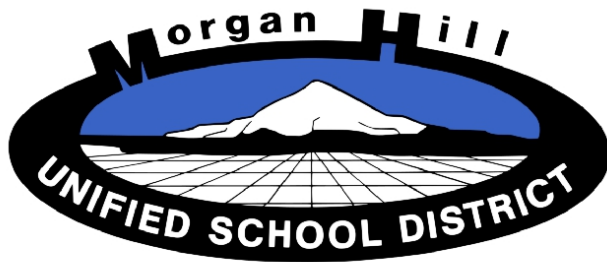


COVID-19:

MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT REOPENING PLAN

Fall 2020



V. 07.03.2020



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Morgan Hill Unified Staff, Students, and Families,

The last quarter of the school year, under the Shelter-in-Place order and ever-changing conditions, tested our resilience and ability to adjust. Our school buildings were swiftly shut down on March 16th while we, along with Districts throughout the County, rapidly implemented virtual teaching and learning. Repeated change was the only constant among many uncertainties and unknowns. Our dedicated employees navigated constantly modified Public Health Orders, cleaning protocols, distance learning methods, mass food distribution for families in our community, and a safe graduation celebration.

Over the last several weeks, our Districtwide Health and Safety Task Force diligently explored the guidelines from many agencies, including the California Department of Education, American Academy of Pediatrics, California Department of Public Health, and Santa Clara County Public Health. We have been in constant communications with the County superintendents, legislators, and public health representatives from throughout the State. It is by everyone's sedulous and conscientious efforts we present our Reopening Plan designed so students can return to the 2020-2021 School Year on August 13, 2020 .

Among the many ideas and options we have considered, the health and well-being of our staff, students, and families is realized in every aspect of the plan. The Reopening Plan's success is dependent on everyone's support, most importantly our employees and our families/caregivers who side-by-side care deeply about the safety and education of the children. The Plan demands an effective implementation of both the instructional model and safety guidelines. By respecting the precautions set forth to ensure the safety of ourselves and others, I am confident we will collectively make the Plan a success as we continue to comply with the state and county guidelines in the ever-evolving impact of the coronavirus.

Maximizing Children's Health

Multiple reports from around the world indicate that children account for less than 5-10% of COVID-19 infections. Evidence is mounting that children may be less susceptible to COVID-19 infection and may be less likely to transmit the virus to others, per the recently released publication by the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#), there is also strong evidence that the majority of children who become infected with COVID-19 are either asymptomatic or have only mild

symptoms, such as cough, fever, and sore throat. While serious disease requiring hospitalization is known in children, including multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C), this is relatively rare and is generally treatable in a small minority of pediatric cases. The clinical course is much less severe than in adults and deaths are uncommon.

Without a doubt, the public health measures of school closures, sheltering-in-place orders and self-isolation, implemented to mitigate COVID-19 and "flatten the curve" have saved lives. However, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics, these measures also have adverse consequences on children, including unfavorable impact on children's behavior and mental health.

Minimizing Individual and Public Health Risks

In a typical year, returning to school has generally been associated with increases in cases of community-associated seasonal respiratory viral infections. As a result, it is anticipated this year that there will likely be an increase in cases of COVID-19 upon the reopening of schools and as such, the appropriate measures will be proactively put in place to mitigate the effects of such an increase. This includes the need for readily available testing and contact tracing support within Santa Clara County, which is critical to avoid cluster or widespread outbreaks.

Consistency is essential for children and it will be important to ensure that once children return to school, that schools stay open to the extent possible. Children rely on structure and schedule for stability.

