



BSUSD Safe Schools Reopening Plan

2020-2021



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INTRODUCTION

The Coronavirus pandemic has changed nearly every aspect of our lives over the last year. It has certainly changed the way we do business. Consistent with our District's mission, we strive to provide all of our students with the tools for success in college, career, family and community life. We also strive to make our campuses as safe and welcoming as possible, creating healthy learning environments for our children to grow. This plan outlines the procedures and protocols which we have designed to reopen our schools during this serious pandemic.

In developing this plan we consulted the following:

- CDC Guidance on Reopening Schools
- CDPH Guidance for Schools and School-Based Programs
- CDE Guidance on Reopening Schools
- SDCOE Reopening Checklist
- Staff/Parent/Community input

In considering the return of our students to campus, our Safe Schools Reopening Plan takes a balanced approach, valuing in-person education while recognizing that several coordinated interventions can greatly reduce, but not eliminate, all health risks to students and staff. As set forth in the plan, we seek to maximize, to the extent practicable, the practices of screening, sanitation, facial coverings, and social distancing.

This plan was developed based on the template provided by the San Diego County Office of Education, in consultation with the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services and is based on guidance articulated by the California Department of Public Health in its COVID-19 INDUSTRY GUIDANCE: Schools and School Based Programs (July 17, 2020) and COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Framework for K-12 Schools in California, 2020-2021 School Year.

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1. GENERAL MEASURES

Note: Changes in health conditions, guidance documents, and state/county mandates, coupled with new learnings as the plan is implemented, will necessitate changes to the plan. As such, the plan will remain fluid and subject to periodic updates as appropriate.

Contact Information

The person responsible to implement and monitor this plan is: Mark Stevens, Superintendent.
Office 760-767-5357

Email mstevens@bsusd.net

The following sources are utilized for guidance and to monitor local and regional conditions:

- County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency
Office: 619-542-4181
County Health Officer: Wilma Wooten, MD, MPH, wilma.wooten@sdcounty.ca.gov
- San Diego County Health Order
 - Education Sector Lead: Katherine Gordon, katherine.gordon@sdcounty.ca.gov
- San Diego County COVID-19 Dashboard
- San Diego County Office of Education
 - SDCOE Chief of Staff: Music Watson, music.watson@sdcoe.net , 858-295-6625
- California Department of Education
 - CDE Guidance
- California Department of Public Health
 - CDPH Guidance
 - County Variance Documents

Communication Plan

This plan is posted at: www.bsusd.net. Copies are available at individual school sites as well as the district office. All employees will be provided a copy electronically.

The school will implement the necessary processes and protocols when a workplace has an outbreak, in accordance with [CDPH guidelines](#). BSUSD will investigate any COVID-19 illness and determine if any work-related factors could have contributed to risk of infection and update the plan as needed to prevent further cases. The Superintendent will report information on positive cases to Public Health Services Epidemiology Department at: 619-692-8499.

Outside Organizations

Organizations outside BSUSD will be evaluated on a case by case basis to determine whether they can safely utilize the site or other campus resources. Every organization utilizing a BSUSD site must comply with this safety plan.

2. HEALTHY HYGIENE PRACTICES



During back to school activities and throughout the school year, students and staff will be taught/reminded to practice healthy hygiene practices. The following CDC-approved resources will be utilized:

[Handwashing \(best practice\)](#)

[Coughing and Sneezing Guidance](#)

[Coronavirus Prevention](#)

By using continual prompts, visual cues and other means, students will be reminded to:

- Use a tissue to wipe their nose and to cough/sneeze inside a tissue or their elbow
- Wash their hands frequently throughout the day, including before and after eating; after coughing or sneezing; after classes where they handle shared items, such as outside recreation, art, or shop; and before and after using the restroom.
- Wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application.
- Use hand sanitizer when hand washing is not practicable.



