

As SUSD prepares to open schools for in-person learning, this plan documents the many ways in which we have prepared to open schools in a safe manner for all. The Governor's Safe Schools for All plan, the Blueprint for a Safer Economy, and the California Department of Public Health's newest guidance (issued January 14, 2021) will govern the details of re-opening. After a year of mostly distance learning due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, we're pleased to announce that the Stockton Unified School District plans to begin a phased return of students to classrooms on **April 29**. The SUSD Return to School plan is designed to provide information and assistance to staff, students, and families as we navigate the next phase of learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. SUSD's return to school plan has been developed with careful consideration of the guidance received and regularly updated by the San Joaquin County Public Health Services, the San Joaquin County Office of Education, the California Department of Public Health and Cal/OSHA.

HYBRID MODEL: SUSD schools will implement a hybrid model where students attend in groups approximately half the size of their regular class. This model allows SUSD to maintain smaller class sizes to maximize physical distance and to minimize risk. While students will continue to receive a full week of instruction, they may now receive some of their instruction while being in-person with their classroom teacher at school, in addition to the distance learning they have experienced since school began this year. SUSD is implementing specific rules and criteria to minimize risk and maximize support for individual learning needs.

- Students will remain in their groupings as much as possible
- Students who share instructional spaces are encouraged to clean the used space after use
- Students will have a designated workspace in their classroom solely for their individual use
- Students and staff will not share supplies
- Outdoor spaces will be utilized when possible for instruction and activities

STABLE GROUPINGS: Stable groups provide a key mitigation layer in schools. A stable group is a group with fixed membership that stays together without mixing with

any other groups for any activities. They are sometimes referred to in other ways, such as “pods”. Hybrid scheduling of students reduces the interaction and contact of students and staff. To ensure physical distancing, we will welcome back 25 percent of our school populations back to campus on any given day. Classes will be in stable groups and will not mix together during breaks or between classes. This will not only help to mitigate COVID-19 exposures, but will also help with contact tracing.

Elementary students will be placed in stable class groups that will stay together all day with their core teacher (which may include paraprofessionals and student teachers, etc.). Effort will be made to provide additional services in a virtual manner or pull out when possible. Students will attend in person in a hybrid schedule with one group attending in person on Monday and Tuesday and another group attending in person on Thursday and Friday. When they are not at school in person (Wednesday- All Students in Distance Learning) they will engage in distance learning. Schools where sixth graders change classes during the day may develop a plan for creating stable groupings and/or other means of minimizing mixing across groups before students return to in-person learning. All schools will share their plans with staff and students prior to their return.

Maintaining stable groups in middle and high school is more challenging. A hybrid model will be implemented in these grade levels. Students will follow their current schedule of classes daily and change rooms per period. Seating charts are closely monitored and attendance will facilitate contact tracing should it become necessary. Students in middle and high school will change classes according to their current schedule of classes.

The instructional models to be implemented at the time of our return are described below by grade span.

❖ **TK- K students: May 3rd**

Students will remain together for the duration of the instructional day

❖ **1st-3rd grade students: May 3rd**

Students will remain with currently scheduled teacher for the duration of the instructional day

❖ **4th-6th grade students: April 29th Group A - April 30th Group B**

Students will remain with currently scheduled teacher for the duration of the instructional day

❖ **7th-12th grade students: April 29th Group A - April 30th Group B**

Students will follow their current schedule and travel to each different period throughout the instructional day

DAILY INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE: AB77 minutes:

GRADE	MINIMUM DAY
Pre-K	180 minutes*
TK/Kindergarten	180 minutes*
1st through 3rd grade	230 minutes*
4th through 12th grade	240 minutes*
Opportunity/ Dual enrolled in CCC or CSU	180 minutes

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

- Students remain in the same classes they are currently enrolled in.

DESCRIPTION OF THE HYBRID MODEL: K-12

Group A (A-L) Students attend class in person/concurrent learning two (2) days a week on Monday and Tuesday. Students will be dismissed at lunchtime. Students will receive three (3) days of virtual instruction on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Group B (M-Z) Students attend class in person/concurrent learning two (2) days a week on Thursday and Friday. Students will be dismissed at lunchtime. Students will receive three (3) days of virtual instruction on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Group C (Students who select to stay on full time Distance Learning) Students will attend classes virtually all five (5) days.

