

Ask A Glendale Teacher

Edition 1

→ **School Safety** ←

October 28, 2020

1) *Why aren't students returning to in-person instruction yet?*

At this time, state and county health guidelines prohibit a return to on-campus instruction for all students while LA County remains in the highest risk category. **Currently, it is not safe for students or teachers to return to classrooms.** (<https://covid19.ca.gov>)

2) *Why isn't it safe to return to classrooms?*

The City of Glendale is not safe enough to receive an exception. As of October 27, City of Glendale 7-day change of known COVID cases is higher than LA County's (+7.05% Glendale vs. +4.16% LA County). (http://bit.ly/Covid_Glendale)

The air in classrooms does not circulate well enough. About half of all GUSD classrooms do not have windows that open to bring in fresh air. Based on service documents provided by GUSD, many GUSD HVAC systems will not circulate air sufficiently to reduce the risk of COVID infection. GUSD has not made plans to implement the LA County recommendation to use outdoor spaces as often as possible.

Social distancing in schools is extremely difficult, if not impossible. In a recent survey of Glendale educators, 50% report they would frequently need to go within 6 feet in order to do their job well, and 30% say occasionally.

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