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Additional Measures

- The district has purchased additional portable hand washing stations that will be available throughout campus.
- Students will be taught routines for hand washing and be provided adequate time during the day to regularly wash their hands at staggered intervals.
- The district has purchased extra supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, tissues, face coverings, and hand sanitizers. The district will continue to purchase needed materials as possible throughout the year.
- The district will communicate Information contained in the CDPH Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings to staff and families, including the circumstances in which face coverings must be worn and the exemptions, as well as any policies, work rules, and practices the employer has adopted to ensure the use of face coverings. These materials and links will also be available on the district's website.
- Staff are required to use face coverings in accordance with CDPH guidelines and all required protective equipment. See [CDPH Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings](#).
 - Currently, the district has a sufficient supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) necessary to protect employees.
 - All staff are required to use face coverings when inside a school building or outside within 6 feet of any other person. Staff may be required to use additional PPE, such as gloves or face shields, when risk of transmission or exposure is more prevalent.
 - Custodial/maintenance staff are required to wear gloves while cleaning
 - Bus drivers are required to wear gloves when cleaning their buses
 - Staff are required to wear face shields, in addition to masks, when performing duties that require very close proximity (less than 3 ft) for a period of more than 1 minute with a student who is not wearing a mask.
- The District strongly recommends that all students and staff be immunized each autumn against influenza.

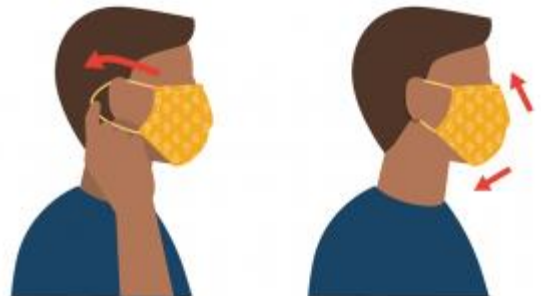
3. FACE COVERINGS

Face coverings must be used in accordance with [CDPH guidelines](#) unless a person is exempt as explained in the guidelines, particularly in indoor environments, on school buses, and areas where physical distancing alone is not sufficient to prevent disease transmission.

All staff are required to teach and reinforce use of face coverings or in limited instances, face shields.

Wear your Mask Correctly

- Wash your hands before putting on your mask
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily



See additional guidelines regarding masks from the CDC [proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings](#).

For teachers and other staff who interact with students that need to see your face, you may be permitted to wear a face shield instead of a mask for certain portions of the school day. You must obtain prior permission from your immediate supervisor before doing so. Follow these simple guidelines for best practices when using shields.

Best Practices for using Face Shields when interacting with individuals with hearing loss or disabilities

<p>Face coverings should be worn by employees who are interacting with the public at businesses.</p> 	<p>When interacting with a person who may need access to important facial cues, properly place the face shield on your face after washing or sanitizing your hands.</p> 	<p>Remove your facial covering and continue to maintain physical distancing during your interaction.</p> 	<p>After the interaction, place your facial covering back on your face.</p> 	<p>Once you have put on your facial covering, remove the face shield and wash or sanitize your hands.</p> 
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Who needs to wear a mask?

All staff must wear a face covering. Students have the following requirements.

Age	Face Covering Requirement
Under 2 years old	No
2 years old – 2nd grade	Strongly encouraged**
3rd grade – high school	Yes, unless exempt
**Face coverings are strongly encouraged for young children between 2 years old and second grade, if they can be worn properly. A face shield is an acceptable alternative for children in this cohort who cannot wear them properly.	

You do not need to wear a mask if/when:

- Persons younger than two years old, anyone who has trouble breathing, anyone who is unconscious or incapacitated, and anyone who is otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance are exempt from wearing a face covering.
- A cloth face covering, or face shield should be removed for meals, snacks, naptime, or outdoor recreation, or when it needs to be replaced. When a cloth face covering is temporarily removed, it should be placed in a clean paper bag (marked with the student's name and date) until it needs to be put on again.

In order to comply with this guidance, schools must exclude students from campus if they are not exempt from wearing a face covering under CDPH guidelines and refuse to wear one provided by the school. Students will be sent home for not wearing a mask and will be placed in a distance learning option. Students who forget to bring a mask to school will be given a disposable mask for that day.

