

COVID-19 School Guidance Checklist

January 14, 2021

CALIFORNIA
ALL

Your Actions
Save Lives



Date: 01/18/2021

2021 COVID-19 School Guidance Checklist

Name of Local Educational Agency or Equivalent: Thacher School

Number of schools: 1

Enrollment: 260

Superintendent (or equivalent) Name: Blossom Pidduck

Address: 5025 Thacher Road

Phone Number: (805)646-4377

Ojai, CA 93023

Email: bbpidduck@thacher.org

Date of proposed reopening:
02/07/2021

County: Ventura

Current Tier: Purple

(please indicate Purple, Red, Orange or Yellow)

Grade Level (check all that apply)

TK 2nd 5th 8th 11th

K 3rd 6th 9th 12th

1st 4th 7th 10th

Type of LEA: Independent School

This form and any applicable attachments should be posted publicly on the website of the local educational agency (or equivalent) prior to reopening or if an LEA or equivalent has already opened for in-person instruction. For those in the Purple Tier, materials must additionally be submitted to your local health officer (LHO), local County Office of Education, and the State School Safety Team prior to reopening.

The email address for submission to the State School Safety for All Team for LEAs in Purple Tier is:

K12csp@cdph.ca.gov

LEAs or equivalent in Counties with a case rate $\geq 25/100,000$ individuals can submit materials but cannot re-open a school until the county is below 25 cases per 100,000 (adjusted rate) for 5 consecutive days.

For Local Educational Agencies (LEAs or equivalent) in ALL TIERS:

I, Blossom Pidduck, post to the website of the local educational agency (or equivalent) the COVID Safety Plan, which consists of two elements: the **COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP)**, pursuant to CalOSHA requirements, and this **CDPH COVID-19 Guidance Checklist** and accompanying documents,

which satisfies requirements for the safe reopening of schools per CDPH [Guidance on Schools](#). For those seeking to open while in the Purple Tier, these plans have also been submitted to the local health officer (LHO) and the State School Safety Team.

I confirm that reopening plan(s) address the following, consistent with guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the local health department:

Stable group structures (where applicable): How students and staff will be kept in stable groups with fixed membership that stay together for all activities (e.g., instruction, lunch, recess) and minimize/avoid contact with other groups or individuals who are not part of the stable group.

Please provide specific information regarding:

How many students and staff will be in each planned stable, group structure? (If planning more than one type of group, what is the minimum and maximum number of students and staff in the groups?)

If you have departmentalized classes, how will you organize staff and students in stable groups?

If you have electives, how will you prevent or minimize in-person contact for members of different stable groups?

For all classes, we employ a block schedule, small class sizes, outdoor clc

Entrance, Egress, and Movement Within the School: How movement of students, staff, and parents will be managed to avoid close contact and/or mixing of cohorts.

Face Coverings and Other Essential Protective Gear: How CDPH's face covering requirements will be satisfied and enforced for staff and students.

Health Screenings for Students and Staff: How students and staff will be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 and how ill students or staff will be separated from others and sent home immediately.

Healthy Hygiene Practices: The availability of handwashing stations and hand sanitizer, and how their safe and appropriate use will be promoted and incorporated into routines for staff and students.

☒ Identification and Tracing of Contacts: Actions that staff will take when there is a confirmed case. Confirm that the school(s) have designated staff persons to support contact tracing, such as creation and submission of lists of exposed students and staff to the local health department and notification of exposed persons. Each school must designate a person for the local health department to contact about COVID-19.

☒ Physical Distancing: How space and routines will be arranged to allow for physical distancing of students and staff.

Please provide the planned maximum and minimum distance between students in classrooms.

Maximum: 12 feet

Minimum: 6 feet. If this is less than 6 feet, please explain why it is not possible to maintain a minimum of at least 6 feet.

☒ Staff Training and Family Education: How staff will be trained and families will be educated on the application and enforcement of the plan.

☒ Testing of Staff: How school officials will ensure that students and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 will be rapidly tested and what instructions they will be given while waiting for test results. Below, please describe any planned periodic asymptomatic staff testing cadence.

Staff asymptomatic testing cadence. Please note if testing cadence will differ by tier:

At least once per week, asymptomatic surveillance testing

☒ Testing of Students: How school officials will ensure that students who have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 will be rapidly tested and what instructions they will be given while waiting for test results. Below, please describe any planned periodic asymptomatic student testing cadence.

Planned student testing cadence. Please note if testing cadence will differ by tier:

At least once every two weeks, asymptomatic surveillance testing

Identification and Reporting of Cases: At all times, reporting of confirmed positive and suspected cases in students, staff and employees will be consistent with [Reporting Requirements](#).

Communication Plans: How the superintendent will communicate with students, staff, and parents about cases and exposures at the school, consistent with privacy requirements such as FERPA and HIPAA.

Consultation: (For schools not previously open) Please confirm consultation with the following groups

Labor Organization

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

Name: _____

Date: _____

Parent and Community Organizations

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

Name: _____

Date: _____

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

For Local Educational Agencies (LEAs or equivalent) in PURPLE:

Local Health Officer Approval: The Local Health Officer, for (state County) _____, County has certified and approved the CRP on this date: _____. If more than 7 business days have passed since the submission without input from the LHO, the CRP shall be deemed approved.