With these two broad ideas in mind - maximizing benefit for students while also minimizing risk to the adults who work with students - MHUSD's reopening plan summarizes our recommendations based on the

available evidence as of the publishing of this plan as well as in consultation with our employees who have served on important reopening committees. The recommendations are organized into the following categories:

1. Screening
2. Hand hygiene
3. Face covering
4. Physical distancing
5. Cohorting
6. Disinfecting
7. Ventilation
8. Transportation
9. Student Nutrition
10. Reopening Classrooms to In-Person Instruction
11. Option for Virtual-only Instruction
12. Mental health
13. Safety Measures for Staff
14. Limiting Visitors and Volunteers
15. Communicating

1. Screening

Screening is often done to prevent symptomatic individuals from entering a school or workplace. Typical screening may include taking temperature with a non-touch thermometer or using a questionnaire for symptoms or exposure.

In order to prevent the spread of infection, students, teachers and other employees who have signs/symptoms of COVID-19 are advised to stay home until they are symptom free and/or until they have a negative test for COVID-19. Decisions about testing and returning to school, including those who have had an exposure to COVID-19, will be guided by MHUSD's School Nurse in accordance with Public Health recommendations.

- Upon initial reopening, students will be screened with a questionnaire for symptoms.
- Once school has reopened, parents and caregivers will be empowered to do a daily screening for symptoms of COVID-19 using screening protocols against a provided checklist before arriving at school or at the bus.
- Symptomatic students and employees who report to school will be asked to return home.

- School staff will watch for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 so that appropriate action can be taken if anyone develops symptoms during the day.
- Virtual learning will be available for children who are required to stay home because they are sick or in isolation due to COVID-19 infection or exposure and for students whose families prefer to keep their children home during the pandemic.

2. Hand Hygiene

COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses are almost exclusively spread by respiratory droplet transmission. As a result, and because virus shedding may occur prior to symptom onset or in the absence of symptoms, routine, frequent and proper hand hygiene (soap and water or hand sanitizer) is critical to limit transmission. Hand hygiene is one of the most effective strategies to prevent the spread of most respiratory viruses including the coronavirus, particularly during the pre-symptomatic phase of the illness.

- Students will be taught how to clean their hands properly (with age-appropriate lessons) and to try to avoid touching their face, eyes, nose and mouth. Lessons and reminders with students will be non-judgemental and positive.
- Students and staff will be taught about respiratory etiquette; students and staff who have any symptoms of illness will stay home. All will be reminded to sneeze or cough into their elbow/ sleeve.
- There will be age-appropriate signage placed throughout the school to remind students to wash or sanitize hands.
- All students will have access to hand sanitizer and/or sinks with soap throughout the day and will have frequent reminders to wash or sanitize their hands.
- A regular schedule for routine hand hygiene will be in place for younger students with scheduled hand hygiene breaks. The preferred method for these hand hygiene breaks may be the use of hand sanitizer unless sinks are readily available in or nearby the classroom. Hand sanitizer will be available at the entry point for each classroom.
- Liquid soap and hand sanitizer will be replenished and paper towels available for drying. No-touch waste receptacles will be available for disposal of materials.

- Disinfecting spray and paper towels will be available for teachers and able helpers to wipe down commonly used surfaces.



3. Face Coverings

The current State guidelines require the use of face coverings. As long as this is the guideline, all staff and students will be expected to comply with face coverings.

- All students will use face coverings provided from home. If parents are unable to provide a face covering, the school staff can assist in obtaining one.
- Individual exceptions may be made for students with conditions where wearing a face covering is not advised.
- Employees may use face coverings provided from home or use a face covering or clear face shield provided by MHUSD, if available.
- Young students will be taught the reason for and proper use of a face covering.
- Students will learn about appropriate procedures for putting on, taking off, and storing the face covering (i.e. during meal times, snack times).
- Each school will maintain a supply of non-medical masks in the event that a student or staff member needs a replacement during the day.



4. Physical Distancing

The objective of physical distancing is to reduce the likelihood of contact that may lead to transmission and has been a widely used strategy during the pandemic. The following are recommendations and considerations in the school setting. According to the June 30, 2020 guidelines from County Public Health, physical distancing will be the primary method used when considering secondary school settings.

Classrooms

- Classroom furniture is to be arranged to spread student seating as much as possible.
- When weather permits, classes may be conducted outside to promote both physical distancing and fresh air ventilation.

