


BUCKEYE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT



Rolling Hills Middle School
Reopening Plan

Reopening Overview

It is the goal of the Buckeye Union School District to reopen and remain open in a manner that adheres to State mandates and guidelines for preventing the spread of COVID-19. The wellbeing of our students, employees, and families is of paramount importance as we meet the challenges of the pandemic.

The plans/protocols contained within this document have been developed in accordance with the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) [COVID19 Industry Guidance: Schools and Schools Based Programs](#).

This plan will be updated should new guidance be provided by the California Department of Public Health in the future.

General Measures

The Buckeye Union School District has established and will continue communication with the El Dorado Public Health Department regarding disease levels and control measures in the communities of the Buckeye Union School District. We are also monitoring communications from the California State Department of Public Health and the California Department of Education. The District will continue to collaborate with the El Dorado County Office of Education and neighboring Districts regarding the operations of programs during this pandemic.

The principal of each school site will ensure implementation of the plan.

- A. In the event of an outbreak among students or employees, communication with the El Dorado County Public Health Department will be coordinated with the District Office.
- B. This plan incorporates the [CDPH Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings](#). Requests for exemptions must be submitted to the school site principal for review and approval.
- C. This plan will be reviewed and made available to all employees.
- D. The plan will be amended if deficiencies are identified.

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- E. In the event COVID-19 illness emerges, efforts will be made to determine if any work-related factors could have contributed to risk of infection, and the plan will be updated as needed to prevent further cases.
- F. The site will implement the recommended [CDPH processes and protocols](#) should the site have an outbreak.
- G. The site will identify individuals who have been in close contact (within six feet for 15 minutes or more) of an infected person and take steps to isolate COVID-19 positive person(s) and close contacts.
- H. Adhering to these guidelines will be essential in order to prevent illnesses that may cause classrooms or the entire school to be temporarily closed or limited.
- I. Community use of the school site facility will be limited to the El Dorado County Charter Extended Day Program, and they will adhere to the measures outlined in this plan.
- J. In the event that closures of classes, groups, or entire facilities when persons associated with the facility or in the community become ill with COVID19 occurs, the site will move to distance learning.
- K. District Nurses and site health clerks will review existing student health plans to identify students who may need additional accommodations, develop a process for engaging families for potentially unknown concerns that may need to be accommodated, or identify additional preparations for classroom and non-classroom environments as needed. Groups who might be at increased risk of becoming infected or having unrecognized illness include the following:
 - a. Individuals who have limited mobility or require prolonged and close contact with others, such as direct support providers and family members;
 - b. Individuals who have trouble understanding information or practicing preventive measures, such as hand washing and physical distancing; and
 - c. Individuals who may not be able to communicate symptoms of illness.

Promote Healthy Hygiene Practices

Teach and reinforce washing hands, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes among students and staff.

- A. Foam sanitizer will be available in all offices, classrooms, lunch areas, and near play structures.
- B. Teachers, School Nurses, and Health Clerks shall provide developmentally appropriate instruction to students regarding the hygiene practices necessary to stem the spread of the virus.
- C. Teachers shall ensure all students wash their hands using hand sanitizer or soap and water for 20 seconds whenever entering and leaving the room.
- D. Students shall be taught and prompted to wash their hands using sanitizer or soap and water prior to eating, after coughing or sneezing, and before and after using the restroom.
- E. All service providers will model healthy hygiene practices for students including washing hands when entering the classroom.
- F. Cloth face coverings will be provided to all employees upon request. Non-surgical masks will be available in front offices.
- G. All students in grades 3-8 must wear a face covering. These will be available in the front office and in classrooms for students who arrive at school without their own face covering. Students in grades TK-2 will be strongly encouraged to wear a face covering.
- H. All employees must wear face coverings.
- I. All members of the public are required to wear a face covering when on the site. Site visits are strictly limited to issues that require a parent to visit the office.
- J. Develop an outdoor waiting area (“isolation rooms”) for students who are showing symptoms of Covid
- K. District nurses will communicate to families the importance of erring on the side of caution when considering if a student who appears ill should stay home. They will also communicate to families that it is strongly recommended that all students and staff be immunized each autumn against influenza, unless contraindicated by personal medical conditions, to help with the following:
 - a. Protect the school community
 - b. Reduce demands on health care facilities

- c. Decrease illnesses that cannot be readily distinguished from COVID-19 and would therefore trigger extensive measures from the school and public health authorities.

