##### Revised 08.24.23



COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

**Version 9**

**September 28, 2023**

*This COVID-19 Safety Plan/Version 9 replaces the Version 8 dated October 21, 2022 and includes revisions from City of Pasadena Public Health Department orders and Los Angeles Department of Public Health. It is a fluid working document that may be adjusted as conditions and/or guidance change. To receive this plan in an accessible format, please call (626)396-3680*

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## Message from the Superintendent

Dear PUSD Community,

The safety and well-being of our students and staff have always been our top priorities. As described in this ninth edition of our COVID-19 Safety Plan, we have made some critical updates to adapt to changing and improving conditions. The County, State and Federal Public Health Emergency declarations for COVID-19 have all come to an end. As a result, PUSD is revising our Safety Plan to align with recommendations from public health experts.

Specifically, we are revising guidelines for those who test positive and for those who are exposed to someone with COVID-19. We will continue to adapt to changing circumstances and adjust the guidance for students and staff as needed.

If you need this document in an accessible format, have questions or suggestions for additional resources, please email the PUSD COVID-19 Compliance Team at HealthPrograms@pusd.us or call the **PUSD Hotline at (626) 396-3680.** Questions and concerns regarding C-19 safety plans can also be submitted to the City of Pasadena Public Health Department online at [cityofpasadena.net/CSC](https://www.cityofpasadena.net/citizen-service-center/submit-a-request/) or by phone at (626) 744-7311.Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Blanco, Ed.D.

Interim Superintendent

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# Health and Safety Practices

Guidance from multiple resources emphasizes the importance of offering in-person learning. In-person instruction can occur safely when prevention strategies are implemented. While the California Emergency Health Order remained in place, PUSD maintained a robust set of safety measures that complied with the State’s public health requirements for schools. We have

worked closely with the Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD) to ensure compliance with local health and safety requirements. PUSD is regularly updating its COVID Safety Plan to present information for students, parents and community members.

Los Angeles County (LAC) will continue to use the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) [**COVID-19 hospital admission levels**](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html) (table below) to guide assessment of risk across the county and inform the adoption of prevention strategies as described in the [Community](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/data/response-plan.htm) [Safety Protection Measures and Prevention Strategies table](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/data/response-plan.htm). LAC will implement strategies for a higher hospital admission level when the hospital admission rate is at or above the threshold for a higher level for at least fourteen (14) consecutive days. Strategies will revert to a lower hospital admission level when the hospital admission rate has fallen below the threshold for the higher level for at least fourteen (14) consecutive days or the hospital admission rate has been declining consistently for the prior fourteen (14) days.



Los Angeles County remains in the “low” category for CDC COVID-19 Level (based on hospital admissions for COVID-19). PUSD will continue to refer to the CDC COVID-19 Levels, along with Public Health protocols, to guide changes in our COVID Safety Plan in the areas of testing, contact tracing, and masking. PUSD responses to these changes are:

* When LAC is in **HIGH** Level based on CDC measures, PUSD may cancel or postpone in-person events or activities that involve parents/guardians, community members, staff, and students. Restrictions could include but are not limited to postponing Beautification Days, PTA meetings and special events, and staff training OR moving these activities to a virtual format.
* When LAC is in **MEDIUM or LOW** Level based on CDC measures, PUSD may reduce restrictions in place regarding events and activities that involve parents/guardians, community members, staff, and students. PUSD may continue to implement

risk-reducing measures for events while still allowing them to be held in-person.

##### Staying Home When Sick

Students, teachers, and staff who have symptoms of infectious illness, should stay home, and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care. Staying home when sick is essential to keep COVID-19 and other infections out of schools and prevent spread to others. **Before leaving home all students, employees and parents should conduct a self-check.**

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

* + Fever or chills
	+ Cough
	+ Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
	+ New loss of taste or smell
	+ Fatigue
	+ Runny or stuffy nose
	+ Muscle or body aches
	+ Headache
	+ Sore throat
	+ Nausea or Vomiting
	+ Diarrhea

If you have a fever with cough or shortness of breath, you are urged to contact your primary care physician as these symptoms may be attributed to COVID-19. To protect others, stay home, wear a face mask, and get tested. For a more detailed symptom self-checker and what to do if you are sick, visit the Los Angeles County Public Health Department’s [COVID-19](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019/covidcare/) [Symptom page](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019/covidcare/).

