

PRESS RELEASE – ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

For immediate release Information: Superintendent's Office (714) 628-4487



Orange Unified School District – Canyon Fire 2 Update

Orange, CA – October 10, 2017 - 7:00 am - The Orange USD Family is heartbroken by the extensive impact the Canyon Fire 2 has had on our students in Orange and Anaheim Hills. We are eagerly awaiting news regarding the evacuation orders so families can return to their homes. Schools that remain open in Orange USD in the non- evacuated areas will be "safe spaces" for working families and students who can continue to attend school if desired. For schools that are open, nutrition and transportation services will continue to be available. Principals, teachers and mental health professionals will be available on site. Students with health related issues and sensitivities to smoke should stay home as the levels are very high.

Students and families who attend school can rest assured that there will be no outdoor activities. All after-school programs including athletic practices and competitions are cancelled until further notice. We encourage all students to stay inside and avoid strenuous activity.

Thank you to our staff and teachers who evacuated students and did an excellent job reuniting them with their families yesterday.

For those families who keep their children home or who have evacuated, there will be no adverse impact on attendance or grades.

Please continue to monitor the OUSD website for updates.

Gunn Marie Hansen, Ph.D. Interim Superintendent

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The Orange Unified School District educates approximately 30,000 students in the Cities of Orange, Villa Park, Anaheim, Garden Grove, Santa Ana and county areas. The school district, founded in 1953, encompasses 108 square miles. The District office is located at 1401 N. Handy Street, Orange, California.



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT SMOKE ADVISORY

Issued Monday, October 09, 2017

This advisory is in effect through Tuesday morning. SCAQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

A brush fire, named the Canyon Fire 2, is burning in Orange County near the border of Riverside County, near Gypsum Canyon and Anaheim Hills. The burn area is reported to be over 4000 acres with no containment. Smoke is currently heavy in the vicinity, with the fire fueled by strong Santa Ana winds. Winds will remain from the northeast and east today through Thursday morning, bringing smoke and ash into portions of Orange County and the western portions of Los Angeles County. Air quality may reach **Unhealthy** levels or higher in areas directly impacted by smoke.

Areas of direct smoke impacts and Unhealthy air quality include portions of:

- North Orange County (Forecast Area 16);
- Central Orange County (Forecast Area 17);
- North Orange County Coast (Forecast Area 18);
- Saddleback Valley (Forecast Area 19);
- Central Orange County Coast (Forecast Area 20);
- Capistrano Valley (Forecast Area 21);
- Northwest Los Angeles County Coastal (Forecast Area 2);
- Southwest Los Angeles County Coastal (Forecast Area 3);
- South Los Angeles County Coastal (Forecast Area 4); and
- Corona/Norco Area Riverside County (Forecast Area 22).

In any area impacted by smoke: Everyone should avoid any vigorous outdoor or indoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, older adults, and children should remain indoors. Keep windows and doors closed or seek alternate shelter. Run your air conditioner if you have one and keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to prevent bringing additional smoke inside. Avoid using a swamp cooler or whole-house fan to prevent bringing additional smoke inside. To avoid worsening the health effects of smoke, don't use indoor or outdoor wood-burning appliances, including fireplaces.

SCAQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: http://ftp.aqmd.gov/pub/globalist/Advisory.pdf

To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to http://AirAlerts.org

To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see http://www3.aqmd.gov/webappl/gisaqi2/home.aspx

For more tips on avoiding health impacts from smoke, see SCAQMD Fire Safety Alert Factsheets at http://www.aqmd.gov/home/library/public-information/publications#factsheet

For a map of SCAQMD Forecast Areas, see <u>http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/map-of-monitoring-areas.pdf</u>