March 11, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

As of Tuesday, March 9, LA County reported 6.9 new cases per day per 100,000 residents; other county metrics for COVID-19 cases are also trending downward. The State Department of Public Health has a tier framework for moving through reopening phases for the economy, and in yesterday's update from the LA Department of Public Health, officials indicated that our county may be moving from the very restrictive Purple Tier to the less restrictive Red Tier by no later than Wednesday of next week.

If the county metrics continue in this trend, there is a good chance we may be in the Orange or Yellow Tier by May. As a campus, we will be prepared to adjust our Return to Campus plan using county health guidelines as our road map.

We know that the steady decline in COVID-19 cases is the result of increased vaccinations as well as careful adherence to social distancing, mask-wearing, and other safety-related precautions. Please continue to stay safe.

I would like to conclude by encouraging everyone one more time to schedule vaccination appointments. Please also encourage others to schedule appointments if they are eligible.

Jose

Jose L. Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President/Superintendent