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.

- A. Teachers will teach and reinforce use of face coverings, or in limited instances, face shields.
- B. Students and staff should be frequently reminded not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands frequently.
- C. Information should be provided to all staff and families in the school community on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings.
- D. People who are exempted from wearing a face covering will be provided the same access to the school site and classrooms as those who are wearing a face covering.

STUDENTS

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 two 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.

- E. Persons younger than two years old, anyone who has trouble breathing, anyone who is unconscious or incapacitated, and anyone who is otherwise unable to

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remove the face covering without assistance is exempt from wearing a face covering.

F. A cloth face covering or face shield can be removed for meals, snacks, or outdoor recreation that requires strenuous physical activity.

G. Students in PE will not be mandated to wear face coverings during outdoor physical activity unless they cannot maintain a distance of 6' apart. Students in PE will not be changing into PE uniforms, but will be asked to wear sneakers on the days they have PE.

H. 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. The District will offer alternative educational opportunities to the extent practicable for students who are excluded from campus.

RHMS will provide a face covering to students who inadvertently fail to bring a face covering to school to prevent unnecessary exclusions. The office and each classroom will have disposable face coverings available for this purpose.

I. All staff must use face coverings in accordance with CDPH guidelines unless Cal/OSHA standards require respiratory protection.

J. In limited situations where a face covering cannot be used for pedagogical or developmental reasons (e.g., teaching phonics or to those who receive direct ELD support), a face shield, with drape, can be used instead of a cloth face covering while in the classroom as long as the wearer maintains physical distance from others. As soon as the activity is complete, staff must return to wearing a face covering and not just a face shield.

K. Employees handling or serving food must use gloves in addition to face coverings.

L. Individuals who must work in close contact (e.g., nurses, front office staff) with students who may be infected will be provided nitrile gloves.

ENSURE EMPLOYEE SAFETY

- A. Ensuring staff maintain physical distancing from each other is critical to reducing transmission between adults.
- B. Ensure that all staff use face coverings in accordance with CDPH guidelines and Cal/OSHA standards.
- C. Conduct all staff meetings, professional development training, education, and other activities involving staff, with physical distancing measures in place, or virtually where physical distancing is a challenge.
- D. Minimize the use of and congregation of adults in staff rooms, break rooms, and other settings.
- E. Employees will complete an online daily symptom screener every morning before reporting to the school site.

Intensify Cleaning, Disinfection, and Ventilation

- A. School facilities and buses will be disinfected each day using electrostatic emitters with FDA approved cleaning solutions.
- B. All drinking fountains will be turned off, and students will be encouraged to bring a water bottle that can be filled at a classroom sink.
- C. Parents may supply their children with EPA approved cleaning wipes of their choice. The District is prohibited from providing cleaning wipes to students.
- D. HVAC systems will be set to maximize circulation of air from outside buildings.
- E. High efficiency air filters have been installed in all HVAC systems.

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- F. Attempts will be made to limit use of shared objects/materials when practical, including desks. Handwashing will be required prior to use of sports equipment.

Implementing Distancing Inside and Outside the Classroom

Develop a two-cohort model to minimize the number of students on campus and implement as much physical distancing as possible. In order to achieve physical distancing, RHMS will follow one of two possible hybrid models. [Click here for two sample scheduling options.](#)

- A. Bus drivers will maximize space between students and between students, and the driver on school buses can open windows to the greatest extent practicable.
- B. Volunteers will not be permitted on sites.
- C. Minimize contact at school between students, staff, families, and the community at the beginning and end of the school day. Prioritize minimizing contact between adults at all times.
 - a. Each grade level will have a designated arrival/departure location.
 - b. Students will be allowed to congregate in front of their individual classrooms to contain the group to the cohort.
 - c. If a two day on/off model is adopted, lunches will be separated by grade level.
 - i. Each grade level will be split into three locations: MP, amphitheater, outdoor lunch tables, allowing for physical distancing
 - ii. Yard monitors will manage numbers of students in each location and prevent any area from becoming too crowded
- D. Implement health screenings of students upon arrival at first period class.
- E. Buses will be equipped with extra unused face coverings for students who may have inadvertently failed to bring one.

