



Victor Valley Union High School District

2020-2021 School Opening & Safety Plan

(Rev 8/10/2021)
Victor Valley UHSD

COVID-19 Safety Plan (CSP)
(Rev 8/10/2021)

This document is subject to change in accordance with state guidelines.

VICTOR VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 2020-2021

School year 2021-2022 will open on August 9, 2021, with traditional regular day bell schedule.

ONLINE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

Current CDPH guidelines require local school districts to establish protocols for educating students who choose to not return to in-person instruction or refuse to follow the face-covering mandate. Based on that CDPH mandate, students who defy the face-covering mandate must be excluded from campus and provided an alternative education option which does not include a normal daily in-person school schedule. At VVUHSD, we offer Goodwill Independent Studies Program and the Victor Valley Virtual Academy as our alternative educational programs. In these two alternative settings, face coverings will be required for any indoor in-person interaction that is included as part of their unique programs. If you are interested in learning more about these programs, visit our website www.vvuhsd.org or contact Principal Kevan Loyd at (760) 955-3440.

WHAT FAMILIES CAN EXPECT AS SCHOOLS REOPEN

Victor Valley Union High School District continues its commitment to providing every student a high-quality education in a safe and supportive environment, with access to resources and support. The district will be closely monitoring the County of San Bernardino Public Health data and working in accordance with State Guidelines to evaluate the school closure guidelines. The District will follow the COVID-19 guidelines and orders issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), California Department of Public Health (“CDPH”), California Department of Education (“CDE”), and California Department of Industrial Relations Division of Occupational Safety and Health (“Cal-OSHA”), and keep families and staff updated.

The health and safety of the VVUHSD is of the utmost importance. When the 2020-2021 school year begins, on-campus school will look much different than previous years due to new health and safety measures. This plan to reopen schools is passed on current guidance from public health officials and state agencies that will likely be updated as the situation evolves.

It is important to note District plans must focus sharply on academic instruction to enhance student performance and address learning loss. At the same time, VVUHSD is committed to maintaining the extracurricular programs, clubs, and athletics which are paramount to the physical, mental, and social well-being of VVUHSD students.

As students return, it will look different;

Screening at Home: Families are recommended to take temperatures daily before going to school. Anyone with a fever of 100.4 F or higher should not go to a school site. Personal illness, quarantine, and COVID-19 illness or symptom-related absence will be excused.

Students and adults are recommended to self-screen for respiratory symptoms such as cough and shortness of breath prior to coming to school each day. Students and adults experiencing those symptoms should not attend school.

~~Staff members are required to self-screen and complete a daily temperature check prior to coming to work. If staff members are experiencing symptoms, they should stay home and contact Ramiro Rubalcaba, Asst. Supt., Human Resources for Certificated and management and DeShawn Dickinson, Director, Classified~~

~~Personnel for Classified staff.~~

Symptom Screening:

- Symptom screening will no longer be conducted as students, staff, and visitors enter our District facilities. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and The
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH) guidance no longer requires school districts to symptom-screen students, visitors or staff when entering District facilities. [CDC Guidance](#) [CDPH Guidance](#). However, we do expect all students, visitors, and staff to monitor for symptoms on a daily basis and to be responsible by staying home if ill.

VVUHSD Self-Screening Protocols

The district requires all staff and students to be vigilant in daily self-assessing for possible symptoms of illness. If you are experiencing one or more of the following symptoms, please stay home from work/school until symptom free, without medication, for 24 hours and at least 10 days after symptoms first appeared. Staff/students must notify their school/employer of their absence due to illness.

- **Persistent dry cough**
- **Persistent shortness of breath**
- **Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher (flushed, red cheeks, lethargic)**
- **Overall body aches**
- **Persistent red eyes (not from allergies or environment)**
- **Any other significant cold-like/flu-like symptoms**

VVUHSD Visual Screening Protocols

The district requires that all staff be vigilant in observing possible symptoms of illness. If you see one or more of the following symptoms, send the individual (adult or child) to the health office for secondary screening.

