

Marin County Public Health Guided Return to Site-Based Classroom Instruction

Comprehensive School Resource Document

August 14, 2020



Table of Contents

<u>Marin County School Guidelines ~ 30 Point Plan</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>School Site-Specific Protection Plan</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Exposure Protocols</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>Public Health Waiver Process and Application</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>Home to School Transportation</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>Substitutes</u>	<u>28</u>
<u>Youth Sports (State Guidance)</u>	<u>29</u>
<u>Resources</u>	<u>31</u>

Marin County School Guidelines ~ 30 Point Plan

A Public Health Guided Return to Site-Based Classroom Instruction

Issued June 18, 2020 / Revised August 12, 2020

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines to Marin County educational institutions — including public, private, independent and parochial TK-12 schools—to facilitate and return to site-based classroom instruction for the Fall 2020-2021 school year. The evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic requires the need to rethink common protocols and practices in the classroom setting with the understanding that these guidelines could change as the situation evolves.

1. All activities are consistent with and will adjust to changing applicable state and local Public Health orders.
2. Health and safety practices and protocols are in place, including hand washing, appropriate face coverings, access to essential protective equipment, and up to date student and staff attendance tracking.
3. Training is provided to all staff, students and families reinforcing the importance of health and safety practices and protocols.
4. A primary and secondary point of contact are established, identified and trained at each school site to direct questions or concerns around practices, protocols, or potential exposure. These points of contact will serve as liaisons to Public Health, and contact information is identified in the School Site-Specific Protection Plan.
5. Plans are implemented for intensified cleaning and disinfecting, including training for all staff and access to cleaning supplies and essential protective equipment, and regular disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces.
6. Health screening for students and staff are conducted as advised and updated by Public Health. On July 23, 2020 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provided updated guidance on screening K-12 students emphasizing that parents and caregivers must monitor their children for signs of infectious illness every day at home, and universal symptom screening for K-12 students is not required. Staff should conduct daily health screening self-assessment, which may be completed through an online survey. ([Sample MCOE Staff Daily Health Screening](#))

7. Staff and students who are sick are expected to stay home, and an isolation area is identified for students who begin to exhibit symptoms during the school day, until they can be picked up.
8. Schools and districts will cooperate with Public Health to support testing strategies to mitigate transmission of COVID-19, including testing of staff who have regular daily contact with students before site-based classroom instruction is resumed, and then no less than once every two months. This may include testing of students with appropriate parental permissions obtained in advance.
9. Protocols, actions and template communications are in place for the following COVID-19 related scenarios (link: [Marin County Public Health Protocols & Communication Templates for each scenario.](#))
 - a. A student or staff member either exhibits COVID-19 symptoms or has a temperature of 100.4 or above.
 - b. A family member or someone in close contact with a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19.
 - c. A student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19.
 - d. A student or staff member tests negative for COVID-19 after symptoms or confirmed close contact.
10. Where practicable, physical distancing of six feet is maintained between adults and between adults and students; four feet distance is permissible between students within a classroom or instructional area where requirements herein are in practice.
11. For elementary schools, stable classroom cohorts (up to standard class size at each respective grade level) are maintained throughout each school day, and through each quarter or semester, with an assigned primary cohort teacher, and systems are in place to prevent the mixing of classroom cohorts.
12. For middle and high schools, larger cohorts made up of students from more than one classroom may be arranged as long as accurate attendance data for students and adults is maintained on a daily basis while avoiding school wide mixing of students and staff.
13. Where practicable, desks are arranged facing forward to minimize face to face proximity between students.
14. School staff are permitted to visit and instruct more than one classroom cohort, following physical distancing and face covering protocols, and must document/record visits to classrooms that are not identified as their primary classroom cohort.

15. Routes for entry and exit to the campus will be designated for each classroom cohort, using as many entrances/exits as feasible.
16. Schedules for arrivals, recess and lunch will be strategically coordinated to prevent mixing of classroom cohorts.
17. Congregate movement through hallways will be minimized as much as practicable.
18. Large gatherings (i.e., school assemblies) are currently prohibited.
19. The use of outdoor space for instructional purposes is maximized, shared, and coordinated to ensure students remain in their cohort. Efforts should also be made to maximize fresh air flow in classrooms through existing ventilation systems, and opening of windows and doors as much as possible.
20. Use of shared playground equipment will be limited in favor of physical activities that require less contact with surfaces, and shared equipment will be cleaned between uses.
21. Use of non-classroom space for instruction such as gymnasiums and multi-use rooms should be considered to support physical distancing with cleaning between uses.
22. Meals will be served outside as much as possible or in classrooms instead of cafeterias or dining rooms with individually plated or bagged meals as much as practicable.
23. Routines and schedules will be developed to enable students and staff to regularly wash their hands at staggered intervals.
24. All staff as well as all students in grades 3 - 12 are required to wear face coverings while in the classroom and on campus, unless there is a medical or behavioral contraindication. Students from grades TK - 2 are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings and should be supported and taught how to wear them properly.
25. Training will be provided for staff and students on proper use of face coverings which will include instruction to minimize touching of face coverings.
26. Sharing of supplies, manipulatives, toys, sports equipment, and other learning and recreational materials will be limited and each student will have separate individually labeled boxes or cubbies.

