



## COVID-19 Health Guidelines for the 2021-22 School Year

The Buckeye Union School District is committed to adhering to all public health requirements set forth by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and will update this document in the event the CDPH adjusts its guidance during the course of the school year.

### COVID-19 Safety Measures

#### Masks/Face Coverings

- a. Masks are optional outdoors for all in K-12 school settings.
- b. K-12 students are required to mask indoors, with exemptions per [CDPH face mask guidance](#). Adults in K-12 school settings are required to mask when sharing indoor spaces with students.
- c. Persons exempted from wearing a mask due to a medical condition must wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, as long as their condition permits it.
- d. In the event a student fails to bring a mask, one will be provided by the school.
- e. In the event an employee observes a student without a mask, when indoors, they will request the student put on a mask.
- f. If a student refuses to wear a mask, when requested by an employee, the student will be sent to the office to discuss the issue with a health clerk, nurse, or an administrator. The student will not be returned to the classroom until they agree to comply with wearing a mask.
- g. In the event a student continues to refuse to comply with wearing a mask, a parent will be contacted and the mandate will be explained. If the student continues to refuse to wear a mask, the parent will be notified, by the principal, that they may enroll their student in the District's Independent Study Program. The student will be excluded from campus until they agree to comply with the mask mandate.

h. In limited situations where a face covering cannot be used for pedagogical or developmental reasons (e.g. communicating or assisting young children or those with special needs), a face shield with a drape (per [CDPH guidelines](#)) can be used instead of a face covering while in the classroom as long as the wearer maintains physical distance (3 ft.) from others.

i. In general, physical education classes will be held outdoors and a face covering will not be required. Students must wear a mask indoors during P.E. and when participating in indoor school sports.

j. For (1) the playing of musical instruments that cannot be done with a face covering (e.g., wind instruments); or (2) when wearing a mask during play poses a choking hazard, at least one of the following options is required:

a. Conduct these activities outdoors;

b. Use modified face coverings and bell coverings when playing wind and brass instruments, and maintain 6 feet of physical distancing;

c. Perform at least weekly screening testing with either PCR testing (1:1 or pooled PCR) or antigen testing of all individuals, including those who are fully vaccinated.

## Ventilation

The District has set its HVAC systems to draw in a mix of 50% outside/inside air. Merv 13 air filters bipolar ionization devices have been installed in all HVAC units.

## Handwashing/Sanitizing

Handwashing/Sanitizing will be taught and reinforced. Students will be instructed to wash their hands when entering/leaving classrooms, after using the restroom, and before and after eating. Compliance will be monitored by teachers and staff.

## Cleaning and Disinfecting

Each site will be cleaned and disinfected once daily. Special focus will be given to high frequency touch surfaces.

If a facility has had a sick person with COVID-19 within the last 24

hours, the spaces occupied by that person will be additionally cleaned and disinfected.

## Physical distancing

Recent evidence indicates that in-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking) are implemented. This is consistent with [CDC K-12 School Guidance](#).

## Recommendations for staying home when sick and getting tested:

a. Getting tested for COVID-19 when symptoms are [consistent with COVID-19](#) will help with rapid contact tracing and prevent possible spread at schools.

b. Staff members and students with symptoms of COVID-19 infection are not to return for in-person instruction until they have met CDPH criteria to return to school for those with symptoms:

i. At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and

ii. Other symptoms have improved; and

iii. They have a negative test for SARS-CoV-2, OR a healthcare provider has provided documentation that the symptoms are typical of their underlying chronic condition (e.g., allergies or asthma) OR a healthcare provider has confirmed an alternative named diagnosis (e.g., Streptococcal pharyngitis, Coxsackie virus), OR at least 10 days have passed since

symptom onset.

#### Case reporting, contact tracing and investigation

- a. Per AB 86 (2021) and California Code Title 17, section 2500, schools are required to report COVID-19 cases to the local public health department.
- b. Schools or LEAs should have a COVID-19 liaison to assist the local health department with contact tracing and investigation.

#### Quarantine recommendations for vaccinated close contacts

- a. For those who are vaccinated, follow the [CDPH Fully Vaccinated People Guidance](#) regarding quarantine.

#### Quarantine recommendations for unvaccinated students for exposures when both parties were wearing a mask, as required in K-12 indoor settings.

- a. When both parties were wearing a mask in any school setting in which students are supervised by school staff (including indoor or outdoor school settings and school buses, including on buses operated by public and private school systems), unvaccinated students who are close contacts (more than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period within 0-6 feet) may undergo a modified quarantine as follows. They may continue to attend school for in-person instruction if they:

- i. Are asymptomatic;
- ii. Continue to appropriately mask, as required;
- iii. Undergo at least twice weekly testing during quarantine; and
- iv. Continue to quarantine for all extracurricular activities at school, including sports, and activities within the community setting.

**(Individuals exposed outside of school do not qualify for modified quarantine.)**

Quarantine duration recommendations for unvaccinated [close contacts](#) in:

- Standard quarantine (i.e., students who were not wearing masks or for whom the infected individual was not wearing a mask during the exposure); OR
- Modified quarantine (i.e., students as described in #8 above).
  - a. These contacts, if they remain asymptomatic (meaning they have NOT had any symptoms), may discontinue self-quarantine under the following conditions:
    - i. Quarantine can end after Day 10 from the date of last exposure without testing; OR
    - ii. Quarantine can end after Day 7 if a test specimen (i.e., antigen diagnostic test, PCR/molecular diagnostic test, or pooled PCR/molecular test) is collected on or after Day 5 from the date of last exposure and tests negative.

- b. To discontinue quarantine before 14 days following last known exposure, asymptomatic close contacts should:
  - i. Continue daily self-monitoring for symptoms through Day 14 from last known exposure; AND
  - ii. Follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., wearing a mask when around others, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure.
  
- c. If any symptoms develop during this 14-day period, the exposed person must immediately isolate, get tested and contact their healthcare provider with any questions regarding their care.

#### Isolation recommendations

- a. For both vaccinated and unvaccinated persons, follow the CDPH [Isolation Guidance](#) for those diagnosed with COVID-19.