



SCHOOL OPENING & SAFETY PLAN

2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

This document is subject to change in accordance with state guidelines

Updated: September 7, 2021



SCHOOL OPERATIONS

COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES



COVID-19 RESPONSE PRACTICES



CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

PUBLIC INPUT

SCHOOL OPERATIONS

What Families Can Expect When Returning to School in 2021-2022

- Full-day instruction for all grade levels, five days per week
- 100% virtual option for families seeking an alternative to in-person learning
- Safety mitigation measures as indicated in most recent CDPH health and safety guidance
- Learning acceleration and academic intervention strategies
- Increased social-emotional supports

Mask guidance

Students and staff are required to wear masks while indoors at school, regardless of vaccination status, unless a medical exemption is provided by a doctor. Masks are no longer required outdoors.

It is encouraged for staff and students to bring their own face masks. If needed, masks will be available for staff and students,

[CDPH Guidance on Face Coverings](#) | [Face Coverings Q&A](#)

[HBCSD Mask Enforcement Protocol](#) (Board approved 8/17/2021)

Medical Exemptions

Per CDPH Guidance, students and staff with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a mask are exempt from mask requirements.

Assessing for exemption due to a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a mask is a medical determination and therefore must be made by a licensed healthcare provider. The HBCSD defines a healthcare provider as a licensed MD, DO, NP, or PA.

Persons exempted from wearing a face mask due to a medical condition, must wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, as long as their condition permits it.

In limited situations where a face mask cannot be used for pedagogical or developmental reasons (e.g. communicating or assisting students with special needs), a face shield with a drape will be used instead of a mask while in the classroom as long as the wearer remains physically distanced

from others. Staff with a verified medical condition should contact Human Resources.

Physical distancing

CDPH guidelines state that in-person instruction can occur without physical distancing when universal masking is in place.

Food Services

The United States Department of Agriculture announced that they will reimburse school districts for free meals to all students, regardless of income, for the 2021-22 school year. As a result, all in-person HBCSD students will receive free meals throughout the next school year.

Lunch

Schools are not required to maintain specific distancing requirements during lunch or mealtimes. HBCSD schools will follow CDPH guidance, which states to "maximize physical distance as much as possible while eating (especially indoors)." To the extent feasible to accommodate all students for in-person instruction, schools will use additional spaces outdoors for lunch.

Visitors

Per CDPH guidelines, schools will limit nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations. The use of volunteers is on hold until the vaccine/testing requirement process can be determined.

The vaccine or testing requirements for staff also apply to volunteers per CDPH. Once the District Formulates and implements protocols for staff to be compliant with the public health order by October 15, 2021, HBCSD will establish protocols for monitoring volunteer vaccination and testing status.

Transportation

Students and staff will be required to wear face masks while on the bus. District vehicles are regularly cleaned and disinfected. Staff will accommodate students with disabilities while on a school bus.

Facility use

Facility use agreements are currently accepted for outdoor spaces only.

Facility use of indoor spaces will be reconsidered for January 2022.

Family Resources

Community Resources

- [2-1-1OC](#)
 - County resource to connect families with any resource available in Orange County ranging from financial assistance, housing, food, unemployment, clothing/hygiene, transportation, legal assistance, mental health, children/family, and crisis services.
- Family Solutions Collaborative- [English](#), [Spanish](#)
 - Provides coordination of services to prevent, divert and house homeless families.
- [Start Well](#) - Childhood Mental Health and Wellness Program
 - Connects Early Childhood Education providers to the early intervention and mental health system through early identification, support for early childhood care providers, and family outreach.
- [Help Me Grow OC](#)
 - Connects families with children 0-8 years of age to developmental services by providing screening, outreach, referrals, and education to families and providers.
- [Children's Home Society](#)
 - Offers child care resource and referral program and subsidized child care services

Emotional Wellness Resources

- [California Resources for Emotional Support and Wellness](#)
- [National Institutes of Health Emotional Wellness Toolkit](#)
- [Taking Care of Yourself](#)

Self Care Social Media Accounts

Like all forms of online information, the content and quality of the social media linked below may change over time. These accounts are provided as a resource only. Content should be reviewed regularly to determine appropriate use for individual needs.

