RETURN TO SCHOOL 2021-2022 COVID PROTOCOLS

PLEASE NOTE: This document may be updated as new information and resources become available.

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year! In looking ahead, the dedicated staff of AGBU Manoogian-Demirdjian School will once again strive to create and maintain a safe and caring learning community for your child. We are looking forward to working with you to ensure that this coming school year will be one that provides your child with the best academic and social-emotional experiences possible. Please know we continue to dedicate ourselves to providing the best possible educational experiences for your child(ren) in these unique circumstances. Always feel free to contact your child’s teachers, counselors, and the school administration with any questions you have or with anything you or your child may need.

After thoughtful consideration in preparation for the upcoming school year, AGBU MDS has decided not to require all eligible students (12 and older) to be vaccinated to return to campus. Our path to reopening the school with safety and efficacy lies with each member of our school community. The rise of COVID cases in our state and county over the last few weeks has served as a stark reminder that even though we as a nation are fatigued and desirous of normalcy, the pandemic has not yet come to an end. In response to the highly transmissible Delta variant of COVID-19 across Los Angeles, particularly among the unvaccinated, it is clear that vaccination is the single best measure for controlling this pandemic and supporting campus health and safety. While it may not fully prevent contracting the disease, the risk of hospitalization or death is extremely low for people who have been fully vaccinated. Our overarching goal is to empower everyone to care for themselves and to protect others. Over 83% of our staff are fully vaccinated and all unvaccinated staff will adhere to weekly on-site testing. At regular intervals throughout the year, and especially at the start of the school year, all staff and students will participate in a baseline COVID-19 testing.

The CDC has noted that students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction in fall 2021 is a priority. At AGBU MDS, we strongly feel our students need to be at school. The CDC Guidance balances the importance of educating students fully in person with the layered precautions that have kept schools safe since the onset of the pandemic. As requirements and guidelines continue to change with the flow of the pandemic, AGBU MDS will adjust accordingly.

**EXPOSURE MANAGEMENT PLAN:** The school must have a COVID-19 Containment, Response, and Control Plan which describes the school’s comprehensive approach to preventing and containing the spread of COVID-19 on campus. The Plan includes, but is not limited to the following elements.

- **Prior to identifying one Documented Case of COVID-19 at School -**
  - The school has designated two COVID-19 Compliance Officers that are responsible for establishing and enforcing all COVID-19 safety protocols and ensuring that staff and students receive education about COVID-19. These school officials, Vanessa Aguilera and Arpi Avanesian serve as liaisons to DPH for sharing site-level information to facilitate public health action.
  - A plan for all students and employees who (1) have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, (2) are quarantined because of exposure at school, or (3) are at a school...
with an active public health investigation to have access to testing or be tested for COVID-19.

- Baseline testing before school starts for all K-12 students and staff regardless of vaccination status will be instituted on campus via drive-thru clinics conducted by a third-party testing lab, PrimeLab, Inc.
  - Drive-Thru Clinics for DHS students: August 23 & 24 at 9:00 am
  - Drive-Thru Clinic for MMS students: August 30 & 31 at 9:00 am

- At the start of the school year, the school has elected to implement an asymptomatic screening testing program weekly for staff and students that are not fully vaccinated. (Tuesdays and Wednesdays K-12 students and staff will be tested.)
  - Depending on the current level of community transmission, the school will test weekly all fully vaccinated students and staff, however, unvaccinated staff and students will be prioritized for weekly asymptomatic screening testing.
  - Screening testing is not recommended for persons who have recovered from laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 within the past 90 days and are asymptomatic.

- The School has chosen to implement a daily symptom screening program via TITAN HST app for all students, staff, and visitors on campus. The school has and will continue to apply DPH guidance on Decision Pathways for persons who have not been tested yet for COVID-19 but screen positive for symptoms prior to school entry or while at school.