**April 29th Group A (grades 4-12)- April 30th Group B (grades 4-12)
Standard A/B Hybrid starting starting May 3rd (grades Pre-K-12th grade)**

Schedule	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A	In Person	In Person	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual
Group B	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	In Person	In Person
Group C Full Time Distance Learning	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual

- Wednesday classroom cleaning day
- Video recording / live streaming (A/B model)

HYBRID MODEL FOR PRESCHOOL:

Group A Students attend class in person/concurrent learning two (2) days a week on Monday and Tuesday. Students will receive one (1) day of virtual instruction on Wednesday and two (2) days of asynchronous activities on Thursday and Friday.

Group B Students attend class in person/concurrent learning two (2) days a week on Thursday and Friday. Students will receive one (1) day of virtual instruction on Wednesday and two (2) days of asynchronous activities on Monday and Tuesday.

Group C Students will attend class virtually for one (1) day on Wednesday and asynchronous activities for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cohort A In Person	Cohort A In Person	Virtual Learning Cohort A, B & C Teachers deliver instructional lessons (Lesson not to exceed 45 minutes)	Cohort B In Person	Cohort B In Person
Cohort B Asynchronous Activities	Cohort B Asynchronous Activities	Classroom Cleaning Day	Cohort A Asynchronous Activities	Cohort A Asynchronous Activities
Cohort C Asynchronous Activities	Cohort C Asynchronous Activities	Cohort C Virtual Learning	Cohort C Asynchronous Activities	Cohort C Asynchronous Activities

Full time distance learning will continue to be available to those students or families who request it, as well as to those students who are vulnerable, medically fragile or at higher risk of contracting COVID-19 or placing others at risk should work with their school site to address their learning needs through ongoing distance learning with their peers.

MEALS: Students will not eat meals at school, but will receive grab and go meals at the end of the day. All meals must be stored in the student's backpack while riding the school bus home. Meals may not be eaten on the school bus. Families will be able to access school meals by picking them up at one of the SUSD meal distribution sites in the same manner as meals have been provided throughout our period of distance learning.

PE: Physical Education should be taught outside whenever possible. Students should be physically distanced. Activities that require exertion should be minimized and always be conducted outside, in a physically distanced manner.

MUSIC: Singing and the playing of band instruments are allowed, provided the required precautions are taken, such as mask wearing where possible and physical distancing to the maximum extent possible. Both are recommended outdoors. General music, without singing or shared equipment, is allowed with all of the general precautions that will be in place for classroom instruction. The same is true for strings and participation in orchestra. We will continue to monitor the guidance related to the teaching of music in SUSD.

ATHLETICS: The guidance for CIF (California Interscholastic Federation) athletics will come both from CIF and also from local and state public health agencies. Students have been authorized to resume practices and competitions. Athletes participating in High Contact sports and competitions that take place indoors are tested for COVID-19 weekly. We will continue to monitor the guidance as it pertains to athletics and provide information as it is available.

COMMUNICATION: SUSD maintains consistent and relevant communication. SUSD provides frequent and transparent, two-way communication. Our communication plan will include:

1. The use of a variety of communication platforms (e.g., email, phone messaging alerts, website posts, social media, printed mailings, etc.)
2. Communication in most frequently used community languages.
3. Use of existing school resources to amplify messaging: school campus signage, marquees, school websites and social media
4. Easily identifiable contact information for follow-up questions or concerns

SUSD outline of reopening measures and adherence to recommended guidance:

A key goal for safe schools is to reduce or eliminate in-school transmission. Each strategy decreases the risk of in-school transmission; but no one layer is 100% effective. It is the combination of layers that are most effective and have been shown to

decrease transmissions. SUSD has committed to going above and beyond state and local health and safety requirements in our plans for reopening.

- ❖ **Wear Your Mask**
- ❖ **Wash Your Hands**
- ❖ **Watch Your Distance**

***SUSD Welcomes Students and Staff
back to a COVID Certified environment.***

SUSD has recently been certified to be ready to reopen all school facilities. The COVID-19 certification process was completed on April 8, 2021 in which a team of industry professionals provided a comprehensive analysis of all SUSD schools and sites. SUSD has been certified to be in compliance with the following conditions recommended to reopen schools to students and staff:

- Passive Screening Plan
- Health Screening Room for Symptomatic Students
- Classrooms with Cleaning Materials Available
- Ready Supply of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)
- Teacher work stations are located six feet from students. Students seated 3ft. from each other.
- Both teachers and students have been provided with desktop plexiglass barriers.
- Mask and Physical Distancing Signage
- Drinking Fountain Not in Use Signage
- Classroom and Restroom Social Distancing
- Soap and Hand Sanitizer Availability

LAYERS OF SAFETY: INFECTION MITIGATION STRATEGIES:

PPE kits in all classrooms, including masks, gloves, and cleaning supplies.

