

Renegade Roundup



COVID Advisory

February 14, 2021

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for following our weekly COVID advisory Roundups.

California Extending Vaccine Guidelines in Mid-March

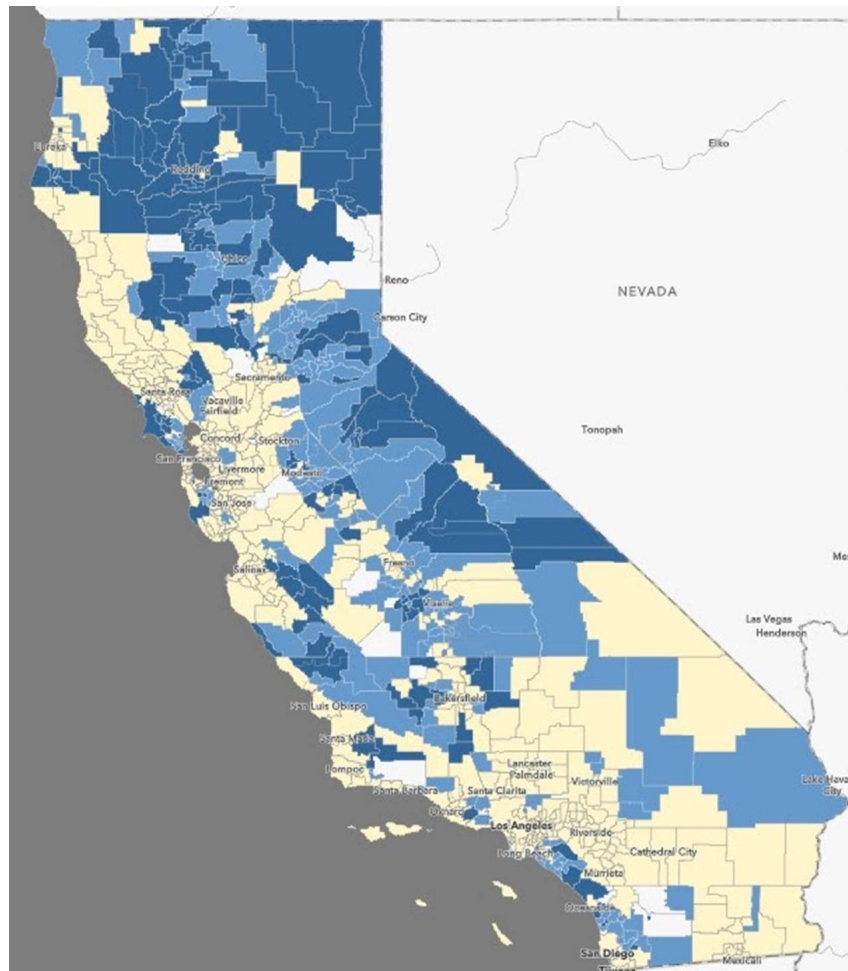


KCCD Trustee Yovani Jimenez and BC Events and Scheduling Manager Mary Jo Pasek receive the vaccine for COVID-19. Please share photos of vaccinations by emailing earl.parsons@bakersfieldcollege.edu or president@bakersfieldcollege.edu.

Starting on March 15, the state of California will be expanding COVID-19 vaccine eligibility to anyone between the ages of 16 and 64 with a severe medical condition that places them at increased risk of death or hospitalization, [according to the San Jose Mercury-News](#). The list of eligible conditions includes cancer, kidney and pulmonary disease, Down's syndrome, an organ transplant, pregnancy, and sickle-cell anemia, as well as heart-related conditions like hypertension, Type 2 Diabetes, and obesity. This expansion also gives physicians broad discretion to grant vaccine access to patients that they deem to be highly susceptible to the virus.

This expansion would represent phase 1C of the state's vaccine rollout process. As we get ready to launch our vaccination clinic here at BC, I want to remind everyone that these facilities will be **open to all members of the public who are eligible for the vaccine**. If you're interested in volunteering, please email Nicky Damania at nicky.damania@bakersfieldcollege.edu.