- After identifying 1 confirmed COVID-19 case (student or employee) -
  - The School’s Compliance Officer, Vanessa Aguilera, instructs the case to follow Home Isolation Instructions for COVID-19 (ph.lacounty.gov/covidisolation). NOTE: a confirmed COVID-19 case is an individual who has a positive COVID-19 test.
  - The School Compliance Officer provides a copy of the Public Health Emergency Isolation Order and informs the case that DPH will contact the case directly through the DPH Case and Contact Investigation Program to collect additional information and issue the Health Officer Order for Case Isolation.
  - The Compliance Officer works to identify all individuals in the School who have had exposure to the confirmed positive case during their infectious period (Close Contacts).
  - A case is considered to be infectious from 2 days before their symptoms first appeared until the time, they are no longer required to be isolated (i.e., no fever for at least 24 hours, without the use of medications that reduce fevers AND other symptoms have improved AND at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared). A person with a positive COVID-19 test but no symptoms is considered infectious from 2 days before their test was taken until 10 days after their test.
Close Contact: A person is considered to have been exposed to a case during the infectious period if at least one of the following criteria are met:

- Being within 6 feet of the infected person for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
- Having had unprotected contact with the infected person’s body fluids and/or secretions of a person with confirmed COVID-19 (e.g., being coughed or sneezed on, sharing utensils or saliva, or providing care without using appropriate protective equipment).

Exposures will be reviewed by Public Health to assess which persons need to quarantine including the possibility of quarantining all individuals in the same cohort or classroom as an infected person if exposures cannot be ruled out for the entire group. NOTE: Exposures associated with youth sports programs will be reviewed by Public Health to confirm which persons need to quarantine, including the possibility of quarantining all individuals on the same team with an infected person (or individuals on an opposing team who were playing against a team with an infected person), if exposures cannot be ruled out. Please refer to the Exposure Management Plan for Youth Recreational Sports Programs for specific guidance.

The School Compliance Officer will notify DPH of (1) employees and children with confirmed COVID-19 who were on campus at any point within the 14 days prior to the illness onset date and (2) persons on campus who were exposed to the infected person during the infectious period. The illness onset date is the first date of COVID-19 symptoms or the COVID-19 test date, whichever is earlier.

Secure online reporting is the preferred method for notifying DPH of COVID-19 exposures via: http://www.redcap.link/lacdph.educationsector.covidreport. If online reporting is not possible, reporting can be done manually by downloading and completing the COVID-19 Case and Contact Line List for the Education Sector and sending it to ACDC-Education@ph.lacounty.gov. All case notifications will be submitted within 1 business day of being notified of the case.

All persons identified to have had exposure to a COVID-19 positive case at school are notified by the School Compliance Officer of the exposure through email or other communication strategies.

The notification of exposure includes the following messages:

- Students and employees with exposure to the case should test for COVID-19 and inform the school of test results. This will determine the extent of disease spread at the school and serve as a basis for further control measures. Testing resources include PrimeLab, Inc. site, Personal Healthcare Providers, Community Testing Sites: covid19.lacounty.gov/testing. Individuals who need assistance finding a medical provider can call the LA County Information line 2-1-1, which is available 24/7.
- Exposed students and employees who are not fully vaccinated must self-quarantine (stay in their home or another residence, separate from others) and monitor for symptoms for 10 days from their last
contact with the case while infectious (as defined above). If they remain asymptomatic, quarantine can end after Day 10 from the last date of exposure without testing but they must continue to monitor their health and adhere to COVID-19 prevention precautions through Day 14. Quarantine may end after Day 7 for exposed students who remain asymptomatic if a diagnostic specimen is collected after Day 5 from the date of last exposure and tests negative, but they must continue to monitor their health and adhere to COVID-19 prevention precautions through Day 14.

- Asymptomatic persons who are fully vaccinated AND who are a close contact with a confirmed case are recommended to test for COVID-19 as a result of their exposure but are not required to quarantine. However, they should monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following exposure. Persons who have recovered from laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days AND who are a close contact with a confirmed case are not required to quarantine or test for COVID-19.

- DPH will contact exposed students and employees who meet the quarantine requirement through the DPH Case and Contact Investigation Program to collect additional information and issue the Health Officer Order for Quarantine.

- Depending on the case, the School Compliance Officer will determine whether additional notification is needed to inform the wider school community about the school exposure and precautions being taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

**Exposure Management for 2 COVID-19 Cases at School within a 14-day Period**

- After identifying 2 confirmed cases (students and/or employees) within a 14-day period, the school will follow the required steps for 1 confirmed case.

