



COAST UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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San Luis Obispo County Educational Agencies Commonalities for Opening

The educational agencies in San Luis Obispo County remain committed to providing students quality education in a safe environment. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have remained collaborative in our efforts to open our schools and serve our community by following the guidance of our County Public Health Department. In the press briefing on June 12, 2020, Dr. James Brescia, San Luis Obispo County Superintendent of Schools, stated common alignments amongst the local school districts, colleges, and charter schools in our plans to open educational institutions for students provides consistency and clarity for the residents of San Luis Obispo County.

All plans for educational reopening include enhanced cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. All plans contain the implementation of proactive health checks and response protocols for COVID-19 symptoms. All plans call for collaboration with the County Public Health Department for action due to a confirmed case of COVID-19 case at a school. All plans include the incorporation of protective barriers, signage, and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to reduce exposure and transfer of COVID-19. All plans include facilitation of physical spacing, hygienic practices, and transportation as recommended by the California Department of Public Health and County Public Health Department. All plans include an educational option for families who select to refrain from in-person instruction. All plans call for the flexibility to adapt for the maintenance of safety and compliance with current guidelines.

The following is the opening plan for Coast Unified School District. This plan is tailored to serving the community of Coast Unified School District while remaining in alignment with San Luis Obispo County educational institutions and the guidance of the County Public Health Department. Coast Unified School District provides this opening plan in order to inform our students, families, and community of the dedicated efforts our District has taken in order to provide a safe environment. It enables students to return to learning in proximity of their teachers and peers.

County-Wide School Opening Plan Commonalities

Our collective goal is to have similar, not identical, plans that include in person instruction and an alternative learning option available. Each district:

- *is receiving thermometers, masks, and hand sanitizer from the state (60-day daily supply)*
- *will submit and receive approval from the County Public Health Officer*
- *is increasing an emphasis on personal hygiene including teaching and providing time for handwashing, the additional availability of hand sanitizer, and signage around campuses.*
- *will adopt SLOCPHD guidance for in-person services.*
- *will have conscious room designs that maximize spacing to the extent possible between desks/students at tables*
- *will have additional sanitizing of surfaces*
- *will incorporate a Health Plan*
- *will utilize defined screening with self-checks and self-reporting, stricter enforcement of “sick policy” - staying home with cough, sneezing, fever, and will follow county guidance for contact tracing*
- *will address school procedures like:*
 - *Training for safety protocols of new school procedures where practicable*
 - *Enhanced ventilation*
 - *Encouraging the use of outdoor facilities*
 - *Reducing shared student supplies and devices to the degree possible*
 - *Gatherings based on public health recommendations*
 - *Limiting adult volunteers and visitors access to campus, delaying contact*
 - *Protection for front office staff interfacing with the public (eg Plexiglas, spacing, etc.)*

Coast Unified School District Plan For In-Person Services

Coast Unified School District is proud of the collaborative efforts of our staff, parents, and trustees to develop our opening plan for in-person services. Our District is committed to providing the support structures that many students depend on for their physical, academic, and emotional well-being. Our students’ needs can be best addressed when students are physically on campus. This plan is designed to be concise in order to provide clarity to the public at large and our students, parents, and staff. Therefore, this plan contains:

- County-wide commonalities

- CUSD Comprehensive School Setting (our new normal)
- Contingency Measures (implemented on a temporary basis)
- Health Plan

Formatting our plan in this manner, allows us to clarify permanent improvements for the overall health and safety of our students and staff and the flexibility of temporary contingency measures designed to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 as circumstances change. This plan is also designed to meet the current recommendations of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department (SLOCPHD). Through collaboration with our County Health Department the administration will update this plan periodically. When updated, the Superintendent will republish this plan through email/Parent Square and post the plan on the District's website.

Comprehensive School Setting (our new normal)

On-campus instruction will commence with enhanced hygiene education, equipment and practices. These improvements are intended to be permanent.

