

Dunsmuir High School Opening Plan 20-21

A guide to address the challenges of COVID-19 in school

Dunsmuir Joint Union High School District, Siskiyou County Office of Education and Siskiyou County Public Health are fully committed to working together to prepare a reopening plan for schools. All of the public schools in Siskiyou County share a common set of best practices when it comes to guiding each school's and district's return to instruction on school sites as safely and effectively as possible, with as much normalcy as possible.

Back to school immunizations are even more important this year. Doing all we can to reduce the occurrence of other vaccine preventable diseases such as influenza, will avoid confusion and unnecessary concern for COVID-19.

The principles of the COVID-19 concern will be addressed in this overview and will include student physical distancing, limiting mixing of students, wearing of facemasks, environmental cleaning, and keeping both students and staff who are sick, at home.

Dunsmuir High School will need to apply the California Department of Public Health Guidance, but because our school is unique in its student size, facilities, staff, and resources available, how that may look exactly, will look differently than other schools.

With the release of the California Department of Public Health Guidance on June 5, 2020, Dunsmuir High School is planning to return to school on August 12, 2020. We have developed this plan as a guide to what that opening will look like for the future of the educational process.

COVID-19

How is COVID-19 Spread?

COVID-19 is spread mainly from person-to-person, via air droplets that contain the virus. For example: when a person sneezes, coughs or talks, the virus is exhaled by the infected person and then inhaled by a nearby person. Some people do not show any signs or symptoms of being ill, but can still spread the virus. The virus can also spread when a person touches objects and surfaces that have a virus on it and then touches their eyes, nose or mouth.

How can we prevent transmission?

The virus can spread easily from person-to-person, so taking necessary precautions is an important way to keep you, your family, friends and community safe. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. Key prevention practices include:

- Physical distancing to the maximum extent possible
- ➤ Washing hands with soap and water, frequently, for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available then use hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol).
- Using a cloth face cover for your nose and mouth, unless you have a difficult time breathing.
- ➤ Covering your coughs/sneezes. If you use a tissue, throw it away immediately and wash your hands.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces.
- Monitoring you and your family's health by taking temperatures and watching for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

CORONAVIRUS SYMPTOWS People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness.



SYMPTOMS MAY APPEAR 2-14 DAYS AFTER EXPOSURE TO THE VIRUS. PEOPLE WITH THESE SYMPTOMS MAY HAVE COVID-19:

























Before Coming to School

Screening at home-

Families are encouraged to take temperatures as necessary before sending students to school. Anyone with a fever of 100.4° or higher should stay home.

Students should be screened for COVID-19 symptoms prior to coming to school. Those experiencing symptoms should not attend school.

Please contact the school if someone in your home or a close contact has ben diagnosed with COVID-19. Depending on the situation, your child may likely need to stay home for 14 days.

School staff will also be asked to screen before leaving for school and stay home if they have symptoms.

Arriving at and Picking up from school

Transportation-

Since physical distancing cannot be easily maintained on a school bus, face coverings will be mandatory. Window's on the bus will be kept open, as much as possible, in order to increase air flow. Busses will be cleaned and disinfected after each bus route is complete, both morning and afternoons.

Minimizing Contact-

In order to minimize contact, we will stagger arrival times, as well as utilize busses from DES and DHS in order to minimize overall contact, overcrowding and allow for social distancing at the bus stops while waiting for the bus. Students will be one per seat, loading from the back of the bus to the front of the bus, and unloading from the front of the bus to the back of the bus, to limit contact with others.

Wellness Checks-

School staff will be asked to conduct wellness checks for all students complaining of illness or symptoms upon arrival, (at the school) and take student's temperatures with a notouch thermometer upon entering the school site for those who need attention.

Signs of Illness-

Anyone experiencing shortness of breath will be isolated from others and observed. Face coverings are not recommended for anyone who has trouble breathing unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the covering without assistance. Per our local healthy Authority, a student or staff member who has measured temperature of 100.4° or greater will not be allowed to return to school (work) until they can show proof of a negative coronavirus test. This applies to siblings of the student with a fever as well.