Large gatherings/assembly

- Large gatherings/assemblies will not be held in the foreseeable future.
- Singing, drama, band, sports, and other practices/ performances pose a higher level of risk. The District will adhere to suggested guidelines regarding activities. Special consideration will be given to room ventilation, the use of outdoor space, and the distance between students. To the extent possible, instruments and athletic equipment or other objects will not be shared between students, and if sharing is required, the objects will be disinfected between use.

Lunch breaks

- To minimize risk of group transmission and maintain physical distancing, break and lunch times may be staggered or modified at each school site.

- When weather permits, consideration will be given to having lunch or snack breaks outside.
- Hand hygiene will be performed prior to and after breakfast and lunch breaks.

Outdoor and other activities

- Playground structures will be closed until further notice.
- During outdoor activities, such as recess, physical distancing will be encouraged within the cohort.
- Students will perform hand hygiene before and after outdoor play. To the extent possible, equipment or other objects will not be shared between students, and if sharing is required, the objects will be disinfected between use.
- Physical education classes are encouraged and can continue under health and safety protocols.
- Competitive league sports and band may be temporarily suspended. The District will carefully monitor and follow the most recent county guidelines for these activities and will ease restriction when permitted.



5. Cohorting

The purpose of establishing cohorts is to limit the mixing of students and staff so that if anyone develops an infection, the number of exposures is reduced. It will not be feasible to maintain stable cohorts in all settings, but every effort will be made to create as stable cohorts as possible.

- Elementary students will be assigned to one classroom as a stable cohort which will enable each group of students to consistently work together with little or no mingling with other cohorts on campus. Staff discussions, efforts,

and exploration of funds to assist physically distancing conditions continue even at the publication of this Plan. One goal is to reduce high numbers of students in the in-person upper elementary classes during in-classroom time so students have the ability to physically distance.

- Secondary students will have a modified block schedule to minimize the total number of class or cohort changes per day. Secondary campuses will focus on physical distancing throughout their in-person instructional day since strictly limiting cohorts is not feasible.

6. Disinfecting

In order to disinfect high-touch surfaces regularly to minimize the risk of exposure, each classroom and workspace will have access to paper towels and spray bottles of disinfectant.

- Older students and teachers will have ready access to wipe down light switches, door knobs, desk surfaces, shared objects, and any other high touch surfaces within the classroom.
- Younger students will be taught to avoid sharing objects and will focus on hand hygiene with regular breaks. The teacher in the classroom will have ready access to disinfecting spray and paper towels to use, as needed, throughout the day.

7. Ventilation

Properly installed and maintained Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioner (HVAC) systems are key to ensuring healthy indoor air quality in school learning environments. Research continues to add to the evolving knowledge that environmental conditions and airflow influence the transmissibility of COVID-19.

- HVAC systems will be set to operate at a minimum of one hour before occupancy to “flush” rooms.
- High-efficiency air filters, as per manufacturer's recommendations, will be installed and replaced frequently.
- The use of outdoor space or environments with windows or other cross-ventilation options will be encouraged.



8. Transportation

Typically the District transports nearly 2,000 riders daily. Federal law requires bus service for qualifying students with disabilities as a priority. During the time of the pandemic, parents and caregivers are encouraged to take their children to and from school by walking, cycling, or private car rather than using District transportation. We understand that this won't be feasible for all families, so the District is committed to working with families who rely solely on District transportation.

Due to physical distancing recommendations, home-to-school transportation will likely be severely limited. The District is working with Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority to determine if additional routes can be added to support the potential increase in student need.

The following guidelines will be followed:

- Initially, students will be screened with a symptoms questionnaire prior to boarding the bus. This process may slow down the loading process and long-term may not be practical. Parents and caregivers will receive information about screening protocols and will be empowered to screen their own children once school is reopened.
- The District will maximize physical distancing to the extent practical. Students from the same household or classroom cohort may sit together.
- Students will be asked to observe physical distancing at bus stops and school loading and unloading zones.
- Students and employees will wear face coverings while on the bus and while waiting at bus stops.
- Improved ventilation (e.g. keeping windows open, weather permitting) and enhanced disinfecting protocols between AM and PM routes will be followed.



