



**PALO ALTO**  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

WHAT TO EXPECT AS YOU RETURN TO SCHOOL



## WE'RE BACK!

Palo Alto Unified will offer *full day in-person instruction* to all students, **5 days a week**, on all campuses. More detailed information about what a school will look like will be shared by your school principal.

### ELEMENTARY

- Live and in-person PE, Music, Library, and Art Instruction
- Emphasis on reading and improved phonics instruction for grades TK-3
- In-person school assemblies
- After school programs on campus
- PACCC and Right at School daycare providers available

### SECONDARY

- Middle school and High school students will be on campus 5 days a week for a full schedule of in-person instruction
- Students will move from one classroom to another to see all of their teachers
- Athletics, clubs, and other extracurricular activities will be in person!
- In-person school sponsored events for students will be allowed

## A DAY ON CAMPUS

### RECESS

- Students have access to the playground equipment and may play sports during recess following the latest health guidelines.

### LUNCH

- Lunch is free for every student. Students will be able to eat meals with their friends following the latest health and safety guidelines.

### AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- Elementary (vendor-based) after school classes will be available for enrollment.

### ATHLETICS

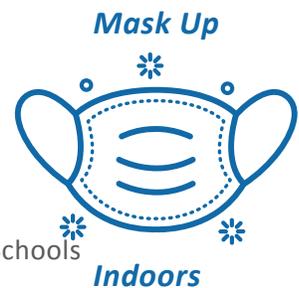
- Athletics are expected to return to a regular sports schedule. Safety requirements communicated by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) related to school-based athletics will be followed.



## COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

Palo Alto Unified is committed to maintaining the highest standards of safety for public schools as directed by the **Department of Public Health**.

- Daily health screeners are no longer required.
- Safety Protocols are in place.
- Face masks are required indoors for all students, staff, and visitors while on campus. Schools will have masks available for students who arrive without a mask.
- Physical distancing will be based on the latest CDPH requirements. Currently, physical distancing is not required.
- Ventilation systems have been optimized for indoor spaces, including upgrading to MERV-13 filters district wide. Portable HEPA filters have been deployed to every classroom. Rooms without mechanical ventilation have been outfitted with large mechanical HEPA filters.
- Hygiene: proper hand hygiene is encouraged and hand washing stations remain on sites that previously had them.
- COVID-19 testing will be available.
- All students 12 and older are eligible for vaccination. Families interested in vaccinating their students will find them in many locations, including most pharmacies.



## BACK TO SCHOOL CHECKLIST

*You can make sure everyone is prepared and ready for the start of school by following the recommendations below*

- Check the [PAUSD website](#) for the latest information.
- Make sure your student has a clean face mask to bring to campus every day. Masks are required indoors at all times by all students and staff.
- Enroll in and update your contact information in Infinite Campus.
- Practice new routines for returning to school, such as getting up and getting dressed on time, eating at regular times, and getting a good night's sleep.



## VIRTUAL INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAM

*An online program available for families with medical or other concerns. Students will receive daily live online instruction for part of the day and complete independent work when not learning directly with a teacher. This program will be an independent study program run through Stride Learning. Students will not be learning from teachers at their current school.*

Families can choose for their children to participate in the VISP by registering in the parent portal or by visiting the PAUSD website and filling out the [Independent Study application](#)



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