- **Persistent dry cough**
- **Persistent shortness of breath**
- **Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher (flushed, red cheeks, lethargic)**
- **Overall body aches**
- **Persistent red eyes (not from allergies or environment)**
- **Any other significant cold-like/flu-like symptoms**

VVUHSD Secondary Screening Protocols

If an individual is referred to secondary screening, trained staff should take the following steps to determine the proper course of action:

1. Temperature check
2. Reassess symptoms
3. Review underlying health conditions and personal history
 - a. Ask about the duration of the symptoms

- b. Ask if anyone else in the household is showing symptoms, positive, or exposed
4. Determine plan of action based on screening

Arriving at School: Students and staff members will be required to wear masks/shields.

Parents and visitors will have limited access to the school campus.

School sites will designate routes for entry and exit in order to limit direct contact with others.

School sites will have signage throughout campus to remind students and staff about social distancing, hand washing, and spreading germs.

The District is committed to securing additional safety equipment including but not limited to: staff and student desk shields, touch-free thermometers, hands free hand sanitizer stands, and more.

Face Covering and Social Distancing:

- The CDPH recently released guidance for all K-12 schools ([CDPH Guidance](#)) in order to return to in-person instruction in a safe manner. **Under the legal authority of CDPH, this guidance mandates that all staff and all students wear face coverings in indoor settings when students are present and on school buses, regardless of vaccination status** (unless an individual meets the exemption criteria also outlined by CDPH in the guidance). If an individual has a documented exemption, they must submit documentation to the school or district Risk Management Office where they will be issued a non-restrictive alternative. Students may remove their mask when eating indoors in cafeterias or other settings. The use of face coverings is optional in outdoor settings for students and staff members regardless of vaccination status. As per CDPH Guidance on Face Coverings, “persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a mask” as well as “persons who are hearing impaired” are exempt from mask requirements. Assessing for exemption due to a medical condition, mental health condition, disability that prevents wearing a mask, or hearing impairment is a medical determination and therefore must be made by a physician, nurse practitioner, or other licensed medical professional practicing under the license of a physician. Self-attestation and parental attestation for mask exemptions due to the aforementioned conditions do not constitute medical determinations.

An employee may continue to wear a face covering at their worksite for any reason. Retaliation against or discourteous treatment towards employees based on face coverings or vaccination status is prohibited and should be reported immediately to the site/department administration or the Human Resources Department.

Pursuant to Cal-Osha Guidelines, employees and members of the public who have been fully vaccinated are no longer required to wear face coverings indoors or practice social distancing when students are not present. Signs regarding Visitor Self-Attestation of vaccination status will be placed in all District Offices.

VVUHSD will be required to provide, upon request, by any employee, an approved *respirator* (such as

an N95 mask), if the employee is working indoors or in a vehicle with others. The employee will be provided appropriate training and education.

Schools should develop protocols to provide a face covering to students who inadvertently fail to bring a face covering to school to prevent unnecessary exclusions. The California Office of Emergency Services has distributed appropriate face coverings for each school throughout the state to local county offices of education.

Current CDPH guidelines require local school districts to establish protocols for educating students who choose to not return to in-person instruction or refuse to follow the face-covering mandate. Based on that CDPH mandate, students who defy the face-covering mandate must be excluded from campus and provided an alternative education option which does not include a normal daily in-person school schedule. At VVUHSD, we offer Goodwill Independent Studies Program and the Victor Valley Virtual Academy as our alternative educational programs. In these two alternative settings, face coverings will be required for any indoor in-person interaction that is included as part of their unique programs. If you are interested in learning more about these programs, visit our website www.vvuhsd.org or contact Principal Kevan Loyd at (760) 955-3440.

Also, please be advised that students are not required to have the COVID-19 vaccination in order to attend school. There is no process in place to require students to reveal if they have been vaccinated or not. The decision for a student to receive the vaccine is solely a parental decision.