### Updated Isolation, Quarantine and Testing Guidance

PUSD is adapting to current public health guidance and has revised the following protocols for isolation and quarantine:

### PUSD Student Isolation Protocol

Students with confirmed COVID-19 infection (cases) are required to stay home and away from others (isolate) and follow all isolation instructions, regardless of their vaccination status, history of previous infection, or lack of symptoms.

Students with COVID-19 may end isolation after Day 5 (i.e., between Day 6-10) if both of the following criteria are met:

1. No fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine, AND
2. Other symptoms are not present, or symptoms are mild and improving.

It is strongly recommended that an individual test negative (with an antigen test) for COVID-19 prior to ending isolation between Day 6-10 to reduce the chance of infecting others with COVID19.

* + Persons who continue to have symptoms of COVID-19 which are not improving should continue to isolate until their symptoms are improving or until after Day 10.
	+ Persons who have left isolation and have a return or worsening of their COVID-19 symptoms need to re-test (with an antigen test). If they test positive, they should re-start isolation at Day 0.
	+ Should a student meet the criteria to leave isolation after Day 5, the student should continue to wear a well-fitting mask indoors around others, except when eating or drinking, through Day 10. The student may stop wearing their mask sooner (between Day 6-10) if they have two sequential negative COVID-19 tests taken at least one day apart.

If a student tests positive, the parent or guardian should contact the School Health Office to receive guidance on current isolation procedures and information on COVID-19.

The PUSD Isolation Guidance is aligned with the [Los Angeles County Department of Public](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/docs/protocols/ExposureManagementPlan_K12Schools.pdf) [Health (LAC DPH) Guidelines COVID-19 Exposure Management Plan for TK-12 Schools.](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/docs/protocols/ExposureManagementPlan_K12Schools.pdf)

### PUSD Student Quarantine Protocol

The shorter incubation period and increased transmissibility of recent COVID-19 variants suggest that a quicker and broader response to contact tracing for cases identified in school settings is warranted. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and PPHD are therefore encouraging schools to move away from the individual contact tracing approach. PUSD will continue to provide exposure notification to schools which will allow schools to

provide safe in-person instruction without the intense demand of individual contact tracing.

As per Pasadena Public Health Department Exposure Management Plan dated October 11, 2022, students are considered to have been exposed to a COVID-19 case (close contact) during the case’s infectious period if:

* + In indoor air spaces that are 400,000 cubic feet or less per floor: They shared the same indoor airspace at school with the infected person (case) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period during an infected person’s infectious period.
	+ In indoor air spaces that are greater than 400,000 cubic feet per floor: They were within 6 feet of the infected person (case) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period during the infected person’s infectious period. This applies to both student and staff close contacts.

School communities will receive notification of a possible exposure and provided with recommended actions to take, such as monitoring for symptoms and testing for COVID-19. Masks will be available for students and staff.

Over-the-counter rapid antigen tests will be available to students identiﬁed as potential close contacts as supplies last. Test kits can be requested through the school health oﬃces.

\**Parents/guardians are encouraged to stay up to date on COVID-19 vaccines and boosters which remain the best way to prevent severe illness, hospitalization, and death.*

***Who is eligible?*** Everyone 6 months and older is eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

### PUSD Employee Protocols

**If an Employee Tests Positive:**

Per the California Occupational Safety and Health Act (Cal/OSHA) Guidelines, employees who test positive for COVID-19 must be excluded from the workplace for at least 5 days after start of symptoms or after date of first positive test if no symptoms.

Isolation can end and employees may return to the workplace after day 5 if symptoms are not present or are mild and resolving; AND the employee is fever-free for 24 hours without the use of a fever-reducing medication.

If an employee has a fever, isolation must continue and the employee may not return to work until 24 hours after the fever resolves.

