenneman, Assistant Principal
- Ms. Shawna Philips, Dean