[Meditation Apps for Kids](#)

- Instagram:
 - **@dlcanxiety:** Worlds largest anxiety support community that offers tools to help manage anxiety.
 - **@MySelfLoveSupply:** This Instagram account offers tips and tricks to improve your mental health through self-care ideas, journaling prompts, quotes to remind you of positive things around you, and more.
- TikTok:
 - **@Lindsay.FlemingLPC:** Fill your For You Page with creators that make you feel good! Lindsay Fleming is a licensed therapist who has blown up on TikTok, providing teens with a space to learn about mental health from a cool professional. Check out Lindsay's account!
- YouTube:
 - **Psych Hub:** Psych Hub brings mental health education to the world through engaging videos on their YouTube channel. The best part? Psych Hub uploads these inspiring and informative videos to their channel 5-6 times a week! Videos include tips for returning to the classroom, and how to deal with depression and anxiety.

FREE smartphone apps for download to support the emotional wellness of you and your student:

- Virtual Hope Box - ([Android](#) [Apple](#))
 - App designed to enhance and strengthen positive coping skills. Within the app there are games for distraction, relaxation techniques, and a section for inputting inspirational quotes or photos. You can also pick several contacts for "support" in case of any emergencies.
- MindShift - ([Android](#) [Apple](#))
 - App used to teach and educate about anxiety. The app can be tailored to each individual's needs in regards to situations that cause anxiety, symptoms of anxiety, and effective coping skills.

- Headspace - ([Android](#) [Apple](#))
 - App for guided meditation and mindfulness practice.
- Stop, Breathe, and Think - ([Android](#) [Apple](#))
 - App for check-ins on feelings and reminders to meditate and take breaks throughout the day.
- Sit With Us - ([Android](#) [Apple](#))
 - App designed to build kindness and inclusion in schools. The app was developed by a 16 year old girl that was a victim of severe bullying. Allows users to invite others to join them at lunch and make new friends.
- Happify - ([Android](#) [Apple](#))
 - App designed to create happiness and challenge negativity. Through use of games the user will learn many positive ways to conquer negative thinking and build stronger self-confidence.
- Sleep Cycle - ([Android](#) [Apple](#))
 - App designed to monitor how restful your sleep is.

Mental Health Resources

As a reminder, please access your regular mental health provider for support. If you have private insurance, consider calling your carrier for a referral list that matches your child's needs. For those who are seeking alternatives, here are some options:

- [OC Student Mental Health: Resource Directory](#)
- [Behavioral Health Department in Orange County](#)
- [Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services](#)
- [Good Therapy](#)
- [Talkspace](#)
- [BetterHelp](#)

The above list is not a comprehensive list of providers in Orange County and is **not** a formal referral from HBCSD. Please use discretion in selecting a mental health provider.

Emergency Resources:

In case of a life threatening emergency, call 9-1-1

- [OC Links](#): 855-625-4657
- [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#): 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- [Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide Parent Resource](#)
- [American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](#)

- Crisis Assessment Team (mobile county team): 866-830-6011
- [California Youth Crisis Line](#): 1-800-843-5200
- [Crisis Text Line](#): text HOME to 741714
- [Didi Hirsch Mental Health 24-hour Crisis Line](#): 1-877-727-4747
- [Reset Toolbox: No Cost Training & Resources to Build Resilience](#)

Technology Support

The technology support website is available for students and parents to access technology resources.

[Student and Parent Technology Resources](#)

COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES

Daily Home Screening/Student Decision Symptom Tree

Students, with parent/guardian oversight, should complete a symptom self-assessment each day, prior to arrival at school.

Students with a fever of 100.4 or higher or any COVID-19 symptoms including chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle or body aches, the new loss of smell/taste, vomiting, nausea, or diarrhea must stay home. If your student is sick, please consult with your health care provider.