- Thermometers provided for families in need of them and for appropriate personnel.
- Increase access to hand sanitizer for staff and students.
- Increase access to hand washing opportunities.
- Provide staff and students training on proper hand washing techniques, social distancing norms, and proper use of PPE.
- Increase space for all student seating.
- Enhanced ventilation for indoor spaces/increase use of outdoor spaces.
- All District provided HEPA/electrostatic air filtration systems that remove pollen, dust, pet dander, mold, smoke, bacteria and viruses must be in operation when students/staff are present.
- Reduction of unnecessary common touch points.
- Reduction of shared student supplies. All students to use/be provided with individual student supplies.
- Electronic devices (Chromebooks and iPads) will be issued to individual students.
- Enhanced sanitization protocols per the District's Cleaning and Disinfectant Protocol plan.
- Use of Plexiglas dividers where appropriate.
- Increase student access to emotional/social supports.
- Communicate with parents and staff via Parent Square, email, website, public meetings, staff trainings, etc. regarding the components and requirements of our District's Opening Plan.

- Utilize the following CDPH School Guidance #2 Promote Healthy Hygiene <https://files.covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-schools.pdf>
 - Teach and reinforce washing hands, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes among students and staff.
 - Teach students and remind staff to use tissue to wipe their nose and to cough/sneeze inside a tissue or their elbow.
 - Students and staff should wash their hands frequently throughout the day, including before and after eating; after coughing or sneezing; after classes where they handle shared items, such as outside recreation, art, or shop; and before and after using the restroom.
 - Students and staff should wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application. Soap products marketed as “antimicrobial” are not necessary or recommended.
 - Staff should model and practice handwashing. For example, for lower grade levels, use bathroom time as an opportunity to reinforce healthy habits and monitor proper handwashing.
 - Students and staff should use fragrance-free hand sanitizer when handwashing is not practicable. Sanitizer must be rubbed into hands until completely dry. Note: frequent handwashing is more effective than the use of hand sanitizers.
 - Ethyl alcohol-based hand sanitizers are preferred and should be used when there is the potential of unsupervised use by children.
 - Isopropyl hand sanitizers are more toxic when ingested or absorbed in skin.
 - Do not use hand sanitizers that may contain methanol which can be hazardous when ingested or absorbed.
 - Children under age 9 should only use hand sanitizer under adult supervision. Call Poison Control if consumed: 1-800-222-1222.
 - Consider portable handwashing stations throughout a site and near classrooms to minimize movement and congregations in bathrooms to the extent practicable.
 - Develop routines enabling students and staff to regularly wash their hands at staggered intervals.
 - Ensure adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, tissues, no-touch trashcans, face coverings, and hand sanitizers with at least 60 percent ethyl alcohol for staff and children who can safely use hand sanitizer.
 - Information contained in the CDPH Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings should be provided to staff and families, which discusses the circumstances in which face coverings must be worn and the

- exemptions, as well as any policies, work rules, and practices the employer has adopted to ensure the use of face coverings.
- Employers must provide and ensure staff use face coverings in accordance with CDPH guidelines and all required protective equipment.
 - The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) and the Department of Public Health (CDPH) are and will be working to support procurement and distribution of face coverings and personal protective equipment.
 - Strongly recommend that all students and staff be immunized each autumn against influenza unless contraindicated by personal medical conditions, to help:
 - Protect the school community
 - Reduce demands on health care facilities
 - Decrease illnesses that cannot be readily distinguished from COVID19 and would therefore trigger extensive measures from the school and public health authorities.
 - Nothing in this guidance should be interpreted as restricting access to appropriate educational services.
 - All volunteers/visitors to self-certify that they are symptom free upon entry.

Contingency Measures

As needs arise, the Superintendent, under the authority of the Board of Trustees, may implement any of the following preplanned contingency measures. These measures are intended to be implemented on a temporary basis depending on the current status of COVID-19 and guidance from SLOCPHD.

- PPE Policy - Temporary recommendation for the use of masks/face coverings/shields by students/staff/visitors while on District property.
 - Per CDPH guidance:
Current CDPH recommends face coverings (or face shields for very young children) at age 2 or older, so that those who cannot manage masks can nonetheless be protected. CDPH guidance requires all children in 3rd grade or older to wear face coverings.