- Face coverings: Face coverings must be used in accordance with [CDPH guidelines](#) unless a person is exempt as explained in the guidelines. Students and staff in all grade levels K-12 are required to wear face coverings at all times, while at school, unless exempted (must provide medical verification for exemption). A face shield may be authorized as an acceptable alternative to the face mask following CDPH guidelines with the cited medical documentation. Face covering policies apply on school buses and any vehicle affiliated with SUSD used to transport students, staff, or teachers to and/or from a school site.
- Physical distancing: CDPH has updated its guidance recommending a minimum of 3 ft. of distance between student chairs; continuing to recommend 6ft. of distance between the teacher and other staff desks. SUSD has added student desk shields and teacher's desk shields along with installation of shields amongst varied personnel.
- Adequate ventilation: SUSD has provided significant updates to the HVAC systems including increasing outside airflow, installing ionizers (air purifiers) and MERV-13 filters.
- Hand hygiene: SUSD is systematically promoting healthy hand hygiene practices including provisions for consistent supplies of soap for sinks and hand sanitizer for those areas absent of sinks. Students will be taught routines and reminded to engage in these behaviors. Staff will be expected to model these behaviors for students as well as implementing them themselves. Additional hand sanitizing stations have been provided and located to minimize congregation of staff or students.
- Cleaning and disinfection: SUSD utilizes a systematic daily cleaning process of all areas of student and staff use (including busses). Restrooms in use are cleaned hourly (documented cleaning logs). Classrooms, furniture, and other hard touch surfaces cleaned daily. Students and staff will have access to safe cleaning spray and paper towels to clean the student space before/after use if so choosing to. Teachers and students are encouraged to do so.

- Surveillance or screening testing: All students and staff must complete the Daily Symptom Check before entering an SUSD site. SUSD promotes daily self screening; checks for signs, symptoms, and exposures. SUSD screens all individuals entering SUSD buildings and sites by completing the Daily Symptom Check through the Qualtrics virtual portal. The Daily Symptom Check can be found at the following survey link at the SUSD website under the COVID-19 icon; <http://www.stocktonusd.net/screening>. This daily survey is a precautionary measure designed to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in SUSD.
- COVID testing: The District shall post on the District webpage a list of available testing sites, including those offered on school site/District locations as available, on a monthly basis. As we prepare for students and staff to resume in-person instruction, our top priority is the health and safety of our school community. Accordingly, SUSD has developed a voluntary COVID-19 testing program. COVID-19 testing kits - approved by the FDA - will play a critical role in helping us expand our safety efforts during the pandemic.
 - Testing: SUSD will provide the tests at no cost to students/staff. Voluntary sample collection only takes a few minutes and is painless. Testing will be available consistently. SUSD will limit the testing if needed depending on availability of test kits, to a level no less than once every 2 weeks.

CLASSROOM AND CAMPUS PROCEDURES:

(Please review the return to school plan for the school your student attends- all SUSD school site plans can be found on the specific school website as well as the following link on the SUSD webpage. <https://www.stocktonusd.net/Page/15554>)

COVID-19 & SYMPTOMS/HEALTH SCREENINGS: Daily self-screening measures will be implemented for all students and staff and for any visitor who must enter an office or work site. All families must self-screen their students daily before allowing them to attend school or ride the bus. Screening protocols are posted in every office. The Daily Symptom Check can be found at the following survey link at the SUSD website under the COVID-19 icon; <http://www.stocktonusd.net/screening>. Anyone who has been

exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days or has COVID-19 symptoms must not go to school or work.

All staff members will regularly conduct visual wellness checks of their students and colleagues in an effort to provide early identification if someone becomes ill while at school or work. SUSD will be actively encouraging staff and students who do not feel well, or do not meet the requirements of the daily symptom checker and self-screener, to stay home. We will also be encouraging those who have had close contact with a person with COVID-19 to stay home, in an effort to minimize the spread of any illness. If a student or staff member has chronic allergic or asthmatic symptoms, then a change in their symptoms from baseline would be considered a positive symptom.

Discrimination against students, families or staff who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are at risk for infection will not be tolerated. Students will not be penalized for missing class related to symptoms, exposure or diagnosis of COVID-19.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE: Drop off and pick up will feel very different for families this year. Parents and guardians will not be allowed to exit their vehicles and come on campus. Staff will be available to receive students. Each site has developed plans to minimize the congregation of large groups of students during arrival and departure. Routes will be designated for entry and exit and efforts will be made to ensure physical distancing to the greatest extent practicable. Students will be taught routines and provided with reminders to support physical distancing as much as possible.