[Student Symptom Decision Tree](#)
[Staff Symptom Decision Tree](#)

Should your child exhibit any of the symptoms identified in the decision tree, please keep them at home and contact the school.

Hygiene and Healthy Habits

Students will be educated and reminded of healthy hygiene behaviors to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water and scrub for 20 seconds
- Wash hands:
 - After blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing
 - After using the restroom
 - Before eating or preparing food
 - After playing outside
 - Before and after touching your face
 - After transitioning from one area to another
 - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or your elbow
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick

Ventilation and Cleaning

School HVAC systems have been recalibrated to pull in more fresh air and are equipped with upgraded MERV-13 filters.

Custodial staff are trained in COVID-19 cleaning and disinfecting procedures and will continue to implement related protocols to deep clean, sanitize and disinfect sites.

Staff Vaccination and Testing Requirements

CDPH issued a [public health order requiring all school employees to provide proof of full vaccination or participate in weekly testing](#). The District must be fully compliant by October 15, 2021.

COVID-19 RESPONSE PRACTICES

Student & Staff Quarantine | Contact Tracing | Testing

[CDPH Quarantine Guidelines For Schools](#)

If there is a confirmed COVID-19 case within our schools or District sites, we may implement multiple actions, based on Orange County Health Care Agency (OCHCA) and State guidance. The District conducts contact tracing to identify if staff or students may have been in close contact with a person having tested positive for COVID-19. The school nurse or school administration will communicate with families if their student has been identified as a close contact.

The school nurse or school administration will communicate with staff or families if they or their student has been identified as a close contact.

If a staff member is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19, they should inform their supervisor/site administrator, who will contact the Human Resources Department to report the illness and receive direction on the next steps.

Dashboard And Communication Practices

The District and our schools will continue to track and communicate confirmed COVID-19 cases and close contact exposures as defined by the [CDPH](#).

HBCSD is committed to providing accurate and transparent information regarding COVID-19 cases on our campuses and at District sites while maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of our students and staff.

The HBCSD COVID-19 Dashboard represents the number of current confirmed cases among our in-person staff and students. Data is updated weekly (if new cases are confirmed).

CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

HBCSD will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

Social-Emotional Supports

HBCSD added credentialed school counselors and counseling interns to support the social-emotional needs of students across all schools in the district.

Academic Supports

HBCSD will continue to utilize technology tools, such as Canvas, that have provided a smoother transition between in-person learning and potential short-term independent study due to quarantine.

Health and Safety Supports

The District continues to provide increased hours and additional personnel to ensure support for health and safety, cleaning protocols, and COVID-19 contact tracing and coordination.

The District continues to provide necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) as indicated by CDPH and Cal/OSHA.

In-Person Instruction Alternative

The District offers a Virtual Program using an independent study model with teacher support for families who prefer a fully online option in 2021-2022.

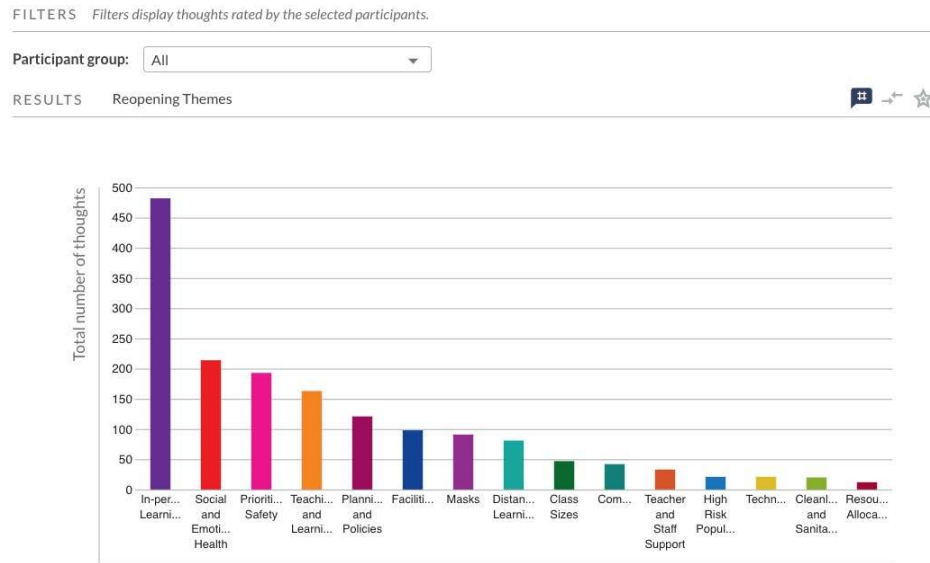
Continuity of Instruction for Students who Test Positive or are Close Contacts