Testing will continue to be offered at no cost to students and staff who would like to be tested at each school site, transportation, and the district office. The process has shifted from a self-administered oral swab to a self-administered non-invasive nasal-swab.

What if a student arrives at school without a face covering, and refuses to wear one provided by the LEA?

Disposable paper masks are thinner and may be less effective, but may still be used as a face covering to meet the requirement.

FACE COVERINGS & PPE

In accordance with the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) Guidance for Face Coverings

updated on July 17, 2020

- CDPH guidance requires all children in 3rd grade or later to wear masks.
- ~~While in the classroom~~
- ~~While waiting to enter campus~~
- ~~While waiting on school grounds (Except with eating or drinking)~~
- ~~While leaving school~~
- ~~While on the bus~~

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 should be offered other educational opportunities through distance learning.

*Staff shall determine when face coverings can be removed.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be provided to staff and students. Students and staff will be provided with reusable cloth face masks. Teachers and identified staff members each will receive a reusable face shield. Workers or other persons handling or serving food must use gloves in addition to face coverings.

Gloves are not recommended for use by students or staff, with the exception of those conducting cleaning, first aid, or food service.

OTHER SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

- Staff members will complete mandated COVID-19 online training, Coronavirus 101-What You Need to Know via Target Solutions online portal.
- Campuses will follow guidelines developed by CDPH for cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation of school campuses.
- Common touch surfaces will be cleaned regularly (counter tops, door handles, restrooms, student desks, student chairs, etc.)
- Physical barriers will be installed in front office areas where face-to-face interaction with the public occurs. Acrylic and glass shields are in installed in common areas.

- Staff and students will be expected to wash/sanitize their hands regularly.
- Every classroom and employee work area will be provided hand sanitizer to use. Hand sanitizer stands are placed around the campus as well as in every teacher classroom.
- Schools will limit sharing of supplies between students to the extent possible and encourage students to take home personal items for cleaning daily.
- Signage will promote healthy hygiene practices and reminders to stay home when ill.
- Students will be encouraged to bring refillable water bottles to the water filling stations.
 - Workplace safety and health regulations in California require employers to take steps to protect workers exposed to infectious diseases like COVID-19. [Cal-Osha Guidelines](#) require school districts to document information related to employee vaccination status. The district will take the necessary measures required by law to safeguard employee personal information.
 - All VVUHSD employees received an email to complete the VVUHSD self-attestation form regarding vaccination status no later than Monday, August 09, 2021 by 4:30 p.m. Any employee that does not complete the VVUHSD self-attestation form will be treated as an unvaccinated person and required to wear a face covering indoors.
 - The district has partnered with the San Bernardino Department of Public Health (SBDPH) to offer the Covid-19 vaccination for those who are eligible and choose to be vaccinated at Adelanto High School, Lakeview Leadership Academy and Victor Valley High School. The district will continue to work with SBDPH to offer the Covid-9 vaccination and other services to the community.
 - Also, please be advised that students are not required to have the COVID-19 vaccination in order to attend school. There is no process in place to require students to reveal if they have been vaccinated or not. The decision for a student to receive the vaccine is solely a parental decision.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The safety of employees and students is VVUHSD's first priority. Upon reopening, schools have been completely cleaned and disinfected, and VVUHSD will continue to adhere to all necessary safety precautions. In addition to the deep clean of the office and school before employees and students return, the cleaning steps outlined below will be implemented on a routine basis to disinfect:

- High traffic areas on all campuses will be thoroughly cleaned regularly.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces on campuses such as doorknobs throughout the school and workday.

- Playground equipment and shared objects will be limited.
- Shared equipment transferred between students and/or staff will be regularly cleaned and sanitized.
- Schools will post signs in workplaces and common areas emphasizing basic infection-prevention measures including hand-washing signs in restrooms.
- Schools and workplaces will maintain adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors.
- Cleaning and disinfectant products align with the Environmental Protection Agency-approved list. Custodians will follow product instructions and Cal/OSHA requirements including proper ventilation during cleaning and disinfecting.