4. TEACHER AND STAFF SAFETY

Staff should follow even greater safety protocols than students in order to remain safe at work. Currently, guidance suggests that adults are more likely to spread the disease to each other than it is likely to receive it from a child. The following provisions are recommended:

- Staff must maintain physical distancing from each other. No close contact (within 6ft for more than 15 minutes).
- Staff must use face coverings in accordance with CDPH guidelines and Cal/OSHA standards.
- Support staff who are at higher risk for severe illness or who cannot safely distance from household contacts at higher risk may have alternate work options, such as telework, where appropriate, or teaching in a virtual learning or independent study context. This will be determined on a case by case basis by your immediate supervisor.
- The district will conduct all staff meetings, professional development training and education, and other activities involving staff with physical distancing measures in place, or virtually, where physical distancing is a challenge.
- Staff should no longer congregate in staff rooms, break rooms, and other settings when physical distancing is not possible. Break rooms will be equipped with bleach wipes, hand sanitizer and other materials needed for sanitary use.
- Staff are required to perform a self-health check every day before coming to work and report this check. Staff are also required to perform a temperature and symptom check at work. Thermometers will be available at your check in stations for this purpose.



5. INTENSIFY CLEANING, DISINFECTION, AND VENTILATION

Facility Use

Drinking fountains around campus will no longer be in use. Instead, students and staff are encouraged to use reusable water bottles and refill them under the supervision of adults. As noted previously, congregate areas should be controlled and may be suspended from use if proper distancing protocols are not followed.

Staff will limit use and sharing of objects and equipment in classrooms, such as toys, games, and art supplies. Playground equipment use will be limited to the extent practicable. When shared use is allowed, staff will clean and disinfect between uses.

Cleaning

Staff will clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces at school at least daily and, as practicable, these surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected frequently throughout the day by trained staff. Frequently touched surfaces in the school include, but are not limited to:

- Door handles
- Light switches
- Sink handles
- Bathroom surfaces
- Tables
- Student Desks
- Chairs

Custodial staff and any other workers who clean and disinfect the school site must be equipped with proper protective equipment, including gloves, eye protection, respiratory protection, and other appropriate protective equipment as required by the product instructions. All products must be kept out of children's reach and stored in a space with restricted access. Products must be approved for use against COVID-19 on the [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\) approved list "N"](#).

Staff should ensure proper ventilation during cleaning and disinfecting. Introduce fresh outdoor air as much as possible, for example, by opening windows where practicable. When cleaning, air out the space before children arrive; plan to do thorough cleaning when children are not present. If using air conditioning, use the setting that brings in outside air. Replace and check air filters and filtration systems to ensure optimal air quality. The District will be upgrading the

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building's air filters to the highest efficiency possible, and making other modifications to increase the quantity of outside air and ventilation in classrooms, offices and other spaces.

All water systems (for example, drinking fountains) must be made safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown to minimize the risk of Legionnaires' disease and other diseases associated with water.

School Buses

Buses will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected daily and after transporting any individual who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. Drivers will be provided disinfectant wipes and disposable gloves to support disinfection of frequently touched surfaces during the day.

6. IMPLEMENTING DISTANCING INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Arrival and Departure

Each school must strive to minimize contact at school between students, staff, families and the community at the beginning and end of the school day and prioritize minimizing contact between adults at all times. The following methods may be used:

- Stagger arrival and drop off-times and locations as consistently as practicable as to minimize scheduling challenges for families.
- Designate routes for entry and exit, using as many entrances as feasible. Put in place other protocols to limit direct contact with others as much as practicable.
- Maximize space between students and between students and the driver on school buses and open windows to the greatest extent practicable.
- Implement health screenings of students and staff upon arrival at school (see Section 9).
- Ensure each bus is equipped with extra unused face coverings on school buses for students who may have inadvertently failed to bring one.

Classroom Space

In an effort to reduce possibilities for infection and spread of COVID, the following steps will be taken:

- Students must remain in the same space and in cohorts as small and consistent as practicable, including for recess and lunch. Keep the same students and teacher or staff with each group, to the greatest extent practicable.
 - The elementary school will have a maximum of 20 students per classroom, spaced as far apart as practicable. The school will use a cohort model for use of facilities. Desks will be physically distanced at a minimum of 6ft when possible.

