



## OPEN SCHOOLS CA SAYS SCHOOL REOPENING EFFORTS ARE A JOKE

### *Upon “April Fools Day” Deadline, Districts Report Little to No In-Person Instruction for Students*

OAKLAND, CA – April 1, 2021 – April 1 marks the initial deadline under AB/SB 86 for school districts to “open” to receive funding. This deadline has clearly been meaningless for many districts across California as millions of kids remain locked out of their classrooms.

According to the recently released [LA Times Reopening Tracker](#), only a little over 1/3 of elementary students have the option now to return to their classrooms, while for middle and high school it’s only 20%. With so many students still locked out of their classrooms, it is clear AB/SB 86 has failed in its promise to open schools. And California continues [to rank last](#) among the 50 states for returning children to the classroom.

“Much as we feared, this ‘incentive’ program is a total joke. Few children are back in school, and if they are, it is often for a handful of hours a week while districts are receiving millions of dollars for re-opening,” said Megan Bacigalupi, a parent advocate with OpenSchoolsCA and an Oakland parent.

In many districts, even if children have returned or will return soon, it’s for limited grades and only a few hours per week. In the Oakland Unified School District, only TK-2 students have returned and for a total of 5 hours per week. In Sacramento City, students will return for just 6 hours per week. Meanwhile over [53% of students](#) nationwide now attend school full-time, five days a week.

“School districts ‘shall offer in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible,’ so many districts are already violating state law by not offering students the ability to return for instruction full-time under a normal schedule,” said Scott Davison, a parent advocate with OpenSchoolsCA and a Carlsbad parent.

The last hope for the millions of children across California to return to their classrooms this school year is executive action from Governor Newsom. OpenSchoolsCA demands that the Governor join his many peers in mandating that schools open full time, now.

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**OpenSchoolsCA**

*OpenSchoolsCA is a group of parents from across California who are committed to public education and believe their children should have access to safe, in-person education. OpenSchoolsCA believes in following the science—and the consensus by public health experts and medical and mental health professionals—which all tell us schools can be safely reopened with measures in place to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Learn more at [www.OpenSchoolsCA.com](http://www.OpenSchoolsCA.com)*

**Megan Bacigalupi**

OpenSchoolsCA

Parent Advocate

917-733-3821

Press@OpenSchoolsCA.com