27. Sharing of electronic devices, clothing, books and other games or learning aids will be avoided as much as practicable.
28. Use of privacy boards or clear screens will be considered as much as practicable.
29. Non-essential visitors, including parent volunteers will be limited and essential workers will be required to adhere to all health and safety guidelines.
30. A [School Site-Specific Protection Plan](#) outlining the above measures is completed, posted on school or district website and shared with all staff and families and will be updated as state and local Public Health guidance dictates.

** **Note:** Based on updated guidance from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Governor Newsom, and Marin County Public Health, site-based classroom instruction cannot resume until a waiver is granted by Public Health, which, if granted would apply to grades TK-6 only, or Marin County has been off of the state monitoring list for 14 days. During this time, teachers / staff may meet small cohorts of students (15 or fewer) onsite to onboard students to virtual learning and provide safety instruction to prepare for return to school (e.g., meet their teacher, obtain learning materials, receive hygiene instruction), and/or to participate in academic and emotional assessments. Students and staff must adhere to face covering, and physical distancing requirements described in these guidelines. While Marin remains on the CDPH county watch list, 6th grade students in schools who are granted waivers will be considered elementary school students during the waiver period.*

Resource Documents:

- [August 3, 2020 California Health Officials Release Guidance on Youth Sports and Elementary School Waivers](#)
- [July 15, 2020 News Release regarding Marin County Public Health Recommendations and Guidance to Delay In-Classroom Learning](#)
- [July 17, 2020 Guidance from Governor Newsom and the California Department of Public Health](#)
- [Updated August 3, 2020: California Department of Public Health COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Schools and School Based Programs](#)
- [July 23, 2020 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Screening K-12 Students for Symptoms of COVID-19: Limitations and Considerations](#)
- [Marin County Health and Human Services COVID-19 Surveillance Data](#)
- [Marin County Health and Human Services COVID-19 Indicators](#)
- [Marin County Office of Education: Rethinking Schools](#)
- [California Department of Education - Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California's Public Schools](#)

School Site-Specific Protection Plan

Updated PDF Version 8.12.20

YOUR LOGO HERE

UPDATED 8/12/2020

COVID-19 School Site-Specific Protection Plan Guidance & Template

Guidance for Developing Your School's COVID-19 School Site-Specific Protection Plan (SSSPP)

1. Establish a multi-disciplinary Task Force (ie, teachers, custodians, school secretaries, para-educators, parents, students, and administrators) to develop and support this School Site-Specific Protection Plan who will meet regularly to monitor Public Health Information and adjust the plan based on input from all stakeholders as needed.
2. Perform a school site walkthrough with the Task Force of your campus, classrooms, multi-use rooms, and office spaces and use the protocols, guidance and best practices detailed in the Public Health Guided Return to Site-Based Classroom Instruction as a guide for conducting your assessment.
3. Develop and finalize your SSSPP and train staff before site-based classroom instruction begins.
4. Use the template below to create your own SSSPP by filling in the required details, based on your individual school site/school or district office, to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19, under the guidance of the Public Health Officer.
5. Finalize your SSSPP to distribute to staff and families and post on your school website. You may also post a copy at your school or office at a visible location, at or near the main entrance where students, staff and visitors can easily review it without touching the document, or post a Certificate of Completion (included below) with information on how to review the plan in its entirety online.
6. Post signs at each of the primary staff and student entrances to inform all students, staff and visitors that they should:
 - If you have COVID-19 symptoms, do not enter the facility;
 - Maintain a minimum six-foot distance from one another;
 - Sneeze and cough into a cloth or tissue or, if not available, into one's elbow;
 - Wear face coverings, as appropriate; and
 - Do not shake hands or engage in any unnecessary physical contact.

Templates for signs can be downloaded for use from the [Marin Recovers website](#).

Tools for Developing Your School Site-Specific Protection Plan

1. COVID-19 School Site-Specific Protection Plan (SSSPP) Template

The Marin County Office of Education is providing this template that can be used by any school or district in Marin to create their own School Site-Specific Protection Plan (SSSPP). It contains all of the standard content already written for you to re-open your school or school office and prompts you to "fill in the blank" where unique information is required in order to complete your SSSPP. The template has been reviewed and supported by Marin County's Public Health Officer.

2. School Specific Best Practices

The MCOE Rethinking Schools Task Force is monitoring updated guidance from the Center for Disease Control, the California Department of Public Health, the California Department of Education, and Marin County Public Health to support and promote emerging best practices to share with the school community in Marin. These best practices are based on alignment with local, state and federal guidelines in coordination with the county's Public Health Officer.

Page. 1

YOUR LOGO HERE

UPDATED 8/12/2020

School or District Site Name	
School Type (select one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Traditional/Alternative Public School <input type="checkbox"/> Charter School <input type="checkbox"/> Private, Independent or Parochial	
School Task Force Members and Positions (ie teachers, custodians, secretaries, paras, parents, students, administration)	
Public Health Liaisons and Contact Information (Primary and Secondary: Name, Email and Phone)	
This COVID-19 School Site-Specific Protection Plan (SSSPP) was most recently updated on:	
Principal or Administrator	
Name:	Title:
Email:	Phone Numbers:

I, _____, certify that this SSSPP is posted on our school/district website, and that staff will receive training as described in this SSSPP before site-based classroom instruction begins.

Signature:

Date:

YOUR LOGO HERE

UPDATED 8/12/2020

Specific Control Measures and Screenings

Please provide as much detail as possible for how you intend to implement each guideline. If you need additional space, please provide an attachment.