- The School Compliance Officers determine whether the 2 cases are epidemiologically linked, meaning that the two affected individuals were both present at some point in the same setting during the same time period while either or both were infectious.

- Determination of epidemiological links between cases may require further investigation to assess exposure history and identify all possible locations and persons that may have been exposed to the case while infectious at the site. NOTE: Epidemiologically linked cases include persons with identifiable connections to each other such as sharing a physical space (e.g. in a classroom, office site on campus, or gathering), indicating a higher likelihood of linked spread of disease in that setting rather than sporadic transmission from the broader community.

  - If epidemiological links do not exist, the school continues with routine exposure management.
  - If epidemiological links exist, the school reinforces messages to students and employees on precautions to take to prevent spread at the school, including the implementation of site-specific interventions.
Exposure Management for ≥ 3 COVID-19 Cases at School within a 14-day period

- If the school identifies a cluster of 3 or more confirmed cases (students and/or employees) within a 14-day period, the school will proceed with the following steps:
  - Report the cluster immediately to DPH via online: http://www.redcap.link/lacdph.educationsector.covidreport. If online reporting is not possible, reporting can be done manually by downloading and completing the COVID-19 Case and Contact Line List for the Education Sector and sending it to ACDC-Education@ph.lacounty.gov.
  - DPH will review the submitted information to determine whether the outbreak criteria described below have been met and will notify the school within 1 business day of the next steps.

Outbreak Criteria: At least 3 confirmed cases with symptomatic or asymptomatic COVID-19 within a 14-day period in a group* with members who are epidemiologically linked, do not share a household, and are not close contact with each other outside of the campus.

*School groups include persons that share a common membership at school (e.g., classroom, school event, school extracurricular activity, academic class, sports teams, clubs, transportation). Epidemiological links require the infected persons to have been present at some point in the same setting during the same time period while infectious.

- The school has contingency plans for full or partial closure of in-person school operations for grades K-12 if that should become necessary based on an outbreak in the school or community.
- The school will quickly pivot to remote learning and students and staff will work and learn from home.
- All students grades K-12 are assigned school email addresses which will allow them to learn remotely from home.
- 6-12 grade students have dedicated Chromebooks assigned that they can utilize from home.
- K-5th grade students can borrow school Chromebooks assigned to the elementary department if families need technology at home.

REOPENING PLAN CHECKLIST:

COVID-19 VACCINATION IS THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE

Achieving a high vaccination rate on our school campus is the first and best way to lower the risk of infection and transmission at school, it greatly decreases the risk of severe illness, hospitalization, and death in those who are fully vaccinated, and provides an additional layer of protection for those who are not currently eligible for vaccination (e.g., all students younger than 12 years of age). For this reason, in addition to all requirements
and recommendations written in this protocol, the school is adopting the following strategies that normalize, promote, and facilitate COVID-19 vaccination for all eligible staff and students on campus. The school will host vaccine clinics in the fall.

NOTE: The Health Officer Order issued by the State of California on August 11, 2021, requires all school staff to either show proof of full vaccination or be tested at least once per week.

Institution name: AGBU Manoogian-Demirdjian School

Address: 6844 Oakdale Avenue, Canoga Park, CA 91306

Maximum Occupancy, per Fire Code: various occupancy allowances depending on the building. The CUP capacity for the student body is: 1000 student

Approximate total square footage of space open to faculty and/or students: The school is situated on 6.2 acres

Estimated total number of administrators, teachers, and other employees that will be returning to support the resumption of in-person services for students: 129

Estimated total number of students that will return per grade (if none, enter 0):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TK</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: The terms “employees” and “staff” are used in these protocols to refer to individuals who work at AGBU MDS in any capacity associated with teaching, coaching, student support, provision of therapies or personal assistance to individual students, facility cleaning or maintenance, administration, or any other activity required for the school to function. “Employees” or “staff” may include individuals who are: paid directly by the relevant school system, paid by entities acting as contractors to the school, paid by outside entities acting in collaboration with the school to serve students, paid by third parties to provide individual student services acting under school direction to carry out essential functions. The term “parents” is used in these protocols to refer to any persons serving as caregivers or guardians to students.
WORKPLACE POLICIES AND PRACTICES TO PROTECT STAFF ("EMPLOYEES") AND STUDENTS