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- The Middle/High school will use a grade level cohort model and student desks will be physically distanced at a minimum of 6ft when possible.
- Prioritize the use and maximization of outdoor space for activities.
- Minimize movement of students and teachers or staff.
- Maximize space between seating and desks. Distance teacher and other staff desks at least six feet away from student desks. Consider ways to establish separation of students through other means if practicable, such as, partitions between desks, markings on classroom floors to promote distancing or arranging desks in a way that minimizes face-to-face contact.
- Redesigning activities for smaller groups and rearranging furniture and play spaces to maintain separation. Use privacy boards or clear screens when needed to increase and enforce separation between staff and students
- Activities where there is increased likelihood for transmission from contaminated exhaled droplets such as band and choir practice and performances are not permitted. Activities that involve singing must only take place outdoors.
- Turning in assignments will be performed digitally as much as possible. Physical materials turned in will wait 48 hours before handling when possible.



Non-Classroom Spaces

The District will follow the following practices to limit exposure and transmission of the disease by:

- Limiting nonessential visitors, volunteers and activities involving other groups on campus.
- Limiting communal activities.
- Serving meals outdoors or in classrooms instead of cafeterias. When the cafeteria must be used, students are to be kept together in their cohort groups and ensure physical distancing. Serve individually plated or bagged meals. Avoid sharing of foods and utensils and buffet or family-style meals.
- Recess activities should be by cohort, separated in areas designated by class.

Sports and Extra Curricular Activities

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At this time, we will not host or promote outdoor and indoor sporting events, assemblies, dances, rallies, field trips and other activities that require close contact or that would promote congregating between our own school and with other schools.

- Youth sports and physical education will only be permitted only when the following can be maintained:
 - Physical distancing of at least six feet; and
 - A stable cohort, such as a class, that limits the risks of transmission
- Activities will take place outside to the maximum extent practicable.
- For sports that cannot be conducted with sufficient distancing or cohorting, only physical conditioning and training is permitted and ONLY where physical distancing can be maintained. Conditioning and training should focus on individual skill building and should take place outside, where practicable. Indoor physical conditioning and training is allowed only in counties where gyms and fitness centers are allowed to operate indoors.
- Equipment sharing is to be avoided, and if unavoidable, clean and disinfect shared equipment between use by different people.
- Cloth face coverings must be worn during indoor physical conditioning and training or physical education classes.
- Activities that require heavy exertion should be conducted outside in a physically distanced manner without face coverings.
- Activities conducted inside should be those that do not require heavy exertion and can be done with a face covering.
 - Students should take a break from exercise if any difficulty in breathing is noted and should change their mask or face covering if it becomes wet and sticks to the player's face and obstructs breathing.
 - Masks that restrict airflow under heavy exertion (such as N-95 masks) are not advised for exercise.
- When allowed, youth sports programs and schools will provide information to parents or guardians regarding this and related guidance, along with the safety measures that will be in place in these settings with which parents or guardians must comply.
- Activities where there is increased likelihood for transmission from contaminated exhaled droplets such as band and choir practice and performances are not permitted.

7. LIMIT SHARING

To prevent the spread and transmission of COVID, the District will limit student sharing by:

- Each child's belongings will be separated and in individually labeled storage containers, cubbies, or areas.
- The district will ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high-touch materials (art supplies, equipment, etc.) to the extent practicable and if applicable, limit use of supplies and equipment to one group of children at a time and clean and disinfect between uses.
- Students will avoid sharing electronic devices, clothing, toys, books and other games or learning aids as much as practicable.
 - Where sharing occurs, clean and disinfect between uses.



8. TRAIN AND EDUCATE FAMILIES

Staff

The District will train all staff and provide educational materials to help prevent the spread of COVID by:

- Enhanced sanitation practices
- Physical distancing guidelines and their importance
- Proper use, removal, and washing of face coverings
- Screening practices
- How COVID-19 is spread
- COVID-19 specific symptom identification and when to seek medical attention
- The district plan and procedures to follow when children or adults become sick at school
- The district's plan and procedures to protect workers from COVID-19 illness
- Trainings will be conducted virtually whenever possible, or if in-person, the district will ensure a minimum of six-foot distance is maintained.



Parents

The District will provide educational materials to parents to help prevent the spread of COVID including:

- Enhanced sanitation practices
- Physical distancing guidelines and their importance
- Proper use, removal, and washing of face coverings
- Screening practices
- How COVID-19 is spread
- COVID-19 specific symptom identification and when to seek medical attention
- The district plan and procedures to follow when children or adults become sick at school
- The district's plan and procedures to protect workers from COVID-19 illness
- Trainings will be conducted virtually whenever possible, or if in-person, the district will ensure a minimum of six-foot distance is maintained.