- ☐ 1. All activities are consistent with and will adjust to changing applicable state and local Public Health Orders. A multi-disciplinary Task Force has been established to develop and support this School Site-Specific Protection Plan, who meet regularly to monitor and adjust the plan based on input from all stakeholders.

- ☐ 2. Health and safety practices and protocols are in place, including hand washing, appropriate face coverings, and access to essential protective equipment, and up to date student and staff attendance tracking.

- ☐ 3. Training is provided to all staff, students and families reinforcing the importance of health and safety practices and protocols.

- ☐ 4. A primary and secondary point of contact are established, identified, and trained at each school site to direct questions or concerns around practices, protocols, or potential exposure. These points of contact will also serve as a liaison to Public Health and contact information is identified in the School Site-Specific Protection Plan. (Points of Contact listed above).

YOUR LOGO HERE

UPDATED 8/12/2020

- ☐ 5. Plans are implemented for intensified cleaning and disinfecting, including training for staff and access to cleaning supplies and essential protective equipment, and regular disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces.

- ☐ 6. Health screening for students and staff are conducted as advised and updated by Public Health. On July 23, 2020 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provided updated guidance on screening K-12 students emphasizing that parents and caregivers must monitor their children for signs of infectious illness every day at home, and universal symptom screening for K-12 students is not required. Staff should conduct daily health screening self assessment, which may be completed through an online survey. ([Sample MCOE Staff Health Screening](#))

- ☐ 7. Staff and students who are sick are expected to stay home and an isolation area is identified for students who begin to exhibit symptoms during the school day, until they can be picked up.
Describe placement of designated Isolation Area:

- ☐ 8. Schools and districts will cooperate with Public Health to support testing strategies to mitigate transmission of COVID-19, including testing for staff at the beginning of the school year, and then no less than once every two months. This may include testing of students with appropriate parental permissions obtained in advance. (Identify testing vendors, if applicable)

YOUR LOGO HERE

UPDATED 8/12/2020

- ☐ 9. Protocols, actions and template communications are in place for the following COVID-19 related scenarios (link: [Marin County Public Health Protocols & Communication Templates](#) for each scenario):
- a. A student or staff member either exhibits COVID-19 symptoms or has a temperature of 100.4 or above.
 - b. A family member or someone in close contact with a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19.
 - c. A student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19.
 - d. A student or staff member tests negative for COVID-19 after symptoms or confirmed close contact.

- ☐ 10. Where practicable, physical distancing of six feet is maintained between adults and adults and students; four feet distance is permissible between students within a classroom or instructional area where requirements herein are in practice.

- ☐ 11. For elementary schools, stable classroom cohorts (up to standard class size at each respective grade level) are maintained throughout each school day, and through each quarter or semester, with an assigned primary cohort teacher, and systems are in place to prevent the mixing of classroom cohorts.

- ☐ 12. For middle and high schools, larger cohorts made up of students from more than one classroom may be arranged as long as accurate attendance data for students and adults is maintained on a daily basis while avoiding schoolwide mixing of students and staff.

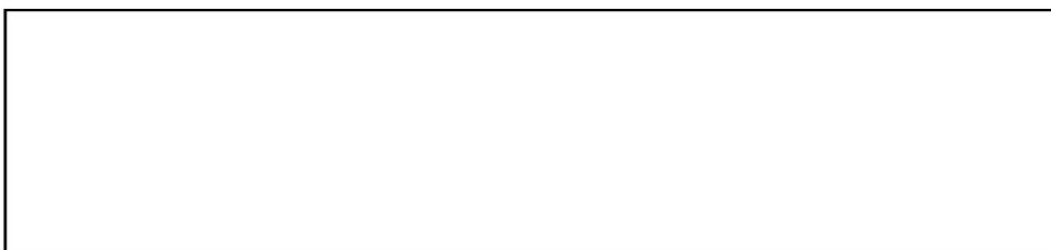
YOUR LOGO HERE

UPDATED 8/12/2020

- ☐ 13. Where practicable, desks are arranged facing forward to minimize face to face proximity between students.



- ☐ 14. School staff are permitted to visit and instruct more than one classroom cohort, following physical distancing and face covering protocols, and must document/record visits to classrooms that are not identified as their primary classroom cohort.



- ☐ 15. Routes for entry and exit to the campus will be designated for each classroom cohort, using as many entrances/exits as feasible.



- ☐ 16. Schedules for arrivals, recess and lunch will be strategically coordinated to prevent mixing of classroom cohorts.




YOUR LOGO HERE

UPDATED 8/12/2020

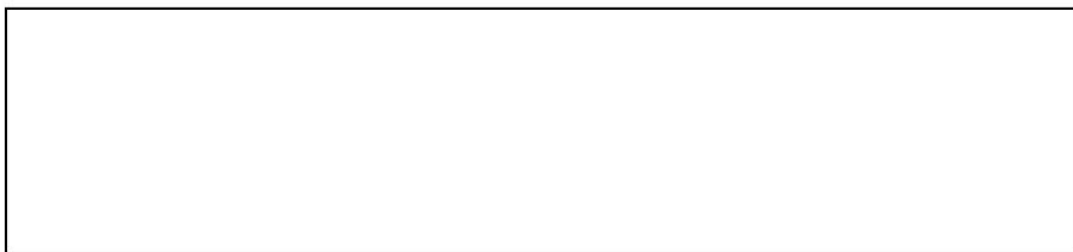
- ☐ 17. Congregate movement through hallways will be minimized as much as practicable.