The health and safety of our staff and students have been our priority and have guided our decision-making throughout the pandemic. We are thankful that so many staff have chosen to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Over the past few months, we have strongly encouraged our staff to get the vaccine if they are able because we know that vaccination provides protection against COVID infection or dramatically reduces its severity. As the health situation remains fluid, and the pandemic is not over we will continue to evaluate our policies as we better understand the pandemic's state and future potential health recommendations. At this time vaccinations of staff are highly encouraged.

- A plan for incorporating COVID-19 testing into regular school operations.
  - No Cost testing is available for students and employees who are asymptomatic or have known or suspected exposure to an individual infected with SARS-CoV-2. Note that current Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standards (Cal/OSHA ETS) require employers to offer testing at no cost to employees. Staff and students can go to PrimeLab, Inc. for testing.

  **Phone:** 818-485-1004  
  **Address:** PrimeLab  
  31344 Via Colinas Unit 104  
  Westlake Village, CA 91362  
  Monday - Friday: 8 am - 2 pm  

  **Drive-Thru:** 5400 Balboa Blvd.  
  Encino, CA 91316  
  Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8 am - 10 am

  - No Cost weekly testing is available on-site for students and employees who are asymptomatic. Note that current Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standards (Cal/OSHA ETS) require employers to offer testing at no cost to employees. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is not requiring any particular frequency or procedure for asymptomatic testing at this time. However, the school at the beginning of the school year and until necessary, at the discretion of the school's Board of Trustees, has put into place specific testing cadences. In times of high rates of community transmission, LA County recommends that periodic testing includes fully vaccinated individuals and as such the school will provide weekly testing to all staff regardless of vaccination status.
  
  - All employees have been told not to come to work if sick or if they have been exposed to a person who has COVID-19. School officials have provided information to employees regarding employer or government-sponsored leave benefits, including their right to paid sick leave as guaranteed by the 2021 COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave Law.
  
  - Use of school facilities for non-school purposes (community meetings or events, on-site clinic visits by people who are neither students nor staff, etc.) is permitted. The school’s Director of
Operations and Facilities, Levon Keshishian, manages the time to time usage of the school’s facilities and maintains proper disinfection and cleaning of areas used by non-school individuals.

- The use of indoor school facilities provides more risk of contamination of indoor air and surfaces and care should be taken to avoid unnecessary exposure for regular school employees and students. Routine cleaning after use of indoor facilities by non-school groups is completed under the direction of the school’s Director of Operations and Facilities.
- The use of outdoor athletic fields by non-school youth sports teams, leagues, or clubs is permitted as long as care is taken to avoid unnecessary exposures for regular school employees and students.
- Daily health screenings are required via the Titan HST app of employees, students and anyone else permitted to enter campus before employees, students, and visitors may enter the workspace/campus.
  - The entry screening includes a check-in concerning cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing and fever or chills, and if the employee is currently under isolation or quarantine orders.
  - Employees and students are asked to do self-temperature checks
- Masking is required for anyone entering the school campus or transports (school buses or vans) who has contact with others (students, parents, or other employees).
- Employees who have contact with others are offered, at no cost, an appropriate face mask that covers the nose and mouth. The mask must be worn by the employee at all times during the workday when indoors and is in contact or likely to come into contact with others.
- Employees who have been instructed by their medical provider that they should not wear a face mask must wear a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, as long as their condition permits it. A drape that is form-fitting under the chin is preferred. Masks with one-way valves must not be used.
- Employees who are exempt from wearing a mask while indoors, **must** undergo COVID-19 testing at least twice per week, unless the employee provides proof of full vaccination status against COVID-19. In times of high rates of community transmission, LA County recommends that periodic testing also include fully vaccinated individuals where resources allow.
- Employees that are in a setting where they are in close contact with other people who may not be fully vaccinated should be offered and should consider wearing a higher level of protection, such as wearing two masks (“double masking”) or a respirator (e.g., KN95 or N95). This is particularly important if the employee is not fully vaccinated and is working in an indoor or crowded outdoor setting.
- All staff **must** wear a face mask at all times when indoors, except: when working alone in private offices with closed doors; when they are the only individual present in a larger open workspace for multiple employees; or when eating or drinking.
- A medical-grade mask is provided to any employee who cares for sick children or who has close contact with any child with a medical condition that precludes the child’s use of a cloth face mask.
○ Alternative protective strategies may be adopted to accommodate students who are on Individualized Education or 504 Plans and who have medical reasons why they cannot use or tolerate a face mask. Students who present appropriate documentation demonstrating a disability or condition that does not allow them to safely wear a mask should wear a face shield with a drape at the bottom if their condition allows it. Students with documented conditions that do not accommodate the face shield and drape may request a reasonable accommodation from the school.