OUTBREAKS

A COVID-19 outbreak is determined by three or more confirmed positive cases at the same facility. School districts are encouraged to designate a COVID-19 Response Coordinator for the district. The Response Coordinators for VVUHSD are, Ramiro Rubalcaba and DeShawn Dickinson. Both Coordinators are located in Personnel. These individuals should have decision-making authority to implement actions quickly (e.g. closing a classroom or parts of a school campus, isolating individuals, communicating with appropriate school officials and parents). Response Coordinators will work in concert with district Executive Cabinet regarding school site directives.

If an outbreak is suspected or confirmed, contact the Public Health School Liaison at (909) 387-4578. A Public Health School Response Team will be assigned to the site that consists of:

- Communicable Disease Investigator • Health Educator • Medical Emergency Planner • Environmental Health Specialist • Program Coordinator for oversight

The response team will work with the COVID-19 Response Coordinator to support the site's outbreak response, including: providing guidance on identifying potential exposures and notifying those who may have been exposed; educating on prevention, transmission and disinfection; assisting with outbreak mitigation strategies; and assist with coordinating COVID-19 testing, if appropriate. The team can also facilitate additional contact tracing and provide guidance on next steps.

The primary contact at SBCDPH for assistance and to answer questions related to the Reopening of Schools is Heather Cockerill, Public Health Liaison at (909) 387-4578, hcockerill@dph.sbcounty.gov. If the Liaison is unavailable and urgent assistance is needed, contact (800) 722-4794 or (909) 6777168 after hours. These numbers do not provide medical advice or assistance. Call 911 for emergency medical services.

FOOD DELIVERY

Bringing or sharing refreshments during meetings is prohibited in order to limit the risk of contamination.

We ask that there be no food delivered and that food be kept at assigned spaces or work locations.

Personal deliveries such as packages should not be delivered to VVUHSD.

STUDENT ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

Each school will establish student arrival and dismissal protocols to minimize contact between students, staff, families, and the community as much as practical.

Signage will clearly designate entrances and separate exits, if possible.

SCHOOL FACILITIES

Social distancing will limit the spread of the virus. Schools will adhere to the following strategies to maintain social distancing as much as possible:



- During regular school hours, school sites will restrict non-essential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving other groups.
- Limit group activities wherever practicable (i.e., assemblies, award ceremonies, athletic competitions).
- Classroom space will be arranged to remove non-essential furniture, allowing maximum space for students and staff.
- Student desks at the secondary level will be arranged to face the same direction (rather than facing each other) and spaced six feet from one another and teachers to the greatest extent possible. Student desks will have a free-standing desk shield.
- Routes will be designated for entry and exit to lunch, recess, and other transition times, as feasible.
- Staff will be asked to practice social distancing, including but not limited to, the following:
 - When working indoors or in outdoor areas

- Before and after the work shift
- Coming and going from vehicles
- Entering, working, and exiting physical buildings or other structures
- During breaks and lunch periods.

FOOD SERVICES

Nutrition Services will continue to provide meals for students during the distance learning and hybrid learning schedules. While students are on the distance learning schedule, grab-and-go meals will be available for pick-up at several VVUHSD campuses and will consist of pre-packed meals provided to students to take home. Parents/guardians will be provided with a schedule and list school sites serving meals.

Once student's transition into the hybrid learning schedule, in-person meal service will comprise of individually wrapped food items chosen by the students during scheduled lunch breaks. Students will be instructed to maintain social distancing while eating lunch in designated areas. In addition, students will have the option of taking home grab-and-go meals after school to accommodate meals during scheduled distance learning days.

EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

Quality instruction and a commitment to equity for all students continues to be a focus for the VVUHSD educational programs. Knowing the needs of students and families vary, the District has provided several instructional options for the 2020-21 school year. VVUHSD hopes the following information will help parents make the best choice for their children.