Students must wear a face covering while on campus except when directed by staff that they may be removed. While in classrooms, students and staff must wear a face covering and provide as much social distancing space as possible. When outside, staff may authorize students to remove face coverings during structured activities and

maintaining a minimum of 6' distance from others. An appropriate time where students may remove face coverings while maintaining a minimum 6' distancing would include meals, snacks and naptime. Teachers may allow students to remove face coverings while participating in Physical Education or seated at tables outdoors while maintaining 6' distancing. In order for staff to provide such authorization, they must provide constant supervision during the activity. Students may only remove face coverings while on site under the direct supervision of staff. During recess, all students are required to wear face coverings unless individual students receive direct permission from staff to temporarily remove them (i.e. – walk on the yard by themselves, walk to the restroom, etc.).

The face covering guidance recognizes that there are some people who cannot wear a face covering for a number of different reasons. People are exempted from the requirement if they are under age 2, have a medical or mental health condition or disability that would make impede them from properly wearing or handling a mask, or when it would inhibit communication with a person who is hearing impaired. Anyone requesting an exemption must provide a doctor's note. Persons exempt from wearing a face covering due to a medical condition should wear a non-restrictive alternative.

If a student refuses, the student must be excluded from on-campus instruction, unless they are exempt, until they are willing to wear a face covering. Students excluded on this basis will be offered an alternative educational opportunity.

- California Department of Public Health definition of “face covering”: A cloth face covering is a material that covers the nose and mouth. It can be secured to the head with ties or straps or simply wrapped around the lower face. It can be made of a variety of materials, such as cotton, silk, or linen. A cloth face covering may be factory-made or sewn by hand, or can be improvised from household items such as scarfs, T-shirts, sweatshirts, or towels.
- Face coverings with an exhalation valve or vent are not acceptable.
- Face shields should wrap around the sides of the wearer's face and extend below the chin with material attached along the

bottom edge, draped onto the wearer. Hooded face shields are another option.

- Face shields may be worn by those with medical reasons exempting them from wearing cloth face covers and by children between two years old and 2nd grade.
- Face shields with drapes or clear masks may be appropriate for people who are deaf or hard of hearing, those who care for or interact with a person who is hearing impaired, for pedagogical or developmental reasons, (i.e. communicating or assisting young children or those with special needs).
- Clear masks should not be used if they cause any breathing difficulties or over heating for the wearer.
- Current Status: Active - CUSD will provide face coverings for those who are in need of them.
- Transportation Policy - Temporary mandate placing restrictions on our transportation program.
 - All students and staff are required to wear a face covering/shield while waiting at school bus stops and while in a school bus or van. Per CDPH guidance: Face coverings are required on buses. The guidance acknowledges that a full 6 feet of physical distancing may not be practicable on buses, therefore face coverings are essential. Physical distancing should be maximized to the extent practicable.
 - Current Status: Active
- Cohort Policy – Site administration will collaborate by grade level span as how to implement cohort restrictions.
 - Current Status: Active
- Group Size Policy - Temporary restrictions on large group gatherings.
 - All large group gatherings will be cancelled unless outdoor social distancing or face covering policies are in place.
 - Current Status: Active
- Facilities Use Policy - Temporary restrictions on facility use.
 - Cancel facilities use by outside entities as appropriate through consultation with the SLOCPHD.
 - Current Status: Active
- Social Distancing Policy - Temporary mandates for social distancing to be implemented on an individual basis and on a group basis as appropriate per California Department of Public Health guidelines.
 - All site principals TK-12 will implement practicable solutions to create and isolate cohort groups.
 - Current Status: Active