- F. To reduce possibilities for infection, students will remain in cohorts as is practicable when considering the regrouping of students for different classes based on student needs.
- G. Employ “checkerboard” seating in classrooms; mark desks by color so students can sit there 1st period, then in the different colored desks 2nd period, etc.
- H. Prioritize the use and maximization of outdoor space for activities where practicable. Picnic tables have been added in various locations on campus.
- I. 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 six feet between desks (where practicable), partitions between desks, markings on classroom floors to promote distancing, and/or arranging desks in a way that minimizes face-to-face contact.
- J. Consider redesigning activities for smaller groups and rearranging furniture and play spaces to maintain separation. Picnic tables have been added in outdoor areas.
- K. Activities where there is increased likelihood for transmission from contaminated exhaled droplets, such as band and choir practice and performances, are not permitted.
- L. Activities that involve singing must only take place outdoors.
- M. Implement procedures to minimize contact between and among students when turning in assignments.
- N. Sporting events, assemblies, dances, rallies, field trips, and other activities that require close contact or that would promote congregating are not permitted at this time.
- O. Avoid equipment sharing and, if unavoidable, clean and disinfect shared equipment between use by different people to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread. Life Fitness equipment and lunch play equipment will be disinfected between class periods.

P. Students who need to visit the office will first use the walk-up window to convey their need. Depending on the situation, they will be asked to wait outside until invited into the office of the staff member for whom they are waiting.

Limit Sharing

- A. Keep each child's belongings separated and in individually labeled storage containers, cubbies, or areas. Ensure belongings are taken home each day to be cleaned.
- B. Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high-touch materials (e.g., art supplies, equipment, etc.) to the extent practicable, or limit use of supplies and equipment to one group of children at a time and clean and disinfect between uses.
- C. 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. A chromebook will be assigned to each student. **Students in PE will not change into uniforms.**


Train All Staff and Educate Families

Training and regular communications regarding the following topics will occur:

- A. Sanitation practices
- B. Physical distancing
- C. Face coverings
- D. Screening practices
- E. COVID-19 symptom identification
- F. Proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings.





Signage will be posted throughout the site to remind students, employees, and the public of the practices that will minimize the possibility of COVID-19 spreading on campuses.

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 **No Public Entrance Without a Face Cover.**

We Are Practicing Physical Distancing

We are implementing the mandatory physical distancing protocols, as per the El Dorado County Public Health Order.

-  Avoid entering the facility if you have a cough or fever.
-  Maintain 6 feet of distance between you and others.
-  Sneeze or cough into a cloth or tissue; if not available, use your elbow.
-  Do not shake hands or engage in any unnecessary physical contact.



Check for Signs and Symptoms

- A. Employees will attest daily via an emailed Google form that they do not have COVID-19 or COVID-19-like symptoms.
- B. Teachers will conduct visual wellness checks of students, and will see that students who do not appear well receive a temperature check by the health clerk or school nurse.
- C. District nurse and/or health clerk will be conducting random temperature checks of students and staff throughout the day.
- D. Any confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 will be immediately reported to the El Dorado County of Public Health.

Plan for When a Staff Member, Child, or Visitor Becomes Sick

- A. Isolation rooms and/or outdoor areas will be identified at each school site to allow for separation of anyone with symptoms of COVID-19. At RHMS, students wait outside the office in a designated area where they're visible by secretaries, weather permitting.
- B. Any individual that requires isolation shall wear a face covering, per CDPH guidelines, as they await transport to home or to a hospital.
- C. Parents are required to immediately pick students up who are displaying COVID-19 symptoms.

- D. Sites will coordinate with the District Office regarding the response to an individual with COVID-19 or COVID-19-like symptoms. The response protocol follows CDPH guidelines: [Click Here](#)

Considerations for Partial or Total Closure

In the event that COVID-19 is confirmed on a school site, the El Dorado County Department of Public Health will be immediately contacted by the District Superintendent or a designee for guidance regarding the need for closure.

In general, decisions regarding closure will follow the [CDPH reopening framework](#) and the guidance of the El Dorado County Public Health Officer.

In the event of a closure, teachers will be prepared to shift to providing Distance Learning that incorporates a combination of direct instruction and independent learning activities.