- ☐ 18. Large gatherings (i.e., school assemblies) are currently prohibited.



- ☐ 19. The use of outdoor space for instructional purposes is maximized, shared, and coordinated to ensure students remain in their cohort. Efforts should also be made to maximize fresh air flow in classrooms through existing ventilation systems and opening of windows and doors as much as possible.



- ☐ 20. Use of shared playground equipment will be limited in favor of physical activities that require less contact with surfaces, and shared equipment will be cleaned between uses.



YOUR LOGO HERE

UPDATED 8/12/2020

- ☐ 21. Use of non-classroom space for instruction such as gymnasiums and multi-use rooms should be considered to support physical distancing with cleaning between uses.



- ☐ 22. Meals will be served outside as much as possible or in classrooms instead of cafeterias or dining room with individually plated or bagged meals as much as practicable.



- ☐ 23. Routines and schedules will be developed to enable students and staff to regularly wash their hands at staggered intervals.



- ☐ 24. All staff as well as all students in grades 3 - 12 are required to wear face coverings while in the classroom and on campus unless there is a medical or behavioral contraindication. Students from grades TK - 2 are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings and should be supported and taught how to wear them properly.



Page. 8

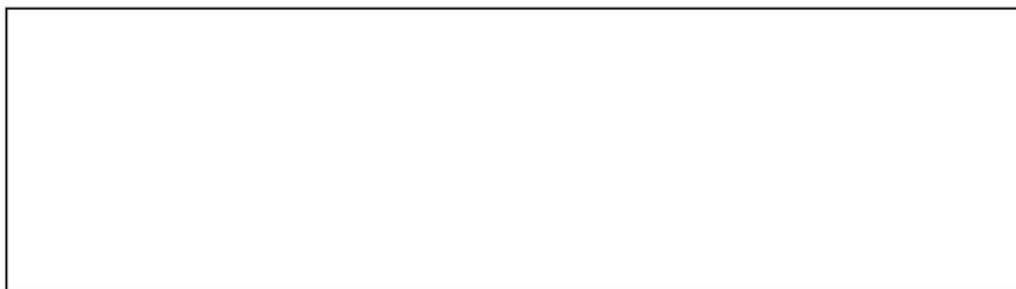
YOUR LOGO HERE

UPDATED 8/12/2020

- ☐ 25. Training will be provided for staff and students on proper use of face coverings which will include instruction to minimize touching of face coverings.



- ☐ 26. Sharing of supplies, manipulatives, toys, sports equipment, and other learning and recreational materials will be limited and each student will have separate individually labeled boxes or cubbies.



- ☐ 27. Sharing of electronic devices, clothing, books and other games or learning aids will be avoided as much as practicable.



- ☐ 28. Use of privacy boards or clear screens will be considered as much as practicable.



YOUR LOGO HERE

UPDATED 8/12/2020

- ☐ 29. Non-essential visitors, including parent volunteers will be limited and essential workers will be required to adhere to all health and safety guidelines.



- ☐ 30. A [School Site-Specific Protection Plan](#) outlining the above measures is completed, posted and shared with all stakeholders and updated as state and local Public Health guidance dictates.



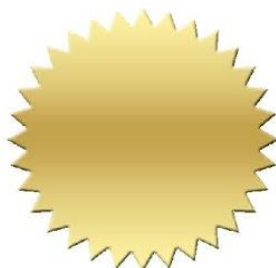
*****Attach any supporting documents or additional information for each Guideline to the back of the SSSPP.***

YOUR LOGO HERE

UPDATED 8/12/2020

YOUR LOGO HERE	<h2>School Site-Specific Protection Plan</h2>
----------------	---

Certificate of Completion



(enter School Site Name here)

has completed the School Site-Specific Protection Plan with current information related to COVID-19 Protocols and Procedures. The full SSSPP is available for viewing or download here:

(enter School Site or District website here)

This certificate should be displayed in the site's main office and the full SSSPP should be available online at the above web address.

Exposure Protocols

Marin County Protocols Summary

School/Classroom Setting

Marin County Public Health Protocols on the Onset of Symptoms, Potential Exposure to and/or Close Contact with an Individual Testing Positive for COVID-19 in a School/Classroom Setting		
Scenario	Action	Communication
1 A student or staff member either exhibits COVID-19 symptoms or has a temperature of 100.4 or above.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report information to administrator, send home Contact Healthcare provider/Public Health for testing (recommend testing) If positive, see Scenario #3; if negative, see Scenario #4 School/Classroom OPEN 	No action is needed
Scenario	Action	Communication
2 A family member or someone in close contact with a student or staff member test positive for COVID-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report information to administrator, send home, quarantine for 14 days Contact Healthcare provider/Public Health for testing (recommend testing) School/Classroom OPEN 	To: Student Families and Staff Template Letter: Household Member or contact w/ C19+
Scenario	Action	Communication
3 A student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report information to administrator, send home, isolate as per Public Health Families of Students and Staff: quarantine and contact Healthcare provider/ Public Health for testing Classroom CLOSED for 14 days from last exposure School Remains OPEN 	To: Student Families and Staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phone call and Template Letter: Confirmed C19+ in Cohort
Scenario	Action	Communication
4 A student or staff member tests negative for COVID-19 after symptoms or confirmed close contact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May return to school 24 hours after symptoms resolve 14 day quarantine required for close contact with COVID-19 positive case School/Classroom OPEN 	Consider notification to families and staff if prior awareness of testing. Template Letter: Negative Test Cohort Member
For more detailed information visit: https://bit.ly/ExposureProtocols Public Health (415) 473-7191 https://bit.ly/MCOERethinkingSchools RapidResponse@marinschools.org		
Updated 7/31/2020		

