What kind of information can we learn from GUSD’s COVID-19 Dashboard?

There have been confirmed positive COVID-19 cases on many school sites this fall which have resulted in at least 333 people being quarantined. We don’t know how long anyone was quarantined. We don’t know if people who were quarantined ended up having COVID-19. We don’t know how many people are being quarantined today. That means we don’t know if GUSD is following the public health guidelines.

If school buildings reopen, how often will my child need to quarantine?

When your child has a contact who might be ill, your child will need to quarantine for 14 days or until a medical professional rules out COVID-19. The reason for this is that it can take up to two weeks for a person with COVID-19 to show symptoms. If GUSD follows public health guidelines, lengthy quarantines will happen frequently. Children get colds often, but it takes a long time to rule out COVID-19. Will transitioning in and out of distance learning every time a classmate shows symptoms be good for your family?

Why are Glendale educators worried?

GUSD has not been following the guidance of public health officials. For example, in their recent notice about holiday travel to employees and students who report to pods, GUSD says that those who travel out of state may return to school sites within 14 days of travel if they have a negative COVID-19 test. Public health officials say that those individuals must quarantine for 14 days without exception.

By disregarding the advice of experts, GUSD puts our whole community at risk. Glendale teachers want our students and co-workers to remain COVID-free. If GUSD either can’t follow the guidance of public health officials or can’t clearly communicate with the community about the reality of COVID-19 on school campuses, why should we trust that GUSD will do better if they bring more students and teachers on school campuses?

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