If an employee’s symptoms other than fever are not improving, they may not return to work until their symptoms are resolving or until after day 10.

Employees must wear face coverings around others for a total of 10 days.

**Cal/OSHA Requirements for Employers:**

Notify all employees and their authorized representatives who may have had close contact with a COVID-19 case within one business day in a manner that does not reveal the COVID-19 case's personal identifying information.

Offer testing during paid time and at no cost to any employee with a close contact that occurred in the workplace and provide applicable benefit information. There is an exception for recently recovered COVID-19 cases who remain symptom-free (returned cases).

Review current CDPH guidance for persons who had close contacts, including any guidance regarding quarantine or other measures to reduce transmission, and implement effective policies to prevent transmission of COVID-19 by close contacts.

Exclude from the workplace employees who test positive for COVID-19; regardless of vaccination status.

Follow the return-to-work criteria for returning excluded employees to work. Investigate the exposure and address hazards.

Follow all recordkeeping and reporting requirements for employee COVID-19 cases.

### Use of Face Masks

Masks are one of the most effective and simplest safety mitigation layers to prevent in-school transmission of COVID-19 infections and to support full time in-person instruction in K-12 schools. SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, is transmitted primarily by aerosols (airborne transmission), and less frequently by droplets. Physical distancing is generally used to reduce only droplet transmission, whereas masks are one of the most effective measures for source control of both aerosols and droplets. Therefore, masks best promote both safety and

in-person learning by reducing the need for physical distancing (CDPH).

The District will maintain a supply of medical-grade surgical masks (with 3 layers of protection) available to staff and students by request.

M**asks are recommended but not required for students, teachers, staff, visitors, and volunteers regardless of vaccination status.** PUSD will continue to require masking at testing and vaccination clinics, and in the School Health Offices for individuals (students, staff, and visitors) exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Who is required to wear a mask?** | **Where must they wear a mask?** | **When are they required to mask?** |
| Students, staff and community members at a PUSD testing or vaccination clinic | Parking lot or indoor facility of the PUSD testing or vaccination clinic | When individuals enter the parking lot or indoor facility where the testing or vaccination clinic is located |
| Symptomatic students, staff, and visitors in the School Health Office | School Site Health Offices | Upon entering |

##### When are masks required for EMPLOYEES?

Masks are required for employees who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and have been cleared to return to work after the 5th day of isolation until the 10th day after the positive diagnosis.

##### Exemptions and accommodations:

Public Health protocols allow individuals to be exempt from wearing a mask for the following reasons:

1. Persons younger than two years old.
2. Persons who are hearing impaired, or communication with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
3. Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability or whose medical provider has determined that it is unsafe for them to wear a mask, may ﬁle for an exemption with their school. A certiﬁcation from a state licensed health care provider attesting that the student has a condition or disability that precludes them from wearing a mask safely will be accepted as a proof of exemption. The following licensed health care professionals may provide such attestations: Medical providers including physician (MD or DO), nurse practitioner (NP), or physician assistant (PA) practicing under the authority of a licensed physician; and licensed mental and behavioral health practitioners including Clinical Social Work (LCSW), clinical psychologist (PSy.D.) Professional clinical Counselor (LPCC), or Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT).
4. For employees who are unable to wear a mask, refer to Cal/OSHA ETS for return-to-work requirements after an exposure event.

At times when the Health Officer Orders may require universal indoor masking or may require masking for certain individuals, students who are exempt from wearing a mask should wear a face shield with a drape at the bottom, as long as their condition allows it.

### Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

All employee and campus visitors are asked to follow these safety guidelines:

1. Wash hands frequently for 20 seconds with soap and water — especially before and after eating, after coughing or sneezing, after sharing items in class and before and after using the restroom.
2. Avoid touching your face.
3. Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or elbow.
4. Use tissues to wipe your nose.

For informational video on handwashing, please see [How to Wash Your Hands](https://youtu.be/J96Wg8U07aQ)

The District is committed to securing additional handwashing and sanitation stations and PPE to the extent possible.