Additional Resources:

[Guidance on Schools](#)

[Safe Schools for All Hub](#)

COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP) for Thacher School

This CPP is designed to control exposures to the SARS-CoV-2 virus that may occur in our workplace.

Date: January 18, 2021

Authority and Responsibility

Jeff Hooper has overall authority and responsibility for implementing the provisions of this CPP in our workplace. In addition, all managers and supervisors are responsible for implementing and maintaining the CPP in their assigned work areas and for ensuring employees receive answers to questions about the program in a language they understand.

All employees are responsible for using safe work practices, following all directives, policies and procedures, and assisting in maintaining a safe work environment.

Identification and Evaluation of COVID-19 Hazards

We will implement the following in our workplace:

- Conduct workplace-specific evaluations using the **Appendix A: Identification of COVID-19 Hazards** form.
- Evaluate employees' potential workplace exposures to all persons at, or who may enter, our workplace.
- Review applicable orders and general and industry-specific guidance from the State of California, Cal/OSHA, and the local health department related to COVID-19 hazards and prevention.
- Evaluate existing COVID-19 prevention controls in our workplace and the need for different or additional controls.
- Conduct periodic inspections using the **Appendix B: COVID-19 Inspections form** as needed to identify unhealthy conditions, work practices, and work procedures related to COVID-19 and to ensure compliance with our COVID-19 policies and procedures.
- Provide regular surveillance testing for students and employees.

Employee participation

Employees and their authorized employees' representatives are encouraged to participate in the identification and evaluation of COVID-19 hazards by reporting any hazards to their immediate supervisor.

Employee screening

We screen our employees by employing the Policy Path app for symptoms screening and regularly conducting surveillances testing on campus.

Correction of COVID-19 Hazards

Unsafe or unhealthy work conditions, practices or procedures will be documented on the **Appendix B: COVID-19 Inspections** form, and corrected in a timely manner based on the severity of the hazards.

Control of COVID-19 Hazards

Physical Distancing

Where possible, we ensure at least six feet of physical distancing at all times in our workplace by:

- Providing the opportunity to work remotely to all eligible employees.
- Limiting campus access to essential personnel, contractors, and vendors.

- Using visual cues to ensure appropriate spacing in common areas.
- Using outdoor meeting spaces when multiple employees must gather.

Individuals will be kept as far apart as possible when there are situations where six feet of physical distancing cannot be achieved.

Face Coverings

We provide clean, undamaged face coverings and ensure they are properly worn by employees over the nose and mouth when indoors, and when outdoors and less than six feet away from another person, including non-employees, and where required by orders from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) or local health department. Face coverings are available in the campus health center and through individual departments. Managers and coworkers will provide periodic reminders of appropriate mask usage.

The following are exceptions to the use of face coverings in our workplace:

- When an employee is alone in a room.
- While eating and drinking at the workplace, provided employees are at least six feet apart and outside air supply to the area, if indoors, has been maximized to the extent possible
- Employees who cannot wear face coverings due to a medical or mental health condition or disability, or who are hearing-impaired or communicating with a hearing-impaired person. Alternatives will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Any employee not wearing a face covering, face shield with a drape or other effective alternative, or respiratory protection, for any reason, shall be at least six feet apart from all other persons unless the unmasked employee is tested at least twice weekly for COVID-19.

Engineering controls

We implement the following measures for situations where we cannot maintain at least six feet between individuals:

- Using physical partitions between employees, for example in the dining hall and in offices where visitors occasionally circulate.

We maximize, to the extent feasible, the quantity of outside air for our buildings with mechanical or natural ventilation systems by:

- Employing outdoor spaces to the greatest degree possible.
- When possible, keeping doors and windows of shared indoor spaces open
- Inspecting and maintaining air filtration systems installed prior to reopening.
- Employing other air purification systems where available.

Cleaning and disinfecting

We implement the following cleaning and disinfection measures for frequently touched surfaces:

- Regular and frequent cleaning and disinfection by trained professionals in all shared spaces, with special emphasis on dining facilities and restrooms.

Should we have a COVID-19 case in our workplace, we will implement the following procedures:

- Discontinue use of any areas, equipment, and materials used by the positive case until our contracted disinfection team is able to thoroughly clean and disinfect.

Shared tools, equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE)

PPE must not be shared, e.g., gloves, goggles and face shields.

Items that employees come in regular physical contact with, such as phones, headsets, desks, keyboards, writing materials, instruments and tools must also not be shared, to the extent feasible.

Sharing of vehicles will be minimized to the extent feasible, and high-touch points (for example, steering wheel, door handles, seatbelt buckles, armrests, shifter, etc.) will be disinfected between users, with appropriate materials and masks available in each vehicle.