9. CHECK FOR SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS



Each school in the district, and the district office will perform daily health checks for staff and students to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. This will include:

- Screening when entering the facility.
- Screening before entering the bus.
 - Asking all individuals if they or anyone in their home is exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms
 - Temperature checks with no contact thermometers
- Parents are advised to wait for their children to be screened at school or at the bus stop in case their child needs to be sent home.
- Require staff and students who are sick or who have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 to stay home.
 - Staff and students need to stay home for 10 days after the appearance of their first symptom and be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medicines for 3 days before returning to campus.
- Staff will self-monitor and visually monitor students throughout the day for signs of illness
 - Students and staff with a fever of 100 degrees or higher, cough or other COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home.
 - In the case of a student is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, the student will be isolated and parents contacted for pick up
- The office staff/nurse will document/track incidents of possible exposure and notify local health officials, staff and families immediately of any exposure to a positive case of COVID-19 at school while maintaining confidentiality, as required under FERPA and state law related to privacy of educational records.
- Every room on the three campuses will have hand sanitizer available and staff will encourage use of hand-washing stations.
- The district will not discriminate against students who (or whose families) were or are diagnosed with COVID-19 or who are perceived to be a COVID-19 risk.
 - Policies will not penalize students and families for missing class due to COVID-19.



10. PLAN FOR WHEN A STAFF MEMBER, CHILD, OR VISITOR BECOMES SICK

Borrego Springs Unified School District has worked with administrators, the school nurse, and county health department to develop plans for when an individual becomes sick is as follows:

Students

- An isolation room has been identified on each campus for any individual exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. The individual in isolation will be required to wear a mask until parent pick up or transported off campus.
 - Elementary: Multipurpose room stage area
 - MS/HS: Empty classroom
- Parents will be contacted immediately of a student exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms for pick up, and recommended to take the child to a healthcare facility for testing and/or to seek medical advice.

Symptoms include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Fatigue
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell



- If a staff member starts to exhibit these symptoms during the school day they will go to the isolation room if severe and we will call a family member for transportation. If symptoms are not severe staff member will leave campus to seek a testing facility or medical advice.

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- The district will notify local health officials immediately of any positive case of COVID19, and exposed staff and families as relevant while maintaining confidentiality as required by state and federal laws.
- Areas will be closed off that were used by any individual suspected of being infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 and will not be used again before cleaning and disinfection. To reduce risk of exposure, 24 hours will pass before the area is cleaned and disinfected.
 - If it is not possible to wait 24 hours, wait as long as practicable. Ensure a safe and correct application of disinfectants using personal protective equipment and ventilation recommended for cleaning. Keep disinfectant products away from students.
- Sick staff members and students are advised not to return until they have met CDC criteria to discontinue home isolation, including at least 3 days with no fever, without the use of fever reducing medicines, symptoms have improved and at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- All students will have access to instruction when out of class, either through online options or paper packets, as required by federal and state law.
- We are offering distance learning based on the unique circumstances of each student who would be put at-risk by an in-person instructional model.
- We will follow CDPH guidelines and implement necessary processes when a school has an outbreak.
- Student and staff cases of COVID-19 will be investigated to determine if any work related factors could have contributed to the risk of infection. Any protocols and procedures will be updated as needed and staff will be informed.

11. MAINTAIN HEALTHY OPERATIONS

In an effort to maintain healthy, continued operations of the school district and to avoid unnecessary breaks in education, the District will perform the following functions:

- Monitor staff absenteeism and have a roster of trained back-up staff where available.
- Monitor the types of illnesses and symptoms among our students and staff to help isolate them promptly as needed.
- The administrative staff will be designated as liaisons to be responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns. The superintendent will coordinate the documentation and tracking of possible exposure, in order to notify local health officials, staff and families in a prompt and responsible manner.
- If routine testing becomes mandated, or is more widely available, the District will consult with the San Diego County health department regarding results and tracking. .
- Those students who are at higher risk for severe illness or who cannot safely distance from household contacts at higher risk, will have the option to continue their education via distance learning or independent study.