9. Student Nutrition

A successful nutrition program is a key component of every educational environment. A child cannot focus on learning when they are feeling hungry. School meals boost learning, and studies show that students perform best academically when well-nourished. Therefore, ensuring every child has access to healthy meals in schools is extremely important.

During this time of managing the spread of the coronavirus, the following adjustments will be made:

- Menus will continue to follow the National School Lunch Program guidelines, sourced with available products through approved and vetted vendors.
- Meals may be served and consumed in the classroom, cafeteria/multi-purpose room, or outdoors.
- Healthy and fresh menu options that are individually boxed or plated will be served, with pre-portioned produce and pre-wrapped entree items.
- The use of share tables and self-service salad bars will be temporarily suspended in order to decrease transmission risk among students.
- Meal times may be staggered to allow for cleaning between meal services and to serve students in smaller groups.
- Offsite meal service (with approved USDA waivers) may allow the District to offer grab-and-go student meals for consumption at home, including drive-through or curbside pick-up options.

10. Re-opening Classrooms to In-Person Learning

MHUSD has created in-person school models to safely engage students in meaningful academic and social-emotional learning. (For MHUSD's Virtual-Only Learning Option, see Section 11 below). We are committed to making accommodations for families with children in different grades or schools to have a similar in-person schedule. By establishing schedules, structures,

practices, and clear expectations we enable successful in-person learning to resume.

The following grade span level guidelines will be considered to create each school's daily and weekly schedule. There is no current consideration for changing the current year-long academic calendar beginning August 13, 2020, and ends June 4, 2021.



Elementary (preschool - 5th grade)

Full-time In-Person: In the fall, students in preschool - 5th grade will return to school full-time, five days a week. Students will be assigned to a stable classroom cohort, adhering to all the health and safety guidelines contained in this document. A stable classroom cohort will remain together, to the extent possible, with the same teacher and student group throughout the day. Operational adjustments to the daily school schedule will include staggered recess and lunch breaks. While all the strategies are important to reduce the risk of transmission, stable cohorting is a primary scheduling strategy for our elementary students.

Should an infection occur, the District will follow County Public Health guidance to quarantine an entire cohort, or close an entire school, to reduce further transmission. Should this occur, parents/caregivers will receive information about the exposure and the anticipated length of time for quarantine or closure. If this occurs, the teacher and students would temporarily revert to virtual learning. In a closure event, every attempt will be made to communicate information about the process and schedule for virtual learning. The start day and time will accommodate time to provide distance learning tools, access, and teacher preparation for an instructional design change if needed. If a teacher becomes sick, a substitute teacher will cover either the in-person or virtual instruction at that time.

Middle School (6th - 8th grade)

Hybrid Model: In the fall, all students in 6th-8th grade, at Britton, Murphy, San Martin/Gwinn, and JAMM, will return to school in a hybrid model (a combination of in-person and virtual learning). Since middle school students change classes, it is not possible to maintain stable cohorts as with elementary students. While all the strategies are important to reduce the risk of transmission, physical distancing is a primary scheduling strategy for our middle school students.

Therefore, approximately half the students will be in class at a time. Students in a hybrid model will be divided into two groups, A and B. Student group assignments for the hybrid model will be aligned across District schools to the greatest extent possible to ensure students from the same families are on the same hybrid schedule.

In the hybrid model, students will attend a modified block schedule of approximately four hours each day. Each group of students will have two consecutive days a week of in-person/on-site instruction and three days a week of virtual learning with approximately one hour of live teacher time plus three hours of independent work each of those days. Each school will communicate their schedule to students.

Should an infection occur, the District will follow County Public Health guidance to quarantine an entire cohort, or close an entire school, to reduce further transmission. Should this occur, parents/caregivers will receive information about the exposure and the anticipated length of time for quarantine or closure. If this occurs, the teacher and students would temporarily revert to complete virtual learning.