Marin County Schools Public Health Waiver Process and Application

Dr. Matt Willis, Marin County Public Health Officer and
Mary Jane Burke, Marin County Superintendent of Schools

August 14, 2020

Overview

On July 17, 2020 Governor Newsom announced statewide guidance that public, private, independent and parochial schools will be allowed to return to site-based classroom instruction when the county has been off of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) county monitoring (“watch”) list for fourteen consecutive days. The County of Marin was placed on the monitoring list in early July. When Marin County meets state requirements for return to site-based classroom instruction Marin County Public Health Guidelines published June 18, 2020 and updated August 12, 2020 will remain in effect for Marin County schools.

Authority

On July 17, 2020 the California Department of Public Health released the COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Framework for K-12 Schools in California, 2020-2021 School Year, which includes the following language: ***“A waiver of this criteria may be granted by the local health officer for elementary schools to open for in-person instruction. A waiver may only be granted if one is requested by the superintendent (or equivalent for charter or private schools), in consultation with labor, parent and community organizations. Local health officers must review local community epidemiological data, consider other public health interventions, and consult with CDPH when considering a waiver request.”***

Waiver Application Process

The Marin County Public Health Officer will consider waiver applications from public, private, independent and parochial elementary schools (grades TK-6) in Marin County, and the applicant’s submitted School Site-Specific Protection Plan for reopening, that can attest to the following:

- Marin County Public Health Guidelines published on June 18, 2020 and updated August 12, 2020 have been implemented and are detailed in the School Site-Specific Protection Plan.
- A **School Site-Specific Protection Plan (Updated August 12, 2020)** has been developed, is in place, has been published and posted on the school or district website, will be updated with guidance provided by Marin County Public Health and the California Department of Public Health, ***and is included as an attachment in the application.***
- The Superintendent, Head of School (or equivalent or designated staff) has consulted with labor, parents and community organizations as required by the California Department of Public Health. If the school does not have a labor organization the school has consulted with school site staff.
- Private, independent and parochial schools must have a plan to perform COVID-19 testing that includes the following:

- Surveillance testing of all school site staff is recommended before site-based classroom instruction is resumed, and then no less than once every two months (approximately 50% of staff tested every month).
- Testing associated with school-based COVID-19 cases, exposures, or outbreaks, following the recommendations of Marin County Public Health.
- Schools must utilize a COVID-19 testing vendor that offers testing results within 72 hours.
- Public Schools will coordinate with Public Health on a plan to perform COVID-19 testing that meets Public Health recommendations.
- Schools must identify primary and secondary points of contact who will be trained by Marin County Public Health to address concerns around practices, protocols, or potential exposure. These points of contact will serve as liaisons to Public Health, and contact information is identified in the School Site-Specific Protection Plan.
- The Superintendent, Head of School (or equivalent) will follow Public Health Officer and CDPH guidance to determine triggers for switching to distance learning and when to physically close the school to suspend site-based classroom instruction.
- A brief (500 word) overview of the context of the waiver application including the schools' unique situation, experience operating student programs during the pandemic*, and how the school will meet the needs of students, teachers, staff and the community is included in the application.

Applications and all supporting documents will be submitted to the Public Health Officer through the Marin County Office of Education at PublicHealthWaiver@marinschools.org at least 14 days prior to targeted return to site-based classroom instruction. Based upon projected release of Waiver Application on Friday, August 14, 2020, (and local transmission indicators are within acceptable range) the following is a tentative timeline for application review and processing:

- **Completed Applications Received by 5:00 PM Wednesday, August 19**
 - Review completed applications by Friday, August 28, 2020
 - For successful applications, Public Health Recommended approval to CDPH, Friday, August 28
 - Three day State review and response window, Wednesday, September 2**
 - Notification of Waiver Application status, Thursday, September 3
 - Permissible start date, if application is approved - Tuesday, September 8
- **Completed Applications Received by 5:00 PM Wednesday, August 26**
 - Review completed applications by Friday, September 4, 2020
 - For successful applications, Public Health Recommended approval to CDPH, Friday, September 4
 - Three day State review and response window, Wednesday, September 9**
 - Notification of Waiver Application status, Thursday, September 10
 - Permissible start date, if application is approved - Monday, September 14

**Priority consideration will be given to schools serving low income communities, schools who primarily conduct instructional activities outdoors, schools who have been early adopters of COVID-19 health and safety protocols with an established successful record of providing service to students in the Spring and Summer, and schools with a demonstrated commitment to supporting the priority of equity in our community.*

***Pending questions or concerns raised by the California Department of Public Health about application.*

Marin County School Waiver Application to Marin County Public Health Officer

August 14, 2020

**Please submit completed applications electronically with attachments to
PublicHealthWaiver@marinschools.org**

The Marin County Public Health Officer will consider completed waiver applications from Marin County public, private, independent and parochial schools for grades TK-6 to resume site-based classroom instruction while Marin County is on the California Department of Public Health county monitoring list. Completed applications will be considered in the order received, along with local community epidemiological data, and the applicant's School Site-Specific Protection Plan (which must be included). Incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant. Applications must be submitted a minimum of 14 days prior to the targeted start of site-based classroom instruction.