1. School sites will have hand washing stations or hand sanitizer available at various locations to allow for frequent hand washing or sanitizing.

### Using personal protective equipment (PPE)

1. We evaluate the need for PPE (such as gloves, goggles, and face shields) as required by California Code of Regulations (CCR)Title 8, section 3380, and provide such PPE as needed.
2. PPE, cleaning and sanitizing supplies can be ordered through ***Current Solutions.***

# Health Monitoring and Containment Plan

### Vaccinations

Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Promoting vaccination, throughout the community and for all who are eligible, can help schools safely continue in-person learning by reducing transmission risk.

As of September 13, 2022, the CDPH public health order of August 11, 2021, requiring all school staff to either show proof of full vaccination or be tested at least once per week for COVID-19 was rescinded.

PUSD Health Programs and the City of Pasadena offer opportunities for vaccination. Individuals ages 6 months and older are currently eligible to obtain a vaccine that protects against COVID-19. Individuals may sign up at [**MyTurn.ca.gov**](https://myturn.ca.gov/), call the CA COVID-19 information line at 833-422-4255, email: **healthprograms@pusd.us** or call the Pasadena Citizen Service Center at 626-744-7311 for assistance. Links to vaccine appointments at pharmacies and other federal, state, and county sites are available at the [PPHD website](https://www.cityofpasadena.net/public-health/covid-19-vaccine/).

### Screening & Diagnostic Testing

PUSD will provide access to COVID-19 over the counter test kits for all individuals who are exposed to a COVID-19 case and/or when a major outbreak or multiple infections are reported within a school.

At-home over-the-counter rapid antigen tests are available for identified or potential close contacts at each school health office and the PUSD Health Programs office at 351 S. Hudson Ave. Availability of test kits for students will continue while supplies last.

For Information regarding SB1469, please see additional information on section titled “**SB-1479 COVID-19 TESTING PLAN”** on page 16.

### Exposure Management and Temporary Class or School Closure

The information in this Covid Safety Plan is not meant to replace the [Exposure Management](https://www.cityofpasadena.net/public-health/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/Exposure-management-plan.pdf?v=1648092483858) [Plans for TK-12 students](https://www.cityofpasadena.net/public-health/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/Exposure-management-plan.pdf?v=1648092483858) and [Early Childhood Education](https://www.cityofpasadena.net/public-health/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/Exposure-Management-Plan-ECE.pdf?v=1647631853999) which are required by the Pasadena Public Health Department. Please see excerpt below and refer to Appendix C: PUSD Exposure Management and Temporary Class or School Closure Plan.

The criteria for moving from in-person learning back to remote learning would be determined based on the number of cases and groups impacted and could be necessary if highly active in-class or in-school transmission is occurring. Closure would be done in consultation with the Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD), which is our local health department.

# Operations Plan for Mitigation Measures

Evidence indicates that in-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking) are implemented, consistent with public health guidance. The following measures remain in place:

### Buses and Transportation

##### It is recommended that students, adults, and drivers wear face masks.

1. Parents will be asked to screen their own children (students), so that they can call the PUSD Transportation office to cancel transportation if the student has a fever or other COVID-19 symptoms.

### Cleaning and disinfecting

If an outbreak has been determined, the following intensified cleaning, sanitation and ventilation measures will be put into effect at all schools and work locations:

1. Cleaning and disinfecting of space, surfaces, and objects throughout the school.
2. 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 disinfected multiple times daily using appropriate products.
3. Restrooms, lobbies, break rooms and lounges, and other common areas are disinfected frequently.
4. Cleaning products that are effective against COVID-19 (these are listed on the [Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved list “N”](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-coronavirus-covid-19)) are used according to product instructions.
5. Custodial and other employees 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.
6. Custodial staff and other employees responsible for cleaning and disinfecting are equipped with appropriate personal protective equipment as required.
7. Students are recommended to maintain physical distancing and to have assigned seating.
8. Teachers will not be responsible for cleaning, disinfecting or sanitizing student supplies.

### Field Trips

For overnight trips (if permitted):

1. It is recommended that students test for COVID-19 prior to leaving for an overnight field trip and 3 - 5 days after returning.

