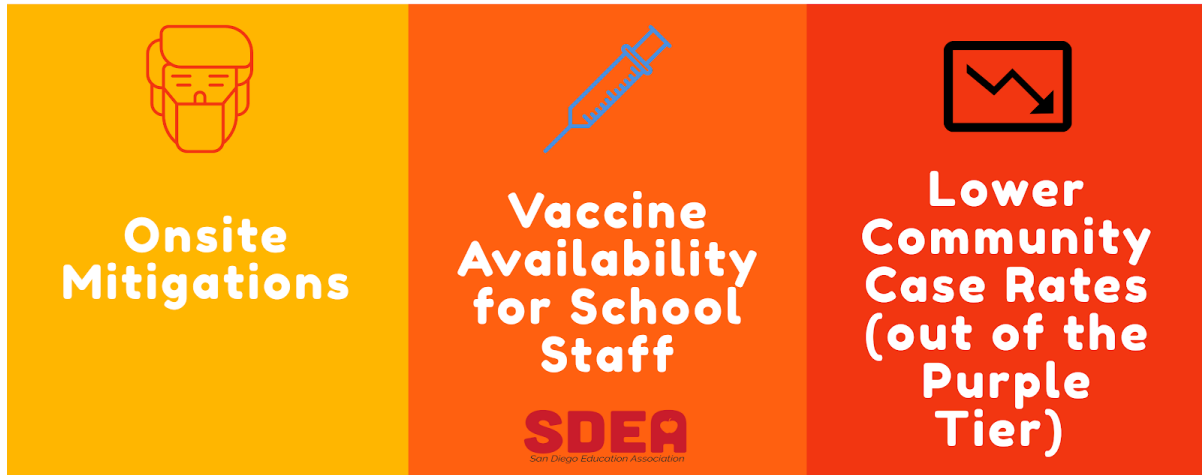


## The **S**afe Framework for Restarting In-Person Instruction



When we look at our [bargaining platform](#), new information on vaccines, and the [CLASSES](#) report, it is clear that there are three key pillars for reopening that keep educators, our students and our communities safe:

- **Lower Community Case Rates** - Lower case rates in our communities are essential to safely reopening. San Diego needs to be in the red tier or better.
- **Onsite Mitigations** - Testing, proper ventilation, masks, full & proper PPE, hand sanitizing supplies and stations, reducing occupant capacity of rooms, and other mitigation measures are critical for a successful phased reopening.
- **Vaccine Availability** - All employees must have the opportunity to complete the full vaccination cycle (first and second doses, and reach peak immunity).

Make sure you attend your February SDEA site meeting to learn more about the path to reopening.

### State Testing Waiver Hearing

Previously, California was turned down for a testing waiver from the Federal Dept of Education. The state responded with a modified short form CAASPP test. Now that there is a new administration, there may be an opportunity to receive the testing waiver.

The CA State Board of Education will be meeting February 24. One of the agenda items ([Item 02](#)) is the pursuit of a federal waiver for testing.

If you are interested in addressing the board as a concerned citizen, they accept one minute commentary via phone. Directions on how to call in are on the [website](#). Since the meeting is scheduled for 8:30 am, it may be easier to submit written comment.

According to the [website](#), the public is highly encouraged to submit written comments to the SBE members in advance for their prior consideration. In order to help ensure that board members have sufficient time to review all comments, please submit comments **by noon on Monday, February 22, 2021**. Comments should be submitted to the SBE mailbox at: [sbe@cde.ca.gov](mailto:sbe@cde.ca.gov).

We absolutely cannot afford to divert precious time and resources to a standardized test that will collect utterly useless data. And we certainly don't need to increase the stress of students who already are enduring life and learning during a pandemic. SDEA and CTA have been and will continue to advocate for students and educators. You can add your name to a CTA [petition](#) calling for a 2021 state testing waiver. The language from the CTA petition could be used in your public comment.

## Volunteer Opportunities

COVID-19 Community Response Volunteers Needed! The coronavirus health crisis continues to grow and our workers need more help than ever. As workers face layoffs and cancelled shifts, making ends meet becomes harder and harder. The SD and Imperial Counties Labor Council has transitioned to open food distribution sites for union members & the general public but they need help to make it a success. [Sign up to volunteer TODAY!](#)

## Disability Insurance Pays You

Health insurance pays your doctor. Disability insurance pays you. Disability benefits are paid directly to you if you're unable to work due to:

- Injury
- Illness (including mental health disorders and substance abuse)
- Pregnancy and childbirth

Learn more and apply online: [standard.com/cta/sdea](http://standard.com/cta/sdea).

## Read Across America 2021 and California Reads

This year, Read Across America Day falls on March 2nd. Rather than celebrate reading on just one day, each month the [Read Across America calendar](#) features three books that explore a topic related to diversity and inclusion.

**California Reads** also promotes reading year-round with teacher-approved quarterly book recommendations for multiple age groups. California Reads promotes reading through a yearly list of 20 teacher-recommended books in five age categories: Pre-K/TK/K, Grades 1-2, Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8 and Grades 9-12.