Secondary (9th-12th grade)

Hybrid Model: In the fall, all students in 9th-12th grade, at Live Oak, Sobrato, and Central, will return to school in a hybrid model (a combination of in-person and virtual learning). Since high school students change classes, it is not possible to maintain stable cohorts as with elementary students. While all the strategies are important to reduce the risk of transmission, physical distancing is a primary scheduling strategy for our secondary students.

Therefore, approximately half the students will be in class at a time. Students in a hybrid model will be divided into two groups, A and B. Student assignments will be aligned across District schools to the greatest extent possible to ensure students from the same

families are on the same hybrid schedule.

In this model, each group of students will attend a modified block schedule of approximately four hours a day, two times a week. For the other three days a week, students will have virtual learning with approximately one hour of live teacher time and three hours of independent work each of those days.

Each school will communicate their schedule to students.

Special Education

Students currently eligible for special education services will continue to receive their service(s) congruent with their general education plan. This may mean some adjustments to the current Individualized Education Program (IEP), to ensure students continue to receive services during COVID-19 changes in general education programs. IEP team meetings and assessments will resume in August. Students who receive their educational services in a specialized and self-contained program may be returning full-time in a small, stable cohort environment and will receive more specific information from the Special Education Department. Students who receive their educational services primarily in a mainstream environment may receive their services in a schedule similar to other students in the grade span model and will receive notification of the student's schedule from the school.

With this shift of instructional practice/delivery, we commit to making adjustments to refine our pedagogy and practices. We thank you in advance for your patience, flexibility, and support.



11. Option for MHUSD's Virtual-Only Learning

Students and families that choose to not return to in-person instruction in fall 2020 will have the option to enroll in MHUSD's virtual-only learning program.

MHUSD's virtual-learning program is a year-long program and allows students to remain enrolled at their school. Families are able to change their enrollment to the in-person model at the end of the semester or end of the school year.

In the virtual-learning model, MHUSD teachers will be assigned students and will deliver instruction using a combination of digital curriculum and district teacher-developed curriculum for an aligned, standards-based, robust, and rigorous instructional experience. The virtual-only model will have daily components of both live interactions with a teacher and independent learning.

For students currently eligible for special education services that are interested in the virtual-only learning program, please contact the Special Education Department at sped-group@mhUSD.org or 408-201-6040.

The virtual-only program is not available for the Dual Immersion Multicultural Education (DIME) program. In addition, some electives for middle and high school may not be available virtually.

Families who are interested in enrolling their student(s) in MHUSD's virtual-only model should contact the Enrollment Office at (408) 201-6030.



12. Mental Health

A proactive approach is important to minimize the mental health impact for students related to the continued global pandemic: sudden school closure, sheltering-in-place, and resuming or reopening in a modified manner. The District Office and each school office is committed to making every effort, wherever foreseeable and feasible, to address sources of distress and extend flexibility within existing administrative processes.

MHUSD understands that many students and parents/caregivers made decisions regarding special education programs, school registration, or other specific educational programming in the absence of usual sources of information, including school visits and in-person meetings. Because of this, each school

will allow some programming flexibility during the first few months of the school year. MHUSD further understands that rigidity may lead to increased stress, anxiety, depression, and absenteeism that could otherwise be avoided. For this reason, MHUSD will do everything possible to treat with flexibility each situation as it arises.

MHUSD also understands that students may return to school at diverse academic and mental health levels. It is important that our schools create opportunities upon reopening for early identification of learning needs and academic or mental health support needed to ensure that students neither become overwhelmed nor bored in the school setting, as these are frequent antecedents to school avoidance and other mental health concerns.

Because students may have experienced increased stress and anxiety related to the COVID-19 pandemic, MHUSD anticipates an increase of students who may have mental health conditions, such as anxiety, depression and substance abuse, which may have been exacerbated by social distancing, including school closures, and these students may experience symptom escalation upon returning to school.