These guidelines are subject to change at any time, please confirm with our PUSD Health Programs if additional safety measures are needed prior to the instructional trip.

### Personal protective equipment (PPE), tools and equipment

1. PPE, such as gloves, masks, and face shields, must not be shared.

### School Events and Meetings

1. Parent-teacher and faculty meetings can be conducted in person or virtually. Any individuals visiting “on site” for such meetings must follow the PUSD visitor protocols.
2. School events (such as Open House, student dances, proms, assemblies, and performances) may be scheduled.

##### For Student Dances, Proms:

* + Indoor venues allowed.
	+ Rapid antigen testing for all students and staff is recommended within 48 hours prior to the event.

##### Assemblies and Performances:

* Indoor performances and assemblies are allowed.
* Outdoor performances and assemblies are recommended.
* Masks are recommended to be worn by the audience members of indoor performances.
* Visitor protocol required.

### School Meals

Cafeterias at each site remain open to provide children a hot breakfast and lunch meal. Meals will be eaten outside as much as possible. Masks are optional for all staff members. It is recommended that a staff member stay home if they are not feeling well. Staff will continue to follow all standard safety guidelines in the preparation and serving of school meals. Ventilation measures include:

1. HVAC systems are set to maximize indoor/outdoor air exchange unless outdoor conditions (recent fire, very high outside temperature, high pollen count, etc.) make this inappropriate.
2. If HVAC systems are not functioning at maximum capacity, doors and windows are kept open during the school day if feasible and if outdoor conditions make this appropriate.
3. Air filters have been upgraded from MERV 6 to hospital grade MERV 10 filters.

### Visitors and Volunteers

All visitors, volunteers and external groups or organizations are strongly encouraged to use a face mask and required to sign in and self-screen for symptoms before entry.

### Water

Students will also be encouraged to bring their own water bottles to refill at water filling stations.

# Supportive Services

Pasadena Unified is committed to ensuring continuity of services when students and their families are impacted by exposure to COVID-19 and by other barriers to learning. Pasadena Unified aims to continue student and staff services related to academics as well as services connected to social, emotional, mental, and physical well-being. Students with disabilities and English learners must also be taken into consideration when determining how to ensure continuity of services.

**Reset. Re-Engage. Reignite.** Returning safely to school during the pandemic meant that resources were aligned with trauma-informed approaches to address students’ academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs. PUSD has streamlined resources, scope and sequence, and trainings that helped the classroom teacher, administrator, students, or staff adjust to the return of our students. These resources will be housed in a “Wellness Hub,” to be included in the PUSD Curriculum folder @ gopusd.com/curriculum.

### Continuity of Services Plan

In cases where isolation, quarantine, classroom or school closures are required, PUSD will provide for the continuity of learning, meals and other supportive services for students and families as follows.

##### For Individual Students in Quarantine or Isolation

In cases where student, family member, school nurse, or medical provider identifies need for an individual student to isolate due to testing positive for Covid-19, the following steps are planned:

* The Canvas learning platform will remain in place for school year 2023-24, allowing students to access weekly assignments if they are required to isolate.
* Health Clerk, Community Assistant, or other designated staff will manage services for isolated students and will provide information to student and family on isolation procedures; access to food, health, mental health, and social services; and instructions for accessing Canvas, Webex, Chromebook or WiFi connectivity as needed.
* School Nurse will provide support as needed.
* Student and family will be connected to mental health and social services if requested.
* *Considerations for English Learners:* If a student is required to isolate, LADD office will collaborate with the teacher to tailor support based on the assignments.
* *Considerations for Students with Disabilities:* In the event the student must be medically isolated for greater than 10 days, case carriers will contact family to discuss virtual service delivery and coordinate with service providers.

### Connections to Supportive Services

The following are just a few of the supportive services provided by PUSD and its community partners.

