

Coronado Unified School District  
Board Policy

BP 0530

COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN

The following policy establishes actions that would be taken by the District to provide a safe learning and working environment during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and shall supersede any conflicting language in existing district policies or administer regulations until the governing board determines that the need for this policy no longer exists. The Board acknowledges that, due to the evolving nature of the pandemic, federal, state, and local orders impacting district operations are subject to change without notice. In the event that any federal, state, or local order may conflict with this policy, the order shall govern.

(cf. 2210 - Administrative Discretion Regarding Board Policy)  
(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)  
(cf. 9310 - Board Policies)

The Board may also adopt resolutions or take other actions as needed to respond to such orders or provide further direction during the pandemic. The Board recognizes that students and staff have the right to a safe campus that protects their physical and psychological health and well-being. School campuses shall only be open when deemed safe for in-person instruction. The Board's decision to reopen school campuses for classes, before or after school programs, child care centers, and/or preschool programs shall be made in consultation with state and local health officials. The district shall evaluate its capacity to implement safety precautions and to conduct full or partial school operations, and shall consider student, staff, parent/guardian, and community input.

(cf. 0400 - Comprehensive Plans)  
(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)  
(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

**Health Screening of Students**

To the extent feasible, students shall be screened for COVID-19 symptoms before and/or upon arrival at school each day. The Superintendent or designee shall work with local health officials to determine the appropriate means of screening, which may include temperature checks with a no-touch thermometer. If the screening indicates a fever or other COVID-19 symptoms, or if the student exhibits symptoms at any time during the school day, the student shall be placed in a supervised isolation area until the student's parent/guardian is contacted and the student can be transported home or to a health care facility. School staff may provide the parent/guardian with referrals to school or community health centers for further testing.

(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)  
(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)

### **Student Absence and Attendance**

The Board recognizes that COVID-19 will continue to impact the attendance of students following the reopening of school campuses. The Superintendent or designee shall notify students and parents/guardians of expectations regarding school attendance. Such notification shall direct any student who contracts the virus or lives with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 to stay home in accordance with state and local health directives so as to curtail the spread of the disease.

Students who are exposed to and/or test positive for COVID-19 shall be excluded from on-campus instruction until a medical provider states in writing that the student is no longer contagious. (Education Code 49451; Health and Safety Code 120230; 5 CCR 202)

Students who are identified as being in a high-risk population for serious complications from COVID-19 because of a medical condition may request assessment and accommodations under Section 504 and/or an alternative instructional method that allows the student to continue receiving instruction off campus.

When a student is absent, the student's parent/guardian shall notify the school of the reason for the absence. A physician's verification of a student's illness or quarantine may be submitted, but is not required.

If a student would otherwise be required to attend on-campus instruction but is kept home by the parents/guardians due to concerns for the welfare of their child, the principal or designee shall work with the student and parent/guardian to find alternative means of instruction, which may include distance or blended learning, independent study, printed class assignments, or other reasonable means.

### **Social Distancing**

In order to maintain a campus environment that allows for social distancing, the district shall assess the capacity of school facilities, including classrooms, cafeterias, multi-purpose rooms, gyms, and outdoor areas, and determine the means by which the facilities can best be utilized considering space and time alternatives. To the extent reasonably possible, the district may:

1. Within classrooms, space desks and position them in a way that limits students facing each other
2. Stagger students in areas of high traffic, such as when students are lining up for class
3. Mark boundaries within classrooms, common areas, outdoor spaces, and places where students are likely to gather so that students and staff are more readily aware of and can more easily abide by social distancing requirements

4. Utilize restroom stalls and sinks in a manner that allows for social distancing, such as limiting the number of students and/or staff who may use the restroom at a time, blocking off every other stall or sink from use, and/or marking six-foot boundaries
5. Minimize interactions between students from different classrooms in common spaces, such as in cafeterias and libraries
6. Conduct recess and physical education classes in a manner that allows for social distancing and minimizes the use of physical education equipment

### **Face coverings and Hygiene Practices**

Face coverings must be used in accordance with State and California Department of Public Health guidelines. The Board requires students, staff, and visitors to wear face coverings while on school campuses, in indoor environments and areas where physical distancing alone is not sufficient to prevent disease transmission. The district shall provide face coverings to students and staff who do not bring their own personal face covering, as required.

Students and staff shall be provided instruction in the proper use, removal, disposal, and cleaning of face coverings.

Face coverings shall not be required for children younger than two years, or for anyone who has trouble breathing or is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the covering without assistance.