The following guidelines will be in place to navigate this aspect of reopening:

- Flexibility in course selection, program, and/or school enrollment will be available for students as they transition back to school for the 2020-2021 school year.
- As feasible, early identification and intervention will be provided for learning gaps that may have occurred during the school closures.
- Mental health support services provided by partner agencies may be adapted for groups or individual students, as needed, including whole-class lessons on fostering resilience even during adversity.

13. Safety Measures for Employees

The safety of District employees is an important consideration in our reopening. Risk mitigation for teachers and other staff are similar to those recommended for other essential workers. Staff will be encouraged to follow all guidelines mentioned above, including hand hygiene, disinfecting, and symptom monitoring. Stable cohorts, physical distancing, and face coverings continue to be the primary means to reduce the risk of transmission.

- Physical distancing, to the extent possible, of school staff from children and other staff will be

- practiced, especially in our middle and high school programs.
- Adults will wear cloth or other face coverings. The District will also provide clear face shields as an additional form of protection. Face shields are not recommended as a replacement for face coverings given concerns over their ability to minimize droplet spread to others. Teachers may consider using face shields when physically distant from students in certain limited situations: during phonological instruction to enable students to see the teacher’s mouth and in settings where a cloth face covering poses a barrier to communicating with a student who is hearing impaired. In most instances, a face shield provides an additional barrier for a staff member who is also wearing a face covering.
 - Staff will be informed about symptoms of COVID-19 and are encouraged to self-monitor for symptoms and stay home if they have any.
 - Staff will receive information about the use of available leaves related to COVID-19.
 - Employees will be encouraged to get a free COVID-19 test each month.
 - Specific personnel may be equipped with additional PPE, depending on the level of interactions with members of the public and their specific job duties.
 - Front offices will include a clear partition as a means of separating members of the public from office staff.

14. Limiting Visitors and Volunteers

In order to reduce the number of interactions at each campus, visitors will be limited. Parents and caregivers will have limited access to the front office but will be restricted from other parts of the building. All volunteer activity will be suspended until further notice.

15. Communicating

Clear, age-appropriate information about COVID-19 will be available to staff, students, and parents/caregivers upon school reopening. Schools will incorporate regular updates to their school communities throughout the school year.

- MHUSD and each school will share updates related to COVID-19, when available, with staff, students, and parents/caregivers and the community at large. COVID-19 is likely to persist and circulate like other respiratory viruses throughout the fall and into the spring.

- The ongoing research currently shows COVID-19 causes mild symptoms in the majority of children and young adults. Our teams are carefully watching any new findings while also taking into account the adverse physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being along with educational losses related to sheltering-in-place.
- MHUSD and each school is committed to communicating with specific populations that may be affected by any known infection. All protocols for disinfecting, notification, and possible quarantine, as determined by Public Health, will be followed.

Summary

This document provides guidance about MHUSD’s plan for reopening schools and measures to mitigate risks related to the spread of COVID-19. Although research is still being completed about the minimal experience of COVID-19 infection and transmission in children, our sources along with staff and community members discuss and urge the consideration for the harm school closure has on the educational progress and the physical and mental well-being of students. As schools reopen, the District is also mindful of the physical and mental well-being of our staff, and the importance that regular schooling has on each household. It is the MHUSD’s intention to consider all our stakeholders and to articulate the rationale for the recommendations contained in this document in order to help reduce the fear and anxiety in parents/caregivers, students, and school staff.

Upon our students’ return to school, the setting and environment will not be as it was prior to the outbreak. Due to the safety measures, social interactions among children will be limited and the classroom community will look quite different. Our children's social-emotional well-being depends upon adjustment to that new classroom experience.

Teacher preparation and instructional time will be more cumbersome considering the classroom configuration and need to convey expectations for and monitor hygiene and respiratory etiquette. It is predictable that instructional time to focus on standards will be impacted.