##### Resources for Mental Health Services for Students

In-person school based mental health services at PUSD have resumed. Services are now delivered on school sites. Options for telehealth services through mental health consortium agencies or other partner agencies may be available upon request. Mental health services are provided by either internal mental health departments or school-based mental health agencies with whom the district has agreements. Please contact your school administration should your student need to be referred to mental health services.

For further information, please contact Lara Choulakian, Manager of THRIVE: School Mental health at (626) 396-3600 x 88233 or choulakian.lara@pusd.us; or Erica Villalpando, Manager of PUSD Mental Health services at (626) 396-5920; or mentalhealth@pusd.us.

##### Access to Resources and Support Services

The Office of Student Wellness and Support Services as well as programs and initiatives such as Families in Transition and Community Schools provide outreach to ensure students with unique needs, including foster youth and homeless students, have the necessary resources to access learning while following public health guidelines as well as supports to address academic and social-emotional needs. These resources include:

* + **Student Wellness and Support Services:** Any PUSD school or district employee, a parent, or the neighbor of a child in need, can access a [School Support Referral](https://www.pusd.us/Page/6303) process form to help children get the support and services they need to be successful.
	+ **Community Schools:** Coordination of screening, services and referrals in partnership with community providers. This guide - [Resources for Supporting Pasadena Unified](https://docs.google.com/document/d/173ecMN8FP8youdQUhBJ7lU6JMdQA1Vn8nYKbJ073lK8/edit?usp=sharing) [Students and Families during Safe Return to School (Fall 2021/Spring 2022)](https://docs.google.com/document/d/173ecMN8FP8youdQUhBJ7lU6JMdQA1Vn8nYKbJ073lK8/edit?usp=sharing) [(English/Espanol)](https://docs.google.com/document/d/173ecMN8FP8youdQUhBJ7lU6JMdQA1Vn8nYKbJ073lK8/edit?usp=sharing) - first developed by the Pasadena HS Community Schools Initiative will continue to be updated and distributed.
	+ **PUSD Center for Student & Family Services** located at 750 N. Robles Ave, Pasadena, CA 91104 (next to Madison Elementary School) is the home of **Families in Transition (FIT)** and other programs within the Office of Student Wellness & Support Services. FIT is PUSD’s McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance program for student and family support addressing socioeconomic barriers to student success like housing and food insecurities, lack of access to health and mental health care, recent immigration, and other educational challenges. For assistance or an appointment, please call 626.396.5782 or text the FIT cell at 626.720.2476.
* **Care Solace** Care Solace is a complimentary and confidential service provided to students, staff, and their families by the Pasadena Unified School District. Care Solace can help to quickly and confidentially find providers matched to students’ and employees’ mental health needs. If you would like to use Care Solace to help you find a provider:

Call 888-515-0595 available 24/7/365 in any language.

Visit [www.caresolace.com/pasadena](http://www.caresolace.com/pasadena) and either search on your own,

OR click “Book Appointment” for assistance by video chat, email, or phone.

* The [Employee Assistance Program](https://drive.google.com/file/d/18yxg810PT7G__ewQH-ZoHRGx3bKiQTUN/view?usp=sharing) provides PUSD employees with 24-hour access to advice for dealing with COVID-19 related stress and/or anxiety.

### Considerations for Students with Disabilities

In the event the student must be medically isolated for greater than 10 days, case carriers will contact family to discuss virtual service delivery and coordinate with service providers.

#### PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SB-1479 COVID-19 TESTING PLAN

The Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) Health Programs office is committed to maintaining a safe working and learning environment for all staff and students. PUSD has maintained a COVID-19 Safety Plan and Testing Program throughout the pandemic.

**COVID-19 Response District Coordinator:** Ria Apodaca, apodaca.ana@pusd.us **COVID-19 Vaccination Point of Contact:** Katia Ahmed, ahmed.katia2@pusd.us **COVID-19 Testing Point of Contact:** Sonja Johnson, johnson.sonja@pusd.us Information can also be requested from:

Health Programs Department: (626)396-3600, ext. 88243, or healthprograms@pusd.us

#### TESTING OPERATIONS:

Testing remains a key mitigation layer to detect and curb transmission of COVID-19. PUSD provides ample opportunities for COVID-19 testing to reduce the risk of transmission and to prevent outbreaks. The District will continue to provide access to testing for all individuals who are exposed to a COVID-19 case and/or when a major outbreak or multiple infections are reported within a school. At-home rapid antigen tests are available for identified or potential close contacts, regardless of vaccination status, at each school health office and at the PUSD Health Programs office at 351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena, CA 91109.