Local Education Agency (District or Equivalent):	Date of Application:
Superintendent, Head of School (or equivalent) Name:	Phone:
Address:	Date of Proposed Start:
Email:	School Type (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional/Alternative Public School <input type="checkbox"/> Charter School <input type="checkbox"/> Private, Independent or Parochial

School(s):	Number of Schools:
Testing Vendor (if applicable):	Testing Vendor Phone:

Brief overview of the context of the application and the school's unique circumstances (500 words maximum):

--

Consultation - Please list dates and names of organizations consulted with in the section below.

Labor:

Name of Organization(s):	Date(s):

If no labor organization represents staff at school, please describe process for consultation with staff:

--

Parent and Community Organizations:

Name of Organization(s):	Date(s):
--------------------------	----------

Equity Priority

In an effort to respond to the needs of those most vulnerable in our community due to socio-economic challenges exacerbated by the pandemic, appropriate resources should be made available to promote equitable educational opportunities. All applicants are asked to describe how your site intends to support this effort. Understanding that there may be follow up as needs are better defined, resources that schools may be able to offer to support learning for low income students include:

- A significant percentage of socio-economically disadvantaged student body
- Financial support for instructors for student learning hubs
- Access to programming or staff to offer instruction to low income children
- Technology aids
- Space on campus to host learning hubs
- Enhanced scholarships for low income students to enroll
- Or other creative and innovative ways to support the most vulnerable in our community

--

The Superintendent (or equivalent) attests to the following:

- Marin County Public Health Guidelines issued June 18, 2020 and updated August 12, 2020 have been implemented and are detailed in the School Site-Specific Protection Plan.
- [A School Site-Specific Protection Plan \(Updated August 12, 2020\)](#) has been developed, is in place, has been published and posted on the school or district website, will be updated with guidance provided by Marin County Public Health and the California Department of Public Health, **and is included as an attachment in the application.**
- The Superintendent, Head of School (or equivalent or designated staff) has consulted with labor, parents and community organizations as required by the California Department of Public Health. If the school does not have a labor organization the school has consulted with school site staff.
- If this application is for a Private, independent or parochial school(s), a plan is in place to perform COVID-19 testing that includes the following:
 - Surveillance testing of all staff before site-based classroom instruction is resumed, and then no less than once every two months (approximately 50% of staff tested every month).
 - Testing associated with school-based COVID-19 cases, exposures, or outbreaks, following the recommendations of Marin County Public Health.
 - Schools must utilize a COVID-19 testing vendor that offers testing results within 72 hours.
- If this application is for a Public School, our school is coordinating with Public Health on a plan to perform COVID-19 testing that meets Public Health recommendations.
- Our School(s) has/have identified primary and secondary points of contact who will be trained by Marin County Public Health to address concerns around practices, protocols, or potential exposure. These points of contact will serve as liaisons to Public Health, and contact information is identified in the School Site-Specific Protection Plan.
- The Superintendent, Head of School (or equivalent) will follow Public Health Officer and CDPH guidance to determine triggers for switching to distance learning and when to physically close the school to suspend site-based classroom instruction.
- A brief (500 word) overview of the context of the waiver application including the schools unique situation, experience operating student programs during the pandemic*, and how the school will meet the needs of students, teachers, staff and the community is included in the application.
- **Applications and all supporting documents will be submitted to the Public Health Officer through the Marin County Office of Education at PublicHealthWaiver@marinschools.org at least 14 days prior to targeted return to site-based classroom instruction.**

**Priority consideration will be given to schools serving low income communities, schools who primarily conduct instructional activities outdoors, schools who have been early adopters of COVID-19 health and safety protocols with an established a successful record of providing service to students in the Spring and Summer, and schools with a demonstrated commitment to supporting the priority of equity in our community.*

Certification: As an authorized representative (Superintendent, Head of School or equivalent for charter, private, independent or parochial schools) of the school noted in this application, I certify that all conditions above have been met, and that the information provided is truthful and accurate.

Name:	Title:
Superintendent, Head of School (or equivalent) Signature:	Date:

Public Health Officer Authority to grant waivers: The July 17, 2020 California Department of Public Health released the COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Framework for K-12 Schools in California, 2020-2021 School Year, which includes the following language: *“A waiver of this criteria may be granted by the local health officer for elementary schools to open for in-person instruction. A waiver may only be granted if one is requested by the superintendent (or equivalent for charter or private schools), in consultation with labor, parent and community organizations. Local health officers must review local community epidemiological data, consider other public health interventions, and consult with CDPH when considering a waiver request.”*

Public Health Response:

<u>Approved: (signature)</u>	<u>Denied: (signature)</u>	<u>Date:</u>
------------------------------	----------------------------	--------------

Tentative application processing timeline:

- **Completed Applications Received by 5:00 PM Wednesday, August 19**
 - Review completed applications by Friday, August 28, 2020
 - For successful applications, Public Health Recommended approval to CDPH, Friday, August 28
 - Three day State review and response window, Wednesday, September 2**
 - Notification of Waiver Application status, Thursday, September 3
 - Permissible start date, if application is approved - Tuesday, September 8
- **Completed Applications Received by 5:00 PM Wednesday, August 26**
 - Review completed applications by Friday, September 4, 2020
 - For successful applications, Public Health Recommended approval to CDPH, Friday, September 4
 - Three day State review and response window, Wednesday, September 9**
 - Notification of Waiver Application status, Thursday, September 10
 - Permissible start date, if application is approved - Monday, September 14

***Pending questions or concerns raised by the California Department of Public Health about application.*

Additional Resources:

- [Rethinking Schools: A Public Health Guided Return to Site-Based Classroom Instruction](#) (updated 8.12.20)
- [School Site-Specific Protection Plan](#) (updated 8.12.20)
- [CDPH and Cal/OSHA Guidance for Schools and School-Based Programs \(August 3, 2020\)](#)
- [California Department of Education Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California's Public Schools \(June 2020\)](#)
- [CDPH COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Framework for K-12 Schools in California, 2020-2021 School Year \(July 17, 2020\)](#)

Related CDPH Links:

- [California Public Health Officials Release Guidance on Youth Sports and Elementary School Waivers](#) (CDPH)
- [COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Elementary Education Waiver Process](#) (CDPH)
- [Waiver Letter Template and Cover Form 8.3.20](#) (CDPH)
- [COVID-19 and Reopening of In-Person Learning for Elementary Education Waiver Notice to the California Department of Public Health](#) (CDPH)

Home to School Transportation Guidelines

**Dr. Matt Willis, Marin County Public Health Officer and
Mary Jane Burke, Marin County Superintendent of Schools**

August 14, 2020

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines for Marin County school transportation providers and Marin County educational institutions - including public, private, independent and parochial TK-12 schools -- to develop and implement student transportation systems needed to support site-based classroom instruction for the 2020-2021 school year. The evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic requires the need to rethink common protocols and practices in the school transportation industry, and these guidelines could change as the situation evolves. These guidelines apply to home-to-school transportation services (yellow bus) and subcontracted services intended solely for the purposes of transporting students to and from school. This guidance does not apply to student transportation provided by public transportation services (transit).

In order to transport students to and from school during the COVID-19 pandemic as safely as possible, transportation agencies shall work with schools and districts to ensure health and safety protocols are in place that will include as a minimum, the following requirements;

1. Health screening for students are conducted as advised and updated by Public Health. On July 23, 2020 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provided updated guidance on screening K-12 students emphasizing that parents and caregivers must monitor their children for signs of infectious illness every day at home, and universal symptom screening for K-12 students is not required. Drivers and adult staff should conduct daily health screening self-assessment, which may be completed through an online survey. [\(Sample MCOE Staff Daily Health Screening\)](#)
2. While waiting, boarding, riding, and exiting physical distancing of six feet is maintained between adults and between adults and students where practicable; four feet distance is permissible between students where requirements herein are in practice.
3. While riding the bus there will be no more than one student per bench seat, with students alternating between the window seat and aisle seat section of the bench in order to maintain four feet distancing as much as feasible.
4. The row directly behind the driver will be left open to support physical distancing between the driver and students

5. All drivers, adults and students in grades 3 - 12 are required to wear face coverings while waiting, boarding, riding or exiting, unless there is a medical or behavioral contraindication. Students from grades TK - 2 are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings and should be supported and taught how to wear them properly.
6. Students should sit forward facing and minimize talking while riding.
7. Drivers and students should be instructed to wash hands at home immediately before departing, and may use hand sanitizer prior to boarding if feasible.
8. Drivers should avoid using the recirculated air option for the vehicle's ventilation during passenger transport; use the vehicle's vents and windows to the maximum extent possible, to bring in fresh outside air, even in cold or inclement weather.
9. Transportation provider must perform cleaning in compliance with [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) guidance for non-emergency vehicles between uses.
10. Transportation provider must develop protocols, actions, and template communications for the following COVID-19 related scenarios ([Marin County Public Health Protocols & Communication Templates for each scenario](#)):
 - a. A student, driver, or staff member either exhibits COVID-19 symptoms or has a temp of 100.4 or above.
 - b. A family member or someone in close contact with a student, driver or staff member test positive for COVID-19.
 - c. A student, staff member or driver tests positive for COVID-19.
 - d. A student, staff member or driver tests negative for COVID-19 after symptoms or confirmed close contact.
11. Each School Transportation provider will develop and implement a [School Transportation Provider Specific Protection Plan](#) that will describe in detail how each of the above guidelines will be implemented.
12. All Public, private, independent and parochial schools should work with families to encourage students to walk and/or bike to school and to coordinate with Marin [Safe Routes to School Marin County](#) to develop strategies to maximize these opportunities.

Substitute Teacher Guidelines

**Dr. Matt Willis, Marin County Public Health Officer and
Mary Jane Burke, Marin County Superintendent of Schools**

August 14, 2020

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines for Marin County educational institutions - including public, private, independent and parochial TK-12 schools -- to develop and implement protocols and procedures for substitute teachers to support site-based classroom instruction for the 2020-2021 school year. The evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic requires the need to rethink common protocols and practices in school operations, including scheduling of substitutes, and these guidelines could change as the situation evolves. Public Health guidelines detailed in [Rethinking Schools: A Public Health Guided Return to Classroom Based Instruction](#) (updated August 12, 2020) includes the following guidelines most pertinent to substitutes:

- # 14. School staff are permitted to visit and instruct more than one classroom cohort, strictly following physical distancing and face covering protocols, and must document/record visits to classrooms that are not identified as their primary classroom cohort.
- # 29. Non-essential visitors, including parent volunteers will be limited and essential workers will be required to adhere to all health and safety guidelines.