2020-21 INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

~~For the start of school on August 3, 2020, all schools will open in Distance Learning (Phase 1), which means that students will participate in online learning programs. Students and teachers will interact in a LIVE setting daily.~~

~~Hybrid Model – blend of in-person and remote learning. Students will have the option of receiving daily instruction via livestream from their classroom teacher.~~

~~In-person instruction Model- Student, teachers and support staff will return to school site and received daily instruction in the classroom.~~

VVUHSD schools will work with students and families to ensure equity and access to quality instruction. Accommodations for students with disabilities, students with diverse learning needs, students who are medically vulnerable, and English Learners will be made as needed.

TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION

1:1 Learning Devices Available For All Students in VVUHSD

If a student needs a device, they will contact your site Principal and check the distribution dates posted on the school website. If the student missed the dates or have another question, email the helpdesk at, helpdesk@vvuhsd.org.

~~Each student is required to have a device so that they can engage actively during the class time.~~

All students will be expected to bring their device fully charged to and from school each day. This will allow for greater continuity between in-school and distance learning experiences.

AT-HOME INTERNET???????

~~At home internet will be needed for all students to utilize the online platform and curriculum.~~

~~In the event a family is unable to secure at home internet through a local Telecom and/or does not qualify for discounted internet, IT and your school Library Media Technician will assist families in securing a Wi-Fi hot spot for instructional use only.~~

Families needing assistance in securing at-home internet are encouraged to call the IT Help Desk.

ATTENDING TO THE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL WELLBEING OF OUR STUDENTS WILL BE TOP PRIORITY AS THEY RETURN TO SCHOOL.

District and school staff are committed to supporting students' social emotional wellness and offering resources to ensure students transition back to school smoothly. Support may include social-emotional learning, building relationships, virtual community-building activities, and increased access to mental health/wellness services. Families and schools will need to work together to evaluate how students are feeling and assess their individual needs to provide the support students need during these challenging times.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

- IEP teams will consider safety requirements for students with disabilities on an individual basis.
- The District will accommodate students with hearing impairments through an IEP or 504 Plan meeting to address the impact of student and/or teacher(s) masks.
- IEP or 504 Plan teams will address individual challenges related to compliance with face coverings for students with disabilities.

- IEP or 504 Plan teams will address the individual needs of students who have intensive medical needs or are part of a high-risk group.
- Teams will determine the appropriate alternative instructional program which may include virtual learning.
- See Appendix for more information.

TRANSPORTATION

- Face masks/PPE will be worn by all drivers and District employees.
- All buses will be disinfected after each route.
- Unless a student has an IEP or health plan directing otherwise, students will be required to use their face shield or mask while traveling on the bus.
- Bus routes will allow for social distancing on the bus.
- Seating configurations on the bus will be staggered.
- Parents should take temperatures prior to student entering the buses.

TRANSPORTATION

The California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Sports Medicine Advisory Committee has developed a comprehensive document to help school districts prepare for their student athletes to return to athletic activities. VVUHSD will resume athletics adhering to the CIF guidelines. With guidance from the California Department of Health (CDHP), California Department of Education (CDE), and CIF, VVUHSD determines the level and duration of each phase for a gradual full physical return to athletics.

LOW-RISK ACTIVITIES	MODERATE-RISK ACTIVITIES	HIGH-RISK ACTIVITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Country • Golf • Color Guard • Swimming & Diving • Sideline Cheer/Dance • Tennis • Track-Specific Events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseball • Basketball • Lacrosse (girls) • Soccer • Softball • Track - Specific Events • Volleyball • Water Polo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choir • Competitive Cheer/Dance • Football • Marching Band • Wrestling • Lacrosse (boys)

Field trips are not currently recommended. Consider virtual field trips when possible. Assemblies, dances, athletic competitions, and rallies are not recommended at this time.