12. CONSIDERATIONS FOR REOPENING AND PARTIAL OR TOTAL CLOSURES

When a student, teacher, or staff member has symptoms or is diagnosed with COVID-19, the following action will be taken per the COVID-19 and Reopening Framework for K-12 Schools in California.

	Student or Staff with:	Action	Communication
1.	<p>COVID-19 Symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing)</p> <p>Symptom Screening: Per CA School Sector Specific Guidelines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send home • Recommend testing (If positive, see #3, if negative, see #4) • School/classroom remain open 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Action needed
2.	Close contact (+) with a confirmed COVID-19 case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send home • Quarantine for 14 days from last exposure • Recommend testing (but will not shorten 14-day quarantine) • School/classroom remain open 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider school community notification of a known contact
3.	Confirmed COVID-19 case infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify the local public health department • Isolate case and exclude from school for 10 days from symptom onset or test date • Identify contacts (+), quarantine & exclude exposed contacts (likely entire cohort (++)) for 14 days after the last date the case was present at school while infectious • Recommend testing of contacts, prioritize symptomatic contacts (but will not shorten 14-day quarantine) • Disinfection and cleaning of classroom and primary spaces where case spent significant time • School remains open 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School community notification of a known case
4.	Tests negative after symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May return to school 3 days after symptoms resolve • School/classroom remain open 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider school community notification if prior awareness of testing

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(†) A contact is defined as a person who is <6 feet from a case for >15 minutes. In some school situations, it may be difficult to determine whether individuals have met this criterion and an entire cohort, classroom, or other group may need to be considered exposed, particularly if people have spent time together indoors.

(††) A cohort is a stable group with fixed membership that stays together for all courses and activities (e.g., lunch, recess, etc.) and avoids contact with other persons or cohorts.

In addition, the District will:

- Check State and local orders and health department notices daily about transmission in the area or closures and adjust operations accordingly.
- When a student, teacher or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 and had exposed others at the school, refer to the above [CDPH Framework for K-12 Schools](#), and implement the following steps:
 - In consultation with the local public health department, the District will ensure cleaning and quarantine of exposed persons and whether any additional intervention is warranted, including the length of time necessary, based on the risk level within the specific community as determined by the local public health officer.
 - Close off the classroom or office where the patient was based and do not use these areas until after cleaning and disinfection. Wait at least 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting. If 24 hours is not feasible, wait for at least two hours and as long as possible.
 - Additional areas of the school visited by the COVID-19 positive individual may also need to be cleaned and disinfected.
 - Implement communication plans for exposure at school and potential school closures to include outreach to students, parents, teachers, staff and the community.
- Provide information for staff regarding labor laws, information regarding Disability Insurance, Paid Family Leave and Unemployment Insurance, as applicable to schools. See additional information on government programs supporting sick leave and [worker's compensation](#) for COVID-19, including:
 - worker's sick leave rights under the [Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#)

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- Employee's rights to workers' compensation benefits and presumption of the work-relatedness of COVID-19 pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-62-20, while that Order is in effect.
- Provide guidance to parents, teachers and staff reminding them of the importance of community physical distancing measures while a school is closed, including discouraging students or staff from gathering elsewhere.
- Develop a plan for continuity of education. Consider in that plan how to also continue nutrition and other services provided in the regular school setting to establish alternate mechanisms for these services to continue.
- Maintain regular communications with the local public health department.

Guidance on School Closure

Criteria for closing a school

- Individual school closure is recommended based on the number of cases, the percentage of the teacher/students/staff that are positive for COVID-19, and following consultation with the Local Health Officer. Individual school closure may be appropriate when there are multiple cases in multiple cohorts at a school or when at least 5 percent of the total number of teachers/student/staff are cases within a 14-day period, depending on the size and physical layout of the school.
- The Local Health Officer may also determine school closure is warranted for other reasons, including results from public health investigation or other local epidemiological data.
- A superintendent should close a school district if 25% or more of schools in a district have closed due to COVID-19 within 14 days, and in consultation with the local public health department.

Reopening

Schools may reopen after 14 days and the following have occurred:

- Cleaning and disinfection
- Public health investigation
- Consultation with the local public health department