

Happy Valley School District

Plan for Return to In-Person Instruction

2021-2022



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Introduction

Happy Valley is committed to support the safety, academic, and social-emotional needs of students and staff following the pandemic. The purpose of this document is designed to provide a continuum of instructional opportunities and safety protocols that may be implemented based on health and safety restrictions in our State and County. It is obvious COVID-19 will be present in our community during the 2021-2022 school year and we must plan to deliver instructional options that mitigate transmission potential and respond appropriately to protect students and staff. The delivery of the instructional plans may vary, based on changes in our community's rate of infection, over the course of the academic year.

School leaders and the school community are prepared for the future possibility of variants of COVID-19 and the impact on students, and to respond to guidance while students are in school.

As we prepare to return to full in-person learning in August, we look forward to feedback and collaboration with our stakeholders: Board members, Staff, Parents, Students, and Community Members. This document is based on guidance and information taken from the California Department of Health [CDPH Guidance](#), including Reopening Framework and Guidance [FAQs](#), and in conjunction with the Santa Cruz County Office of Education [COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidance](#).

Guiding Principles

- Keep students, staff and families safe and healthy.
- Ensure equitable access and opportunities for all students.
- Include flexibility and options that meet the needs of our students.
 - Engage and communicate with stakeholders.
 - Leverage county and community resources
 - Comply with public health directives and guidelines.
- Support students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health.

Instruction



Happy Valley is committed to students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health. In order to address the academic impact of lost instructional time due to COVID-19, we will implement increased evidence-based interventions. These interventions include, but are not limited to, aide support, an intervention teacher committed to supporting students both in and out of the classroom, outdoor learning environments, counseling, Social-Emotional curriculum (Peacebuilders), and safety protocols. The current curriculum and resources meet the needs of most students, and additional resources may be purchased or investigated to support specific needs in all subject areas.



Health and Safety



Masks

K-12 students are required to mask indoors, with exemptions per [CDPH face mask guidance](#). All adults in K-12 school settings are required to mask when sharing indoor spaces with students.



Screening

We will be following a modified screening protocol, meaning we are asking parents to check their children for any COVID symptoms before coming to school. Additionally, temperatures will be taken daily before entering the playground.

Social distancing

Recent evidence indicates that in-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking) are implemented. This is consistent with [CDC K-12 School Guidance](#).



Ventilation recommendations

For indoor spaces, ventilation should be optimized, which can be done by following [CDPH Guidance on Ventilation of Indoor Environments and Ventilation and Filtration](#)

to Reduce Long-Range Airborne Transmission of COVID-19 and Other Respiratory Infections: Considerations for Reopened Schools. There are ventilation system filters in every classroom that are MERV-rated at MERV 13 or better. Portable air cleaners are also available in every classroom. Windows and doors will be opened when appropriate.



Hygiene

Signs are posted around campus, bathrooms, and classrooms with Mask Guidance and Hand Washing reminders. Hand sanitizer is available in every classroom. Classrooms have sinks for handwashing as well.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Each room used will be cleaned daily. Students and staff are highly encouraged to bring their own water bottles.



Food Service

CDHP recommends maximizing physical distance as much as possible while eating (especially indoors). There are outside spaces available for eating when the weather allows and as much as feasible.

Health Protocols

Students or staff **with COVID-19 symptoms or who test positive for COVID-19** must isolate. If symptoms occur at school, students should be kept in an isolation room until they are picked up by their caregivers.

Students may return to school when:

1. At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; **and**
2. Other symptoms have improved; **and**
3. One of the following:

- a. They have a negative test for SARS-CoV-2, **OR**
- b. A healthcare provider has provided documentation that the symptoms are typical of their underlying chronic condition (e.g., allergies or asthma)
OR
- c. A healthcare provider has confirmed an alternative diagnosis, **OR**
- d. At least 10 days have passed since symptom onset.

When there is an **exposure** (more than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period within 0-6 feet indoors) where both parties were wearing a mask in the indoor classroom setting: Unvaccinated students may undergo a modified 10-day quarantine and continue to attend school if they:

- Are asymptomatic, **and**
- Continue to appropriate mask, as required, **and**
- Undergo at least twice weekly testing during the 10-day quarantine; **and**
- Continue to quarantine for all extracurricular activities at school and activities within the community setting.

(See [K-12 Guidance](#), Updated 7/13/2021)



Parent Involvement

There are many ways parents can be involved in their children's education at Happy Valley.

Opportunities to be involved include:

- Parent Club
- School Site Council
- On-site volunteers may be expanded as the year progresses
- Field trips as allowable

Conclusion

Happy Valley School's mission is to educate the whole child in a small, safe, community supported school that provides a solid foundation to achieve academic, social , and emotional success. Happy Valley will continue to work with the County Office of Education and the Santa Cruz Public Health Officer to identify and clarify public health restrictions. This document will be regularly updated as regulations, mandates, and schedules change.

For more information, please contact Michelle Stewart, Superintendent, Happy Valley Elementary School mstewart@hvesd.com .