Hand sanitizing

In order to implement effective hand sanitizing procedures, we:

- Have installed additional handwashing stations at high traffic areas
- Have installed hand sanitizing stations throughout the campus.
- Require handwashing and sanitization prior to entering dining facility.
- Encourage proper handwashing technique with signage and other reminders.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) used to control employees' exposure to COVID-19

We evaluate the need for PPE (such as gloves, goggles, and face shields) as required by CCR Title 8, section 3380, and provide such PPE as needed.

Investigating and Responding to COVID-19 Cases

This will be accomplished by using the **Appendix C: Investigating COVID-19 Cases** form.

Employees who had potential COVID-19 exposure in our workplace will be:

- Offered COVID-19 testing as soon as possible at no cost during their working hours.
- Provide immediate information on the School's policies for potential exposures, risk mitigation, and benefits.
- Offered follow-up testing at no cost as appropriate in the following days.

System for Communicating

Our goal is to ensure that we have effective two-way communication with our employees, in a form they can readily understand, and that it includes the following information:

- Who employees should report COVID-19 symptoms and possible hazards to, and how through communication in regular meetings, over school email, and during surveillance testing.
- That employees can report symptoms and hazards without fear of reprisal.
- Our procedures or policies for accommodating employees with medical or other conditions that put them at increased risk of severe COVID-19 illness.
- The availability of regular testing provided on campus at no charge to employees, including upon request by employees who believe they may have been exposed to the virus in the workplace.
- Information about COVID-19 hazards employees (including other employers and individuals in contact with our workplace) may be exposed to, what is being done to control those hazards, and our COVID-19 policies and procedures.
- Regular community updates by email of any known or suspected cases in the community, in accordance with applicable privacy laws.

Training and Instruction

We will provide effective training and instruction that includes:

- Our COVID-19 policies and procedures to protect employees from COVID-19 hazards.
- Information regarding COVID-19-related benefits to which the employee may be entitled under applicable federal, state, or local laws.
- The fact that:
 - COVID-19 is an infectious disease that can be spread through the air.
 - COVID-19 may be transmitted when a person touches a contaminated object and then touches their eyes, nose, or mouth.

- An infectious person may have no symptoms.
- Methods of physical distancing of at least six feet and the importance of combining physical distancing with the wearing of face coverings.
- The fact that particles containing the virus can travel more than six feet, especially indoors, so physical distancing must be combined with other controls, including face coverings and hand hygiene, to be effective.
- The importance of frequent hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and using hand sanitizer when employees do not have immediate access to a sink or hand washing facility, and that hand sanitizer does not work if the hands are soiled.
- Proper use of face coverings and the fact that face coverings are not respiratory protective equipment - face coverings are intended to primarily protect other individuals from the wearer of the face covering.
- COVID-19 symptoms, and the importance of obtaining a COVID-19 test and not coming to work if the employee has COVID-19 symptoms.

Appendix D: COVID-19 Training Roster will be used to document this training.

Exclusion of COVID-19 Cases

Where we have a COVID-19 case in our workplace, we will limit transmission by:

- Ensuring that COVID-19 cases are excluded from the workplace until our return-to-work requirements are met.
- Excluding employees with COVID-19 exposure from the workplace for 14 days after the last known COVID-19 exposure to a COVID-19 case.
- Continuing and maintaining an employee's earnings, seniority, and all other employee rights and benefits whenever we've demonstrated that the COVID-19 exposure is work related. This will be accomplished by employing support from public programs, our existing sick leave benefits, and our personnel policies, as communicated by the benefits manager.
- Providing employees at the time of exclusion with information on available benefits.

Reporting, Recordkeeping, and Access

It is our policy to:

- Report information about COVID-19 cases at our workplace to the local health department whenever required by law, and provide any related information requested by the local health department.
- Report immediately to Cal/OSHA any COVID-19-related serious illnesses or death, as defined under CCR Title 8 section 330(h), of an employee occurring in our place of employment or in connection with any employment.
- Maintain records of the steps taken to implement our written COVID-19 Prevention Program in accordance with CCR Title 8 section 3203(b).
- Make our written COVID-19 Prevention Program available at the workplace to employees, authorized employee representatives, and to representatives of Cal/OSHA immediately upon request.
- Use the **Appendix C: Investigating COVID-19 Cases** form to keep a record of and track all COVID-19 cases. The information will be made available to employees, authorized employee representatives, or as otherwise required by law, with personal identifying information removed.

Return-to-Work Criteria

- COVID-19 cases with COVID-19 symptoms will not return to work until all the following have occurred:
 - At least 24 hours have passed since a fever of 99.5 or higher has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medications.
 - COVID-19 symptoms have improved.
 - At least 10 days have passed since COVID-19 symptoms first appeared.

- COVID-19 cases who tested positive but never developed COVID-19 symptoms will not return to work until a minimum of 10 days have passed since the date of specimen collection of their first positive COVID-19 test.
 - A negative COVID-19 test will not be required for an employee to return to work.
 - If an order to isolate or quarantine an employee is issued by a local or state health official, the employee will not return to work until the period of isolation or quarantine is completed or the order is lifted. If no period was specified, then the period will be 10 days from the time the order to isolate was effective, or 14 days from the time the order to quarantine was effective.
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Jeff Hooper, Assistant Head of School
Jan 18, 2021