○ It is strongly recommended that any student who is exempt from wearing a mask indoors be tested for COVID-19 at least twice a week unless they provide proof of full vaccination status against COVID-19. In times of high rates of community transmission, LA County recommends that periodic testing also include fully vaccinated individuals where resources allow.

○ Assessing for exemption due to a medical condition, mental health condition, a disability that prevents wearing a mask, or hearing impairment is a medical determination and therefore must be made by a physician, nurse practitioner, or other licensed medical professional practicing under the license of a physician. Self-attestation and parental attestation for mask exemptions due to the aforementioned conditions do not constitute medical determinations.

○ All employees, on-site contractors, vendors, and delivery personnel have been provided instructions regarding the required use of face masks when around others indoors.

Break rooms, restrooms, classrooms, and other common areas used or visited by staff are cleaned at the frequency listed below. Routine cleaning is recommended at a frequency no less than once per day during periods of operation but may be done more frequently.

- Break rooms - twice daily - especially high-touch areas.
- Restrooms - twice daily
- Classrooms - once daily at the end of the school day
- Laboratories - once daily at the end of the school day
- Nurse’s office - once daily at the end of the school day and as needed
- Counseling and other student support areas - once daily at the end of the school day
- Cafeteria eating areas - multiple times a day
- Cafeteria meal prep areas - multiple times a day
- Front office - once daily at the end of the school day
- Other offices - once daily at the end of the school day
- Other (auditorium, gymnasium, library if in use) - after use at the end of the day

Hand sanitizers effective against COVID-19 is made available to all employees in or near the following locations:

- Building entrance/s, exit/s
- Central office
- Elevator entry
- Classrooms
- Faculty break room
- Faculty offices

Employees are offered frequent opportunities to wash their hands with soap and water.

Copies of this Protocol have been distributed to all employees.

**NOTE:** LACDPH recommends that measures be implemented to create physical distancing when doing so will not interfere with the full-time attendance of all enrolled students. This is especially important during times that groups of students are outside the classroom (e.g., hallway transitions) and/or anytime masks must be removed in a group setting (e.g., lunchtime, recess) where increased physical distance is preferred. For situations when physical distancing may not be feasible (e.g., very full classrooms), the importance of 100% mask adherence is critical.

- The maximum number of employees permitted in the facility - 140
- Face masks are required at all times on school buses and vans
- The school has implemented staggered start times separating the upper school (DHS) from the lower school (ANP & MMS) to reduce crowding as students, parents or visitors enter and move through the school campus
  - Schedules are adjusted to avoid crowding in common spaces and when possible, allow single classrooms or small groups to move through common spaces (such as hallways and bathrooms) at a given time
  - School employees are deployed in hallways to promote physical distancing and reduce loitering and crowding as students enter and proceed to classrooms
  - Elevator capacity is limited to reduce crowding. All riders are required to wear face masks.
- The following measures may be implemented to avoid crowding on stairways:
  - Designation of up and down stairways
  - Staggering of recess breaks between classes
  - Monitoring of stairways by school staff

The preschool and elementary departments will maintain stable groups to the best of our ability and when feasible in which supervising adults and children stay together for as many activities as possible (e.g., meals, recreation, etc.), and avoid intermingling with people outside of their group throughout the school day. Stable groups are considered a best practice at all grade levels and therefore recommended but not required.