APPENDIX

Center for Disease Control (CDC) COVID-19 Prevention

EVERYONE SHOULD;

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you've been in a public space, after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

- If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay at least six feet from other people. Keeping distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face mask.

FACE COVERINGS;

Staff members are required to wear face coverings including:

- Interacting in person with any member of the public.
- Working in any space visited by members of the public, regardless of whether anyone from the public is present at the time.
- Working in any space where food is prepared or packaged for sale or distribution to others.
- Working in or walking through common areas, such as hallways, courtyards, and stairways.

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS ARE EXEMPT FROM WEARING A FACE COVERING;

- Babies or toddlers under 2 years old.
- Persons with a verified medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering.
- Persons who are hearing impaired or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
- In limited situations where face coverings cannot be used for pedagogical or developmental reasons, such as communicating or assisting young children or those with special needs, a face shield can be used instead of a cloth face covering while in the classroom as long as the wearer maintains physical distance from others, to the extent practicable. Staff must return to wearing a face covering outside of the classroom.

It is important to maintain privacy and prevent discrimination for those who may have COVID-19, while ensuring wellness for other students and staff.

STUDENTS WHO PRESENT SYMPTOMS WHILE AT SCHOOL

- Students will go to a designated isolation area until they can be picked up by a parent or guardian.
- The District Ramiro Rubalcaba or his designee, will coordinate with the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health (SBCDPH) regarding suspected and confirmed cases.
- SBCDPH will be responsible for working directly with the individual and families for notification and contact tracing. SBCDPH will assist the District to determine a course of action should a student or staff member test positive for COVID-19 on a case-by-case basis.
- This may include dismissal of students and staff for a short period of one to three days. **Note: Parents should be prepared to pick up their student(s) immediately in the instance they develop COVID-19 symptoms while at school. Please be sure to have updated emergency contact information in Aeries.**

COVID-19 PROTOCOL & NOTIFICATION

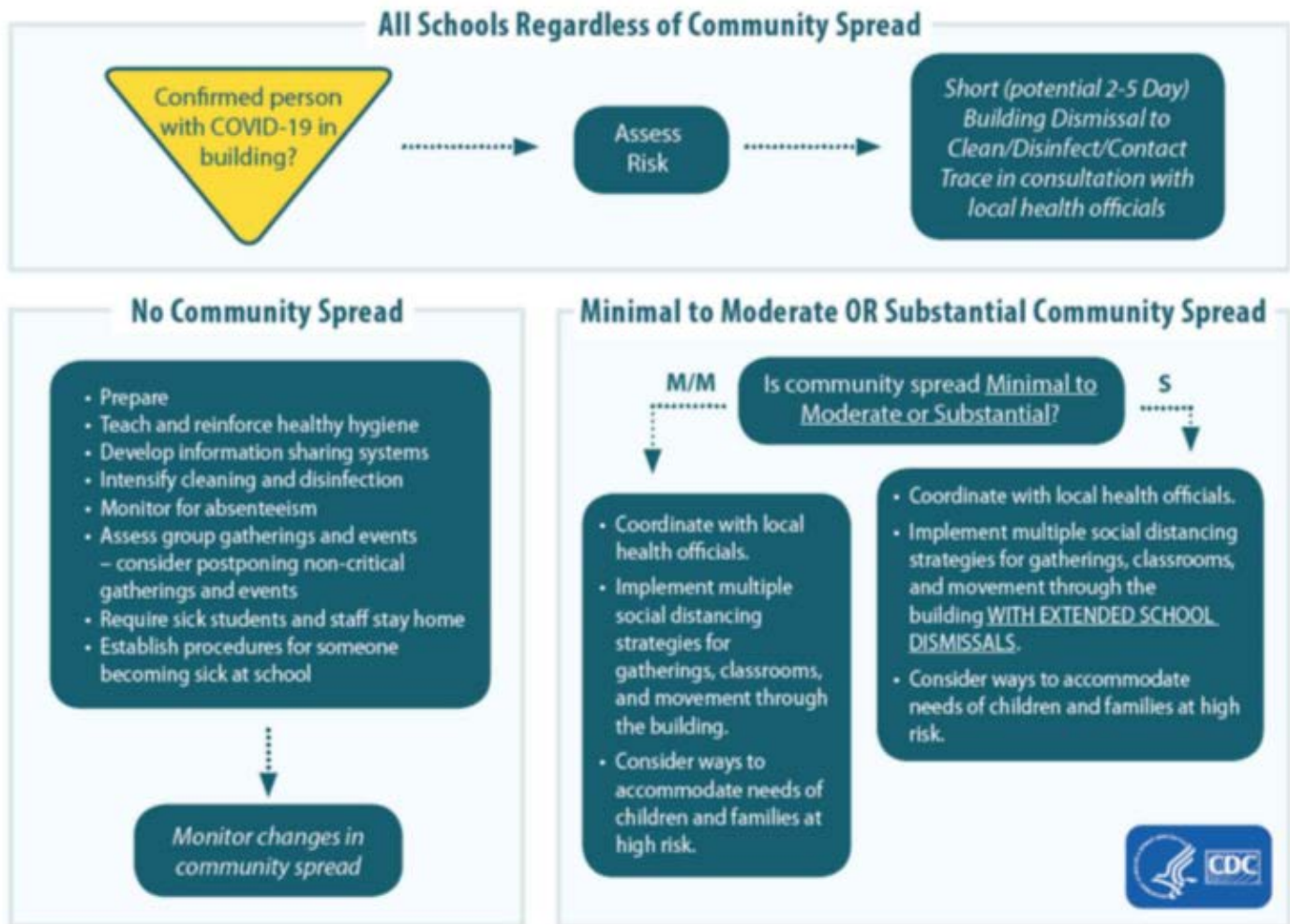
Should a positive COVID-19 case occur at a school site, the following protocols will be followed:

- In accordance with state and local laws and regulations, school administrators will send reporting employee directly to notify District Office designees, Ramiro Rubalcaba, Asst. Supt. Human Resources for Certificated and Management and DeShawn Dickinson, Director, Classified Personnel for Classified Staff.
- Personnel will contact each positive COVID-19 case employee directly and given appropriate instructions, supported leave options in effect, i.e. Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act, available employee leaves and balances, etc.
- Contact tracing will begin.
- Potentially exposed employees will be contacted directly and given appropriate instructions.
- AB685 Notification of Possible Exposure is sent out to staff potentially exposed by staff member within 14 days.
- Confidential record keeping is entered, including name of employee, site, date of test, results of test, date beginning leave, date expected to return.
- Workers compensation is noticed of positive case, date district was notified, date of test, potential number of staff on site, etc.
-

The District designee will contact SBCDPH for guidance. Per the direction of SBCDPH, the District designee will only notify students, staff, and families who have been potentially exposed to COVID-19 to self-monitor for symptoms, and follow state and local guidance if symptoms develop.

In addition, positive COVID-19 cases may lead to the temporary closure of a classroom, multiple classrooms, or even a school. This will be determined by District administration with direction from SBCDPH.

School Decision Tree



San Bernardino County Department of Public Health (SBCDPH) is responsible for clearance of individuals infected with COVID-19, including students. After a positive diagnosis is made, students are expected to be in isolation for at least 14 days after the test, and potentially longer if they continue to remain symptomatic. If students/staff test negative, they may return three days after symptoms have resolved. Students may not return to school until they have been cleared by SBCDPH; school health clerks will work directly with families when they are cleared by SBCDPH and ready to return to school

EMPLOYEE SCREENING

Employees must complete a health screening and be symptom-free prior to work. Employees who are symptomatic for COVID-19 must stay at home and contact Personnel Services. Symptoms include:

- 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

EMPLOYEE EXPOSURE AND/OR CONFIRMED CASE SCENARIOS

Since the Governor's Order to close schools began in March, the District has taken measures to ensure the safety of staff working on-site and has monitored possible exposures and positive cases of COVID-19 among employees.