Students who are absent from school due to a positive case of COVID-19 or are considered close contacts of a positive case will be offered a short-term independent study contract for up to 15 days per school year.

PUBLIC INPUT

- The District sought input from students, staff, and parents/guardians in developing this plan using the
- Thoughtexchange platform. Over 1,600 participants shared 1,781 thoughts and over 83,000 ratings of submitted thoughts regarding COVID-19 impacts and planning. The top three themes of submitted thoughts focused on returning to in-person learning, addressing the social and emotional needs of students, and prioritizing student safety.

THEMES - PRIORITIES FOR 2021-2022 - REOPENING THEMES



- This data was shared with the District’s Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)/2021-2022 reopening advisory committee in planning the support and continuity of services that would be provided in 2021-2022.
- This 23-person advisory committee composed of teachers, staff, community members, SELPA Administrator, and parents analyzed the ThoughtExchange results and student achievement data, identified priorities, and developed strategies and actions of how to address needs.
- The committee met three times to analyze data, identify needs, draft goals and prioritize actions and services. HBCSD leaders met with association leaders to enlist their ideas and input on the support and needs of students and staff as well as additional strategies and actions to provide student support and address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. HBCSD leaders solicited feedback from parent leaders, PTA/PTSA, and DAC/DELAC members to further identify needs and develop strategies.
- The District’s proposed reopening plan, “Restoring and Rebuilding 2021-2022,” was presented to the Board and the public on May 18, 2021. The public was invited to comment on the plan. Comments were overwhelmingly focused on returning to full-day instruction at pre-pandemic instructional minutes at all grade levels and addressing social-emotional needs. The District incorporated this feedback into the plan by reducing class sizes to allow for increased time and support for students and to provide physical distance should it be required in the 2021-2022 school year. The District also hired additional credentialed counselors to address the social-emotional needs of students.

- A draft of the supports identified in the LCAP, which also included the proposed actions to provide continuity of services, was shared with the community to provide additional input, ask questions, and provide feedback.
- A public hearing of the LCAP was conducted at a meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 15, 2021.

Assurances

The District provides the following assurances regarding this plan:

- The District has made its plan publicly available no later than 30 days after receiving its American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) allocation.
- The District sought public comment in the development of its plan and took those public comments into account in the development of its plan.
- The District will periodically review and, as appropriate revise its plan, at least every six months.
- The District will seek public comment in determining whether to revise its plan and if it determines revisions are necessary, on the revisions it makes to the plan.
- If the District revises its plan, it will ensure its revised plan addresses each of the aspects of safety currently recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), or if the CDC has revised its guidance, the updated safety recommendations at the time the District is revising its plan.
- The District has created its plan in an understandable and uniform format.
- The District's plan is, to the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand, or if not practicable, orally translated.
- The District will, upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provide the plan in an alternative format accessible to that parent.
- The following person or persons is/are the appropriate contact person for any questions or concerns about the aforementioned plan. Please list name(s), title(s), address, county, and contact information for the person or persons responsible for developing, submitting, and amending the District's plan.

Leisa Winston, Ed.D., Superintendent
Patricia Hager, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Jenny Delgado, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services
Cynthia Guerrero, Ed.D. Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

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