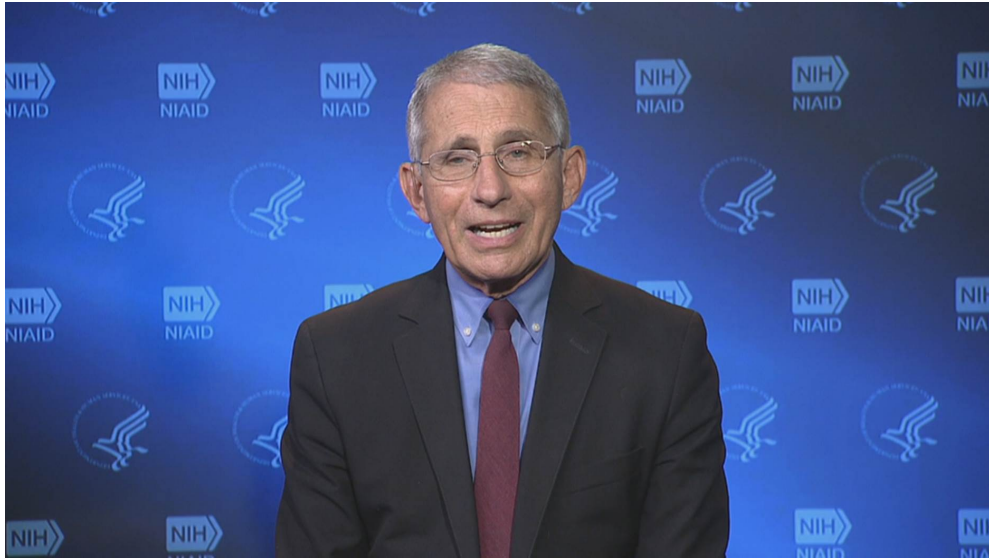
Safe Schools For All Program Launches Interactive Reopening Map



On Friday, February 12, [the Office of Governor Gavin Newsom announced a new interactive tool](#) that gives educators resources to make data-driven decisions for their reopening plans. The Safe Schools For All map displays data for all types of schools in California, from public school districts to private and charter schools, featuring information about reopening procedures, testing, safety planning, and more, as well as community outbreak data from the California Department of Public Health.

For more details about the Safe Schools for All program, which was launched in late December to encourage opening up classrooms for the state's youngest and most vulnerable learners, [visit the Safe Schools for All website](#).

Dr. Fauci Predicts “Open Season” For Vaccines by end of April



[In an interview on NBC’s “Today”](#), the White House’s COVID-19 advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci was optimistic about the United States’ supply of the vaccine expanding over the next several months, predicting that it could be “open season” for anyone in the country to receive the treatments by the end of April. He also talked about the coronavirus variants discovered in Europe, South Africa and Southern California, noting that the vaccine has so far been effective against them.

In our virtual seminar with infectious disease expert Dr. Michael Saag, [he was equally optimistic about access to the vaccine](#) becoming available to everyone who wants it before the start of summer. Please share the good news with your coworkers and constituent groups as you discuss our preliminary plans for reopening the physical campus, and continue to follow our weekly COVID-19 advisory Roundups to stay informed about any latest developments in the worldwide response to the COVID-19 crisis.

New York Times Writes About Unintended Consequences of “COVID Absolutism”

[In his latest article for the New York Times](#), David Leonhardt offers his thoughts on the debate about drastic restrictions that go beyond what physicians and experts recommend to reduce the spread of COVID-19. He argues that while regulations that go above and beyond recommendations in the name of “COVID absolutism” seem like a prudent response in the midst of a pandemic that has claimed the lives of nearly 2.4 million people worldwide, research has shown that they aren’t very effective and may encourage people to engage in behaviors that should be prohibited.

Oldest Person in Europe Survives COVID-19



I thought you might appreciate this story.

A 117-year-old French nun named Sister Andre has survived her fight against the coronavirus, [according to the BBC](#). Europe’s oldest person tested positive for COVID-19 in mid-January and isolated from the other residents at her retirement home in Southern France. Sister Andre is blind and in a wheelchair, and she is the second oldest person in the world behind Kane Tanaka of Japan, who is 118 years old.

Blueprint For a Safer Economy Dashboard

[The State of California's Blueprint For a Safer Economy dashboard](#) shows where each county in California ranks in the four-tiered color system for reopening. A table with the comparison of test positivity rates from several counties on the monitoring list is below.

	February 7, 2021		February 14, 2021*	
	New cases per 100k	Test positivity rate	New cases per 100k	Test positivity rate
California	47.7	10.0%	33.1	8.5%
Kern County	42.2	14.5	31.2**	12.5%**
Kings County	62.7	13.2%	45.4	11.0%
Fresno County	41.7	11.4%	28.8	9.7%
San Bernardino	59.4	12.7%	33.2	10.6%
LA County	61.2	11.3%	42.5	9.5%

*Dashboard data updated on Feb. 9

**Kern County is in the purple or “widespread” tier

Johns Hopkins Dashboard

As of 4:30 p.m. on February 14, the [Johns Hopkins University Dashboard](#) shows more than 108 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide since the start of the pandemic. Kern County also passed the milestone of 100,000 confirmed cases since last year. Here is the table that captures the difference in the numbers since February 7.

	Feb. 7, 2021	Feb. 14, 2021	Difference	Percentage
World	106,008,375	108,753,721	2,745,346	2.6%
U.S.	26,986,827	27,638,448	651,621	2.4%
California	3,320,862	3,399,878	79,016	2.4%
Kern	97,249	100,290	3,041	3.1%

Stay safe, stay healthy, wear a mask, keep the 6ft distance separation, and wash your hands to slow down the spread and reduce the strain on our healthcare systems and providers.

That's all for now.
Until next time.

With much Renegade Pride and Collegiality,
sonya

[See all issues of Renegade Roundup online](#)