The following provides additional detail to help support the development of best practices for implementation of guidelines in relation to substitutes teachers

- Substitute teachers are required to complete a [COVID-19 Substitute training](#), which was conducted Monday, August 10, 2020. A taped version is available to review to meet this requirement and is posted on the [Rethinking Schools Website](#).
- Substitutes will be provided with [Marin County Public Health Guidelines](#), and are expected to review and adhere to all school/district guidelines in the [School Site-Specific Protection Plans](#) of schools they are assigned to.
- Substitutes are strongly recommended to be tested before their first contact with students, and then no less than once every two months.
- Substitutes will conduct daily health screening required by each school and detailed in School Site-Specific Protection Plans, and are expected to conduct daily health screening self-assessment, which may be completed through an online survey. [\(Sample MCOE Staff Daily Health Screening\)](#)

Youth Sports

[California Department of Public Health](#)
[COVID-19 INTERIM GUIDANCE: Youth Sports](#)
[Release date: August 3, 2020](#)

All information here is provided in the California Department of Public Health, August 3, 2020 COVID-19 Interim Guidance: Youth Sports document linked above.

All guidance should be implemented only with local health officer approval following their review of local epidemiological data including cases per 100,000 population rate

Consistent with the July 20, 2020 [announcement](#) of the California Interscholastic Federation, this document provides guidance for all youth sports programs—including school-based, club, and recreational programs—to support a safe environment for players, coaches and trainers, families, spectators, event/program/facility managers, workers, and volunteers. For further guidance related to school settings, please see this [updated guidance for schools and school-based programs](#).

NOTE: The risk of transmitting the COVID-19 virus depends on several factors germane to sports, including:

- Number of people in a location
- Type of location (indoor versus outdoor)
- Distance between people
- Length of time at a location
- Physical contact between people
- Touching of shared objects
- Use of face coverings
- Mixing of people from locations with different levels of community transmission

As general guidance, smaller groups are safer than larger; outdoor locations are safer than indoor; sports that can ensure distance of six feet or more are safer than close contact; and shorter duration is safer than longer. Leagues, coaches, parents, and athletes need to consider all these factors as they plan to return to play.

- Outdoor and indoor sporting events, assemblies, and other activities that require close contact or that would promote congregating are not permitted at this time. For example, tournaments, events, or competitions, regardless of whether teams are from the same school or from different schools, counties, or states are not permitted at this time.

- Youth sports and physical education are permitted only when the following can be maintained: (1) physical distancing of at least six feet; and (2) a stable cohort, such as a class, that limits the risks of transmission (see CDC Guidance on Schools and Cohorting). Activities should take place outside to the maximum extent practicable.
- For sports that cannot be conducted with sufficient distancing or cohorting, only physical conditioning and training is permitted and ONLY where physical distancing can be maintained. Conditioning and training should focus on individual skill-building (e.g., running drills and body weight resistance training) and should take place outside, where practicable. Indoor physical conditioning and training is allowed only in counties where gyms and fitness centers are allowed to operate indoors.
- Avoid equipment sharing, and if unavoidable, clean and disinfect shared equipment between use by different people to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread.
- Consistent with guidance for gyms and fitness facilities, cloth face coverings must be worn during indoor physical conditioning and training or physical education classes (except when showering). Activities that require heavy exertion should be conducted outside in a physically distanced manner without face coverings. Activities conducted inside should be those that do not require heavy exertion and can be done with a face covering. Players should take a break from exercise if any difficulty in breathing is noted and should change their mask or face covering if it becomes wet and sticks to the player's face and obstructs breathing. Masks that restrict airflow under heavy exertion (such as N-95 masks) are not advised for exercise.
- Youth sports programs and schools should provide information to parents or guardians regarding this and related guidance, along with the safety measures that will be in place in these settings with which parents or guardians must comply.

Resources

California Department of Public Health

- [Update 8.3.20: COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Schools and School-Based Programs](#)
 - [8.3.20 California Public Health Officials Release Guidance on Youth Sports and Elementary School Waivers](#)
 - [8.3.20: COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Elementary Education Waiver Process](#)
 - [8.3.20: Waiver Letter Template and Cover Form](#)
 - [8.3.20: COVID-19 and Reopening of In-Person Learning for Elementary Education Waiver Notice to the California Department of Public Health](#)
 - [7.17.20: Guidance from Governor Newsom and the California Department of Public Health](#)
-

California Department of Education

- [Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California's Public Schools](#)
-

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Considerations for Schools](#)
 - [7.23.20: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Screening K-12 Students for Symptoms of COVID-19: Limitations and Considerations](#)
-

Marin Health and Human Services/ MCOE

- [7.15.20: News Release regarding Marin County Public Health Recommendations and Guidance to Delay In-Classroom Learning](#)
- [Marin County Health and Human Services COVID-19 Surveillance Data](#)
- [Marin County Health and Human Services COVID-19 Indicators](#)
- [Marin County Office of Education: Rethinking Schools](#)