Other important factors to consider are inequalities in the social and economic burden of COVID-19, which may further disadvantage students where educational inequality and barriers to virtual learning may be more pronounced. In addition, we appreciate that the living conditions for children vary across socioeconomic

groups and therefore recommend that further work be done to develop guidance and identify supports needed for situations where children reside within the same home as individuals with underlying conditions that put them at increased risk of more severe disease.

Finally, it is important to note that these recommendations reflect the evidence available at the present time and may evolve as new evidence emerges and as information is gathered from other jurisdictions that have opened schools already.

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Sources Consulted:

- [American Academy of Pediatrics Clinical Guidance Covid-19 Planning Considerations Return to in-Person Education-in-schools/ \(updated June 25, 2020\)](#)
- [Association of California School Administrators: School Reopening Report \(Issued May 28, 2020\).](#)
- [California Department of Education Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California’s Public Schools \(Issued June 8, 2020\).](#)
- [California Department of Public Health Guidance for Schools \(Issued June 5, 2020\).](#)
- [The California School Boards Association: The Uncertain Road Ahead \(Issued June 9, 2020\).](#)
- [California County Superintendents Educational Services Association School Reopening Guide \(Issued June 2, 2020\).](#)
- [Reopening of Santa Clara County K-12 Schools for the 2020-2021 School Year \(issued June 30, 2020\)](#)
- [Santa Clara County: Stronger Together \(Issued June 3, 2020\)](#)

Reopening FAQs

When schools reopen, will students be required to wear face coverings?

The Public Health Order has changed over time and the State and County orders haven't always aligned. According to current State guidelines, anyone over 2 years old is asked to wear a face covering. Unless this guidance changes, students will wear a face covering provided from home. Exceptions can be made if a student has an identified health or emotional condition related to the use of a face covering. There may be accommodations for using a face shield as an example. In Santa Clara County, exemptions for using a face covering include: anyone who has trouble breathing, is incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance; anyone who has been advised by a medical professional not to wear a face-covering; any worker to the extent wearing a face-covering creates a safety hazard at work under established health and safety guidelines.

Will the schools be doing a hybrid system (part in-person/part online)? Our reopening plan, as of this publication, is for full-time in-person for elementary (preschool-5th grade) and hybrid for secondary (6th-12th grade). This could change if other conditions change throughout the county.

What is MHUSD doing for employees who need childcare? What after school care options will there be for all students? We have surveyed our staff regarding their potential need for additional child care coverage. We currently have partnerships with YMCA, CDC, and GoKids and will continue discussing with these organizations to see whether they have the capacity to offer daytime school-age care for MHUSD employees as a way to allow our essential employees the opportunity to work.

Will students receive a pass/fail in the Fall? MHUSD will return to a regular A-F grading system for our older students; younger students will continue to receive feedback on a standards-based report card system.

For students with an IEP in need of several services through Special Education, how will speech, occupational therapy, academic help, and behavioral services be addressed?

We are required to provide services to our students as identified in each student's IEP. Our case managers and Special Education department have been busy identifying services that were provided remotely during sheltering and services that will resume in-person.

What are the options for parents/caregivers who don't feel comfortable sending their children back to school?

MHUSD will have a virtual-only program option for students. Parents/caregivers will be able to enroll their child(ren) in the virtual-only program.

Will we see band and school sports in the Fall?

Summer sports have begun with restrictions for safety. We will await further updates prior to planning for the Fall season.

Besides face coverings and physical distancing, what plans are in place to ensure staff and student safety, in regards to things like cleaning and lunchtime?

We will continue to reinforce the importance of hand hygiene and etiquette for coughing and sneezing. We will ensure adequate supplies to support hand hygiene. Staff and students will wear face coverings and/or face shields. Staff will conduct regular disinfecting daily of high touch surfaces. We will also limit shared items such as playground equipment and sporting equipment. Where items need to be shared, the items will be disinfected between uses. We are aware that ventilation is important, so doors and windows will be open, whenever possible, and gathering outdoors is encouraged.