- Students with IEP or 504 plans who require specialized services may be pulled out of their general education classroom and grouped with other students requiring similar services as needed to provide the appropriate level of instruction and care.
- Specialized staff who serve students with IEP or 504 plans and/or provide specialized services will need to work with different stable groups during the school day and this should be
accommodated. Staff that is not fully vaccinated should consider wearing a face shield in addition to the required mask if entering multiple classrooms for this purpose.

Physical distancing measures are implemented that allow for recommended physical distancing within classrooms when possible without interfering with essential operations. These include:

- Classroom furniture is set up to maximize the distance between students and between students and teachers. Where distancing is not feasible desk shields and other measures are utilized.
- The school has enhanced other mitigation layers:
  - Improved ventilation in all classrooms
  - New operational windows have been installed in DHS classrooms to provide for optimal airflow
  - Air purifiers are located in every classroom and common office spaces
  - Large capacity Air purifier installed in the auditorium
  - HVAC systems have been cleaned with HEPA filters
  - Water bottle filling stations installed throughout campus
  - Nap or rest areas in the preschool classrooms have students placed an increased distance apart and alternating feet to head.
  - Implementation of a 1:1 Chromebook program assigned to each DHS student which also removes the need to utilize lockers, therefore reducing student crowding in small spaces (hallways)
  - Meals are eaten outdoors whenever possible and within their groups in the ANP and MMS classrooms
  - The staff supervises during meals to maintain distancing and prevent mixing of students as much as possible
  - If lunch is eaten in the cafeteria, space between all tables and chairs has been increased to maintain distance between students while eating
  - Mealtimes are staggered in the cafeteria to reduce the number of groups in the cafeteria at any one time
  - Physical education classes will be held outdoors as much as possible

The School will remain a closed campus. We will implement to limit the risk of infection due to visits by individuals other than staff and students. These may include:

- Visitors should be registered in a visitor log that includes a visitor’s name, phone number, and email address in case this information is needed in the future for contact tracing purposes.
- The movement of visitors within the school is best limited to designated areas such as the reception or lobby area of the main office, offices, conference or meeting rooms, and public restrooms to the extent feasible, in order to reduce unnecessary interaction with any stable learning groups.
Visitors arriving at the school are reminded to wear a face mask at all times while inside the school. This applies to all adults and to children 2 years of age and older. Individuals who have been instructed by their medical provider that they should not wear a face mask should wear a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, as long as their condition permits it. A drape that is form-fitting under the chin is preferred. Masks with one-way valves must not be used. To support the safety of your employees and other visitors, a face mask should be made available to visitors who arrive without them.

The school has implemented measures to promote optimal ventilation in the school:

- The school HVAC system is in good, working order. Prior to the school's reopening, all HVAC systems were evaluated by an appropriate engineer.
- HVAC systems are set to maximize indoor/outdoor air exchange unless outdoor conditions (recent fire, very high outside temperature, high pollen count, etc.)
- Portable, high-efficiency air cleaners have been installed in classrooms, common office spaces, and the auditorium.
- Doors and windows are kept open during the school day if feasible and if outdoor conditions make this appropriate.
- Air filters have been upgraded to higher efficiency (MERV-13 or higher rating is preferred).

The school has measures in place to promote appropriate cleaning of space, surfaces, and objects throughout the school. These may include:

- A cleaning schedule has been established in order to avoid both under and overuse of cleaning products.
- Common areas and frequently touched objects in those areas (tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, elevator switches and buttons, touch screens, printers/copiers, grab bars, and handrails) are cleaned at least daily and more frequently as resources allow using appropriate products.
- Drinking fountains are replaced with water bottle filling stations and are available for use.
- Where individualized alternatives are not feasible, for example, in laboratories and art rooms where some equipment may have to be used by multiple students, objects and surfaces are sanitized between users.
- Cleaning products that are effective against COVID-19 (these are listed on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved list “N”) are used according to product instructions. When EPA-approved disinfectants are not available, alternative disinfectants can be used (for example, 1/3 cup of bleach added to 1 gallon of water, or 70% alcohol solutions).
- Custodial and other staff responsible for cleaning and disinfecting school surfaces and objects are trained on manufacturer’s directions, Cal/OSHA requirements for safe use, and as required by the Healthy Schools Act, as applicable.
Custodial staff and other staff responsible for cleaning and disinfecting are equipped with appropriate personal protective equipment, including gloves, eye protection, respiratory protection, and other appropriate protective equipment as required by the product. All cleaning products are kept out of children’s reach and stored in a space with restricted access. Ventilation is maximized during cleaning and disinfecting to the extent feasible. Enhanced cleaning and disinfection of school premises, when indicated, is done when students are not at school with adequate time to let spaces air out before the start of the school day. Steps are taken to ensure that all water systems and sinks are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown to minimize the risk of Legionnaires’ disease and other diseases associated with water.

