

# CAUSE ADVISORY

## Confirmed COVID Exposures within CUSD CUSD's Delayed Notification Process / Information Requested

=====

Superintendent Rigby, Human Resource Director Zapata, CUSD School Board Members, & District Personnel \* :

Just today, January 7, 2021, Union leadership learned that several District employees were notified that they have been directly exposed to CORONAVIRUS while serving the District. Given the District's unilateral decisions associated with Elementary reopening, increasingly frequent exposure events come as no surprise. But the following is a surprise. And CAUSE Leadership considers it unacceptable.

Today, employees were not only advised that they were exposed to the CORONAVIRUS; they were also notified that the exposure occurred no less than 10 days ago; in late December, 2020. The District's lethargic response timeline left several CUSD employees unaware of the significant exposure event/s that occurred; potentially passing the virus on to their own family members and loved ones.

Given both the safety concerns this presents and the District's contractual SAFETY responsibilities (*i.e. See attached SAFETY ARTICLES / CLASSIFIED & CERTIFICATED CBA's*), the following information is formally requested:

- 1.) When was the CUSD notified that the COVID-19 positive employee/s confirmed their positive status?
- 2.) What practices or procedures does the CUSD have in place, when it is notified of a COVID-19 positive employee or student on District property?
- 3.) What specific actions did the CUSD take to trace COVID contacts and notify employees who were exposed?
- 4.) What timeline did the CUSD operate on to facilitate the processes above (see # 3)?
- 5.) How does the District justify, if it can, the delay in notifying District employees that were exposed at least ten days ago?

6.) How can the District ensure District employees that such delays will be prevented in the future?

7.) Will those employees, now being directed by the District to quarantine for 14 days, receive FFCRA - LEAVE rights while quarantining? [These rights allow employees to be compensated while on quarantine. *The most recent Federal relief bill, passed in December, 2020, permits the District to provide LEAVE to these employees exposed due to the essential service they provide the District and community.*]

Given the seriousness of this issue and the public health threat exemplified by the District's delayed notifications, your prompt reply is appreciated.

In Transparency,

~ j. Hotchner \* CAUSE President

**\* C.A.U.S.E. - Yes We Can ! \***

Feel free to visit our CAUSE website:

<https://cause2216.org/>

Your feedback and interest are appreciated!

*\* In the event you received this email and are not either a District Administrator, Board Member, or a Union Member, please contact us immediately, and we will remove you from our mailing list. \**