

Elementary School Reopening Plan

San Mateo County has encouraged elementary school programs that can meet industry guidelines for safe operations to apply for a waiver to resume on-campus learning. We believe on-campus learning presents important benefits for our students, families, and teachers, particularly for our youngest learners. We are applying for a waiver to make these benefits available to our community. If we are granted a waiver, families will be able to choose whether they want to send their children to campus or continue to learn remotely. Our faculty members are committed to support all children through a blended model, and we want to make sure that the on-campus experience is as safe as possible.

If our waiver is approved, our campus operations will be different from usual, in order to maximize the safety of everyone on campus and comply with the requirements for operating under a waiver. Many of the changes—for example those around cleaning protocols—are common sense for the COVID era and will continue even after the need for a waiver has ended.

One of the most significant changes for operating under a waiver is that we will keep students in stable cohorts of 15 or fewer with two adults. Fridays will continue to be remote learning days for all students.

Another significant change we will implement is maintaining physical distance between people on campus. We will select spaces where students can maintain enough distance between one another while also having opportunities to move naturally.

The combination of these changes will require significant work in terms of scheduling and staffing, as well as in how the learning happens on campus, mindful of both the requirements laid out above and the needs of students who will remain off campus.

Other changes will be consistent with how many establishments are operating these days. Everyone on campus will be required to wear face coverings. They will need to complete screening questionnaires before coming to campus and have their temperatures checked upon arrival. We will only allow students, teachers, staff, and essential contractors on campus while we are operating under the waiver. Students will see much more signage and there will be more rules about where they can go. For our faculty and staff, all meetings between adults not in the same cohort will continue to be on Zoom. We will have distance and hygiene protocols for keeping people safe during meal times and when using the bathroom. Finally, our teachers and operations team will regularly and thoroughly clean surfaces and spaces, and we have installed HEPA filters to clean the air.

If students or employees show symptoms of COVID-19 at school, they will isolate and go home. We will carefully track any cases of COVID-19 in our student and employee population, and we

THE NUEVA SCHOOL

will engage in thorough contact tracing for each case. We will also commit to returning all students to distance learning if the number of cases in any 14-day period exceeds 5 percent of our on-campus student and employee population.

We also remain committed to our remote learners and meeting the needs of those who cannot be physically present on campus. If our waiver application is approved, we will present more detailed plans for what learning would look like on campus, and we will provide every family the choice for their children to return to campus or continue learning remotely.

For the full documentation of our proposed changes to campus protocols, please see [this document](#), organized by the 12 state-issued criteria for schools operating under a waiver.