



Superintendent

Christopher Downing, Ed.D.

Board of Education

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April 22, 2020

Re: How the U.S. Census Helps Us

Dear Anaheim Elementary School District Families,

We are very proud of the hard work that we- meaning you and us- have been able to accomplish these past few weeks to support students during these challenging times. One of the cornerstones to our quick response in providing Distance Learning has been our district's commitment to technology. Before the school dismissals, we were already a one-to-one technology district, meaning every student has access to their own high-quality technological device. This is why we were able to offer a Chromebook computer to every one of our more than 16,000 students, while reports indicate other districts have less than half of their students participating in Distance Learning.

There are two reasons why I would like to highlight how fortunate AESD is to be able to provide all of our students with these incredible technological resources to support their learning. First, I applaud the foresight of our Board of Education, our Citizens Oversight Committee, parent advisory groups, and our staff. Together we identified our commitment to preparing students for 21st-century jobs in the future and provided them with the tools they need for a 21st-century education today.

Second of all, I would like to mention the U.S. Census which is taking place now. Every 10 years our country participates in the U.S. Census to adequately identify what our communities look like and determine the resources that are needed to help us thrive. In education, the U.S. Census helps identify needs and provides federal funding based on those needs.

Given the historic circumstances that we are living today, we know that now, more than ever, we are going to need every dollar possible to continue to provide students with the resources they need to thrive. If you haven't already, I encourage you to complete the U.S. Census today. All of the information is confidential and protected. You can complete the 2020 U.S. Census online by visiting 2020census.gov/ or by completing the paperwork that has been mailed to you. Know that your answers today will determine our resources for tomorrow.

Kind regards,
Dr. Christopher Downing
Superintendent

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