Measures are in place to ensure the use of appropriate face masks by all staff, students, and visitors at all times when indoors.

- Staff, parents, and students are informed of the requirement for face masks prior to the start of the school year and on a regular basis throughout the school year.
- All students 2 and older are required to wear face masks at all times while indoors on school property except while eating, drinking, or carrying out other activities that preclude the use of face masks.
- Alternative protective strategies may be adopted to accommodate students who are on Individualized Education or 504 Plans and who have medical reasons why they cannot use or tolerate a face mask. They should substitute a face shield with a drape at the bottom if tolerated.
- Information is provided to staff, parents, and students concerning the proper use of face masks including the need to wash face masks after each day’s use.
- Signage at the entry to the school, at the entry to the school office, and throughout the school building reinforces this requirement and depicts proper use of cloth face masks.
- Face masks are provided to each student if they need one throughout the school day.
- Parents of younger children are encouraged to provide a second face mask for school each day in case the one a child is wearing gets soiled; this would allow for a change of the face mask during the day.
- Staff who are deployed at school entry or in hallways or other common areas remind students of rules concerning the use of face masks.
- Employees engaged in activities (such as the provision of physical therapy or personal assistance to individual students) are equipped with appropriate personal protective equipment (gloves, masks, gowns, etc.), as appropriate.
- Staff taking care of a sick student are provided with a medical-grade mask to wear themselves, and a medical-grade mask for the student to wear (if it can be tolerated) until the student leaves the building.
NOTE: Staff and students who are alone in closed offices are not required to wear face masks. Students may also remove face masks indoors when eating or napping or when wearing a face mask is otherwise impracticable (e.g., while swimming or showering). The school allows teachers in the early grades to use a plastic face shield with a tucked-in drape below the chin as a substitute for a face mask to enable the youngest students to see their teacher’s face and avoid potential barriers to phonological instruction.

The school promotes frequent handwashing by staff, students, and visitors.

- Students and staff are given frequent opportunities to wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application, and use paper towels
- Younger students are regularly scheduled for frequent handwashing breaks, including before and after eating, after toileting, after outdoor play, and before and after any group activity.
- Staff is instructed to model frequent handwashing, especially in lower grades where bathroom time is an opportunity to reinforce healthy habits and monitor proper handwashing.
- Ethyl alcohol-based (contains at least 60% ethanol) hand sanitizer is made available to students and staff at strategic locations throughout the school where there is no sink.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR PERFORMING ARTS

Music classes

- For activities that generate more forceful expired respiratory droplets such as singing, increased distance between students will be applied and when possible will sing outdoors.
- Individual singers may practice alone indoors without a mask or with a single instructor present while indoors in a studio or practice room if both of them are masked. Increased distance between the singer and instructor.

Dance classes

- Students and instructors must wear face masks at all times while indoors. Masks may be removed briefly to drink water; during water breaks, students will be reminded to maintain an increased distance from others while masks are removed. Students should be reminded to limit their exertion to a level that is comfortable while wearing a face mask and to immediately take a break from exercise if they begin to experience any difficulty breathing. Masks may be briefly removed while a participant rests and catches their breath as long as they move an appropriate distance from all others in the space. Masks should be changed if they become wet, if they stick to a person’s face, or if they obstruct breathing.
Performances

- Our performances will follow the Best Practices for Large Events recommendations to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. Note that all performances in schools or other supervised youth settings require the use of masks in indoor spaces by all persons present regardless of vaccination status, are symptomatic or have known or suspected exposure to an individual infected with SARS-CoV-2.