Any face covering advertising alcohol, drugs, tobacco, sexually explicit material, violence or criminal activity, or foul language is not to be worn. Face coverings advertising non-school related groups/clubs cannot be worn on campus. A violation of this prohibition will be treated as a dress code violation.

Reasonable accommodations shall be made for anyone who is unable to wear a face covering for medical reasons. The Board also encourages students and staff to practice good hygiene, such as appropriate covering of coughs and sneezes and regular hand washing of at least 20 seconds, including before eating and after blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing. The district shall provide adequate time and opportunity for students to wash hands, and shall make hand sanitizer available in areas where handwashing is less accessible. Signage regarding healthy hygiene practices and how to stop the spread of COVID-19 may be posted in and around school facilities.

### **Consequences for Violation of PPE Practices**

Students, staff, volunteers and visitors who refuse to wear face coverings who are not otherwise exempted from wearing face coverings, shall be precluded from entering school grounds.

The failure or refusal to wear face coverings where required is the basis for discipline. A student who is not wearing the required face covering may not participate in classroom activities until such face covering is worn.

Discipline can include:

1. Removal from the classroom setting. The classroom teacher may send the pupil to the principal or the designee of the principal for the duration of the class.
2. Suspension. In instances where there is a repeated failure or refusal to wear a face covering a teacher may suspend any pupil from class for the day of the suspension and the day following. The teacher shall immediately report the suspension to the principal of the school and send the pupil to the principal or designee of the principal for appropriate action. As soon as possible, the teacher shall ask the parent or guardian of the pupil to attend a parent-teacher conference regarding the suspension. A school administrator shall attend the conference if the teacher or the parent or guardian so requests. The pupil shall not be returned to the class from which he or she was suspended during the period of the suspension without the concurrence of the teacher of the class and the principal.

### **Staff PPE Practices**

All staff must use face coverings in accordance with California Department of Public Health guidelines unless Cal/OSHA standards require respiratory protection. In limited situations where a face covering cannot be used for pedagogical or developmental reasons (i.e.

communicating or assisting young children or those with special needs) a face shield can be used instead of a cloth-based covering while in the classroom as long as the wearer maintains physical distance from others, to the extent practicable. Staff must return to wearing face covering outside of the classroom.

Workers or other persons handling or serving food must use gloves in addition to face coverings.

### **Nondiscrimination**

The Board prohibits discrimination based on actual or perceived medical condition or disability status. (Government Code 11135)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

Individual students and staff shall not be identified as being COVID-positive, nor shall students be shamed, treated differently, or denied access to a free and appropriate public education because of their COVID-19 status or medical condition. Staff shall not disclose confidential or privileged information, including the medical history or health information of students and staff. (Education Code 49450)

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

The Superintendent or designee shall investigate any reports of harassment, intimidation, and bullying targeted at any student based on COVID status, exposure, or high-risk status.

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

## **Community Relations**

The Superintendent or designee shall use a variety of methods to regularly communicate with students, parents/guardians, and the community regarding district operations, school schedules, and steps the district is taking to promote the health and safety of students. In addition, the members of the Board have a responsibility as community leaders to communicate matters of public interest in a manner that is consistent with Board policies and bylaws regarding public statements.

(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations) (cf. 9010 - Public Statements)

The district shall continue to collaborate with local health officials and agencies to ensure that district operations reflect current recommendations and best practices for keeping students, staff, and visitors safe during the COVID-19 state of emergency. The Superintendent or designee shall keep informed about resources and services available in the community to assist students and families in need.

(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)

While the Board recognizes the rights of parents/guardians to participate in the education of their children and the critical importance of parental involvement in the educational process, all visitors and volunteers are required to respect guidelines regarding social distancing and large gatherings. School visitors and volunteers shall be limited in number and expected to observe all district protocols for COVID-19. The Superintendent or designee may place signage around the school advising that visitors and volunteers will be required to use PPE (unless exempted) while on school sites and interacting with school personnel, and may keep a supply of such equipment available for their use.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 1250 - Visitors/Outsiders)

Use of school facilities by persons or organizations for community purposes involving large gatherings shall be suspended until the Board determines, consistent with guidance from state and local health officials, that it is safe to resume such activities. The Superintendent or designee may only grant an exception if the number of participants in the activity will be limited and the person or organization follows the processes and protocols established by the district to minimize the health risks associated with COVID-19.

(cf. 1330 - Use of School Facilities)