Close contact was recently amended per CDC guidelines effective October 2021 as, someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period* starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.

** Individual exposures added together over a 24-hour period (e.g., three 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes). Data are limited, making it difficult to precisely define "close contact;" however, 15 cumulative minutes of exposure at a distance of 6 feet or less can be used as an operational definition for contact investigation.*

For staff who have a confirmed case or believe they have been exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19, notify the following staff members in Human Resources as follows:

- Ramiro Rubalcaba, Asst. Supt. Human Resources at 760-246-955-3201 ext. 10239 or rrubalcaba@vvhhsd.org for Certificated and Management staff.
- DeShawn Dickinson, Director, Classified Personnel in Human Resources at 760-955-3201 ext. 10208 or ddickinson@vvhhsd.org for Classified staff.

POSITIVE TESTS:

When a student or a staff member tests positive, Human Resources will work to contact employees associated with specific locations and persons in the District who may have had an exposure (Student Services will contact families of students who may have been exposed).

NOTIFICATIONS

- Employees who may have had exposure (closer than six feet for 15 minutes or longer) are contacted and given guidance on current recommendations for quarantine and options for testing/leaves.
- AB685 Notification of Possible Exposure is sent out to potential exposed employees.
- Hazelrigg Claims Management Third-Party Administrator is notified of positive test results.
- District sites that are determined to be a risk for contact exposure will receive an extensive cleaning in coordination with the M&O Department.
- Depending on the location and exposure circumstances, and with guidance from the SBCDPH, there may be general notifications provided to the impacted departments or school sites. In all notifications, guidelines for privacy of staff under HIPAA will be followed.

It is imperative that we take all expected precautions—wearing face coverings, frequent hand hygiene, self-isolation away from others if you are experiencing symptoms, using the utmost care when encountering other people—especially in high risk respiratory activities such as eating and talking.

SCHOOL CLOSURES

The District Superintendent and school administration will follow CDPH guidance and work with SBCDPH when determining if and when a partial or full school closure may be necessary. Recommendations for the scope (e.g., a classroom or building, a single school, multiple schools, full district) and duration of closures will be made on a case-by-case basis using the most up-to-date information about COVID-19, any relevant state or local health officer orders, and the specific cases in the community.

Individual school closure may be appropriate when there are multiple cases in multiple cohorts at a school or when at least 5% of the total number of teachers/student/staff are cases within a 14-day period, depending on the size and physical layout of the school. A superintendent should close a school district if 25% or more of schools in a district have closed due to COVID-19 within 14 days, and in consultation with the local public health department

What measures should be taken when a student, teacher or staff member has symptoms, is a contact of someone infected, or is diagnosed with COVID-19?

	Student or Staff with:	Action	Communication
1	<p>COVID-19 Symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing)</p> <p>Symptom Screening: Per CA School Sector Specific Guidelines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send home • Recommend testing (If positive, see #3, if negative, see #4) • School/classroom remain open 	No action needed
2	Close contact (†) with a confirmed COVID-19 case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send home • Quarantine for 14 days from last exposure • Recommend testing (but will not shorten 14-day quarantine) • School/classroom remain open 	Consider school community notification of a known contact
3	Confirmed COVID-19 case infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify the local public health department • Isolate case and exclude from school for 10 days from symptom onset or test date • Identify contacts (†), quarantine & exclude exposed contacts (likely entire cohort (††)) for 14 days after the last date the case was present at school while infectious • Recommend testing of contacts, prioritize symptomatic contacts (but will not shorten 14-day quarantine) • Disinfection and cleaning of classroom and primary spaces where case spent significant time • School remains open 	School community notification of a known case
4	Tests negative after symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May return to school 3 days after symptoms resolve • School/classroom remain open 	Consider school community notification if prior awareness of testing