BUS TRANSPORTATION: All students are required to self-screen for symptoms of COVID-19 before coming to the bus stop each day. Busses will be equipped with extra face coverings for use by students who do not arrive at the bus stop with one. Space between students and between students and driver will be maximized to the extent practicable, but at least 3 feet. Windows will be open, weather allowing, and as practicable. Students, and any family members with them, should maintain physical distance from others while waiting for the bus to arrive in the morning, and should not gather upon leaving the bus at the end of the day.

CLASSROOMS: Desks and tables have been strategically arranged. Teacher work stations are located six feet from students. Students seated 3ft. from each other. Both teachers and students have been provided with desktop plexiglass barriers.

DO NOT SHARE ITEMS: In classrooms, the sharing of objects and equipment, such as manipulatives, toys, games and art supplies will be limited to the extent practicable. When use of such items is required, an effort will be made to provide materials to each student. If necessary for more than one student, they will be cleaned and disinfected between uses. Student belongings must be kept separate from others and taken home each day.

WATER: Students will be provided water bottles to bring water from home. There will be a supply for water if students run out. All drinking fountains have been disabled and are not in use.

RECESS: All sites are considering needs to support recess. Recess may not be offered at all sites. If using outdoor playground equipment, children should wash or sanitize their hands before and after using these spaces.

RESTROOMS: maximum capacity has been established for all restrooms. Restrooms may be utilized during the class period with a restroom pass or escort. Restrooms will be closed during passing periods to enforce maximum occupancy limits. Restroom use will be staggered throughout the day.

NON-CLASSROOM SPACES: Campuses are limited to only students, staff and specific service providers. Nonessential visitors, volunteers and outside groups will not be allowed at this time. Parents can make essential appointments with school staff but the majority of interaction will not be in person. School offices will be limited to the number of visitors who can safely maintain physical distance in the space. Plexiglass barriers have been installed in school offices where 6ft. of distance cannot be maintained.

- Hallway use will be minimized and allowed under supervision.
- Signage will support the need for physical distancing and the wearing of face coverings.

- Staff may gather in the staff lounge or break room and must maintain physical distance when in these spaces.
- Libraries will not be open to groups of students. Though all school sites are working to identify creative ways to continue providing library support virtually.
- Campus Security and yard duty supervisors will be equipped with first aid kits, hand sanitizer, face coverings and gloves.
- Markings have been added to the ground to guide students and staff and support distancing and minimizing congregation.

IDENTIFICATION OF COVID-19, GUIDANCE FOR ISOLATION, QUARANTINE AND

CONTACT TRACING: Students and staff who develop one or more COVID-19 symptoms are advised to get tested or consult their physician as soon as possible. Guidance for next steps will be dependent on symptoms, test results, and exposure. Anyone with questions or information related to whether to attend work or school following symptoms, test results or exposure should contact their school site or immediate supervisor for guidance. While many symptoms related to COVID-19 may also be indicative of other less contagious illnesses or conditions, all such symptoms will be treated as COVID related until proven otherwise. School and work sites will carefully monitor illness related to COVID-19 and report any incidences of positivity or exposure to the district office or health services for further guidance. All positive cases will be reported to SJCPHS and entered into the SPOT statewide portal. Contact tracing information will be provided to SJCPHS for follow up. Notification of positive cases will be provided per guidance from SJCPHS, AB 685 and SB 1159.

VACCINES: It is strongly recommended by the California Department of Public Health that all persons eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine do so at the first opportunity. Currently, persons under 16 are not eligible, and vaccine trials for children are still underway. The San Joaquin County Office of Education has completed the process of providing vaccinations for educators and school employees. SUSD provides consistent information regarding vaccine availability and locations.

POSSIBLE CLASSROOM AND SCHOOL CLOSURES: Classrooms may be closed for a period of time due to confirmed exposures of COVID-19. Quarantine regulations will

be enforced in such circumstances. School closure determinations will be made in consultation with the San Joaquin Public Health Services. Closure by the Superintendent is recommended when 25% or more of schools in a district have closed due to COVID-19 and in consultation with the local public health department

Reopening: Public Health and the school will be in communication throughout this process School and school districts can typically reopen after a period of time after

1. Cleaning and disinfection have occurred
2. Public health investigation is complete
3. Local public health is consulted and has no concerns with re-opening

Principals, in consultation with the District, will notify the school community about reopening of schools. As much information as possible will be disclosed to staff and families related to the reasons for closure. Privacy rights will be maintained in all instances as legally required.