#### PRE-ENTRY TESTING:

To ensure a safe return to school from summer, Thanksgiving, winter, and spring breaks, over the counter (OTC) test kits will be distributed to all school sites and offices so that everyone will have the opportunity to test before coming back to school.

Delivery of test kits to all school sites during the two weeks prior to the break. School sites will make test kits available to staff and students during their pre-scheduled school activities prior to the start of break.

#### COVID-19 TESTING SUPPLIES:

The COVID-19 Testing Coordinator will monitor the supply of COVID-19 OTC test kits at school sites and the District warehouse. The Coordinator will ensure that PUSD always has a minimum of two test kits per employee and two per student at the warehouse. The testing coordinator will ensure that all schools have a backstock of OTC test kits on site by coordinating with the warehouse to curate a weekly test kit delivery schedule.

#### HEALTH MONITORING AND CONTAINMENT:

Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Promoting vaccination throughout the community for all who are eligible can help schools safely continue with in-person learning by reducing transmission risk.

#### SITUATIONAL AWARENESS:

PUSD will continue to schedule District Compliance Team (DCT) meetings to ensure communication regarding COVID-19 trends. The District COVID-19 Response Team will provide the DCT with current Los Angeles County data from the [CDC's COVID Community Data](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html) [Tracker](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html) as a method of identifying when to increase or reestablish response practices, including school testing operations.

In order to maintain an understanding of local, county, and statewide COVID-19 transmission trends, impact on health services, and recommended or required safety practices, the PUSD Health Programs Department will continue to do the following:

* Meet with the Pasadena Public Health Department as needed.
* Participate in community briefings with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
* Meet with California Department of Education and USC School Based Pandemic Response Interdisciplinary Navigation Teams (SPRINT) Program managers on a weekly basis throughout the duration of the grant.
* Participate in Heluna Health Office hours on a weekly basis throughout the duration of the program.
* Communicate any questions, concerns, or additional operational testing resources/needs to the CA Testing Task Force at schooltesting@cdph.ca.gov

Reports of linked clusters of three or more positive cases will be reported to the Pasadena Public Health Department.

#### COMMUNICATION

PUSD Health Programs will continue to work with the Communications Department to communicate information regarding COVID-19 trends and recommended and required practices to the District community on a regular basis.

# Appendices

1. [LAC DPH COVID-19 TK-12 Health Protocols](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/docs/protocols/reopening_k12schools.pdf)
2. [PPHD TK-12 SCHOOLS PROTOCOL](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Guidance-on-Isolation-and-Quarantine-for-COVID-19-Contact-Tracing.aspx)

**For Pasadena Unified School District updates:** [**PUSD COVID-19 Updates**](https://www.pusd.us/Page/9625)

**Please provide feedback by sending comments through the** [**Feedback Form**](https://forms.gle/kCQQY3tvA2NAkpACA) **To see summary of major changes from all Covid Safety Plans, click** [**here**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/12buJvqj_Isd3y-1eetCLJTa22btGlc2IK0pi8fCMPZ0/edit?usp=sharing)**.**

### COVID-19 Compliance Teams

The COVID-19 District and School Compliance Teams are responsible for establishing and enforcing all COVID-19 safety protocols, including this COVID Safety Plan.

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Leslie Barnes

Chief of Business Services barnes.leslie@pusd.us

Julianne Reynoso Assistant Superintendent,

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Hilda Ramirez Horvath Manager, Communications

##### Core District COVID 19 Compliance Team

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California School Employees Association

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##### School COVID-19 Compliance Teams

School COVID-19 Compliance Team members can include site administrators, nurses, health clerks, parents, athletic directors, academic coaches, and custodians who then receive training.