- Cleaning Policy - Temporary mandates for cleaning of shared use areas between groups.
 - CUSD Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocol:
https://resources.finalseite.net/images/v1597430685/cambriak12caus/qnhwoxagbnnincdkkrdw/COVID-19Cleaning_DisinfectingProtocol.pdf
 - All shared spaces will be cleaned either by staff or by any departing/entering group when using the space.
 - Current Status: Active
- Access Policy - Place restrictions on volunteer and visitor access to school sites.
 - Allow public/visitor access by appointment only and cancel volunteer access.
 - Current Status: Active
- Athletics Policy – Restrict athletic activities.
 - All athletics programs are suspended in collaboration with the San Luis Obispo Department of Health. As in person services resume, athletic programs will follow our Return to Activities Plan.
 - Current Status: Active – All sports suspended.
- Screening Policies - Mandate either passive or active screening policies as appropriate for students/staff/volunteers upon entry.
 - Per CDPH guidance:
 Recommended daily visual wellness and symptoms checks prior to individuals entering campus. In order to facilitate those checks, the California Office of Emergency Services has distributed multiple no-touch thermometers for each school throughout the state to local county offices of education. These checks can happen in a variety of ways, including: As the individuals enters the building or during morning homeroom. Students can be asked about their symptoms or can complete a short checklist of symptoms and hand it in. Follow-up to those checklists should occur whenever symptoms of COVID-19 are identified. Students will be screened actively at curbside by trained staff which will include touchless thermometer temperature check and CDC questionnaire when participating in Learning Pods. Passive screening protocols will be utilized when in-person instruction resumes.
 - Current Status: Active
- Teacher and Staff Safety – As deemed appropriate by the superintendent, certificated and classified staff may submit a Rationale to Work Remotely form. This puts in place a process which authorizes those who are in positions that allow for remote work to carry out their duties from home.

- Flu Vaccination – The District has partnered with the Health Department to provide free flu vaccine clinic and has publicized the event.
- COVID-19 surveillance testing – Per CDPH recommendations, all staff that work with Learning Pods will be tested every two months. Twenty five percent of that staff every two weeks. When in-person instruction resumes, all school personnel will participate in this testing program. Point of contact for the District COVID-19 information is the Superintendent’s executive assistant, the point of contact for COVID-19 information for each school site is the site principal.
- Distance Learning Policies – Distance Learning to be implemented per Board directives. The District will follow CDPH guidelines and close a class/learning pod for 14 days if a COVID positive case is identified within that class/pod. The District will close a school if 5% of the students/staff test positive at that site and the District will close if 25% of the students/staff test positive. All closures will be in collaboration with SLOCPHD.
 - Current Status: Active
- COVID-19 Notifications – All notifications to parents regarding COVID-19 will be done through Parent Square. All notifications to staff will be through District email. Parents and Staff will be notified within 24hrs regarding any COVID-19 positive results. Individual names will not be released unless required to complete contact tracing and noticing of potential exposure in compliance with FERPA and privacy requirements.
 - Current Status: Active

Health Plan

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat

- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

When to Seek Emergency Medical Attention - Look for **emergency warning signs*** for COVID-19. If someone is showing any of these signs, **seek emergency medical care immediately:**

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

Call 911 or call ahead to your local emergency facility: Notify the operator that you are seeking care for someone who has or may have COVID-19.

Management of COVID-19 Symptomatic Students/Staff:

1. When a student/staff member presents symptoms consistent with COVID-19, they will be monitored remotely in a negative airflow isolation room. Isolation room must be sanitized between uses.
2. Parents will be notified to pick up their student and testing will be recommended through their health care provider.
3. While the negative airflow isolation room is occupied with symptomatic staff/students, all personnel entering the room will be required to use PPE.
4. School nurses and other healthcare providers should use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when caring for sick people. See: What Healthcare Personnel Should Know About Caring for Patients with Confirmed or Possible COVID-19 Infection.

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjX7rHpzozpAhWVvJ4KHc9SBzAQFjAAegQIBBAB&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fsymptoms-testing%2Fsymptoms.html>

[9-ncov%2Fhcp%2Fcaring-for-patients-H.pdf&usg=AOvVaw29sugMLnuK9wKQ3_wgViV6](#)

5. Sick students/staff should be encouraged to get tested for COVID 19:
 - Sick students/staff who test negative for COVID 19 AND there is a low degree of suspicion for COVID 19 may return to school once they are feeling better and afebrile (fever free) x 24 hours.
 - Sick students/staff who test positive for COVID 19, sick students /staff who do not get tested for COVID 19, and sick students/staff who test negative but there is a high degree of suspicion for COVID 19 should not return to school until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, AND student has been afebrile for 72 hours without fever-reducing medications AND symptoms improved.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-hospitalized-patients.html>

Management of Non-COVID-19 Symptomatic Students/Staff who need medical attention:

Students will be seen in the Health/Nurses office. This area is for well students with health care needs that cannot be addressed in the classroom (e.g. diabetic and other noncontagious health care needs).