Any staff member in the position of caring for an ill person will be trained in the appropriate use of personal protective equipment. Staff caring for a student at school who is actively vomiting or continuously coughing will don the

appropriate PPE's. (N95 mask, eye protection, cover gown and gloves)

Precautions throughout the day at school

Cleaning/Disinfecting Guidelines-

Schools will follow Centers for Disease Control & Prevention cleaning and disinfecting guideline.

The guidelines include requirements for cleaning high touch points (door handles, light switches, bathroom surfaces, classroom surfaces, technology, etc.) at the school throughout the day.

Handwashing Routine-

Routines will be established with teachers and students to regularly wash their hands and additional handwashing/hand sanitizing stations will be available.

Ventilation-

Windows and doors will be open as much as possible to provide fresh air. System will be on ventilation mode full time and filters will be changed regularly in the AC/Heating system to allow for cleanliness.

School Guests/Visitors-

All exterior doors will be locked to control entrance by those not authorized or necessary on campus. Any and all visitors must contact and be admitted by office personnel.

Authorized check in, identification and admission needs to be cleared by office staff. Service Providers and guests entering campus after signing in will be required to follow the same guidelines as staff and students (hand hygiene, face coverings, physical distancing).

School Meals-

Food service may provide meals to be eaten in areas other than the aud/lunchroom; outside, gym, or in other well ventilated areas that provide for social distancing.

Food service students/workers will be wearing masks and gloves. Class dismissal for lunch will be staggered, and distancing markers will be in place for all students/staff waiting to receive the lunch tray.

Use of refillable water bottles is encouraged for all staff and students.

Students who may be utilizing distance learning opportunities; meals will be available for pick up.

Signs of Illness while at School-

Any student or staff exhibiting symptoms should be required to immediately wear face covering, wait in a supervised isolation area until they can be transported home or to a health care facility.

Service Providers and Program Personnel-

A variety of people are on the school campus to provide services and support to the students and their families. Those providers will continue to provide these services, but will need to sign in at the school office each and every day. These individuals will not come on campus if they are ill, have any symptoms of COVID-19, or a temperature of 100.4° once they have arrived at school.

STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.



WASH

Wash your hands with soap and water often, and for at least 20 seconds.



COVER

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.



DO NOT TOUCH

Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth.



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arm's length) from other people.

Precautions throughout the School Day

Physical Distancing Measures-

Classrooms have been set up for a maximum capacity that meets the minimum distancing standards between seats/desks.

Teacher's desks will be at least 6 feet from student desks. The use of shared items will be limited, and cleaning will be done after each use.

School schedules may vary, however at this time, the regular school day will be in place. As long as we can provide the precaution of social distancing, and scheduling within the current class sizes, we will continue with this model.

Because of the smallness of our campus and student body, student groupings by grade level will provide for less mixing of the overall student population. This will help with the distancing aspect of the day.

Traffic flow between classes will be monitored to allow for distancing efforts to be followed. We may install protocols for one-way paths throughout the school day. Utilizing the stair cases will be one-way directioning and students will need to be in single file formation as they transcend these stairways. All students are to remain in the classroom once class has begun, with no wandering or unnecessary moving around the campus.

We will utilize non-classroom spaces as necessary for instruction, including outdoor spaces, as weather permits.

Physical barriers, such as Plexiglas may be in place in the office, library, cafeteria and other areas where physical distancing is not possible.

Face Coverings-

Cloth/paper face coverings will be worn by students and staff, especially when social distancing cannot be accomplished. The school will purchase an initial supply of cloth and paper masks, in order to insure that all staff and students are properly protected as necessary.

Proper use of Face Coverings-

Wash your hands before putting on the face covering

Place the covering over the nose and mouth and secure it under the chin.

Try to fit it snuggly against the sides of the face, while making sure you can breather easily.

Cleaning Face Coverings-

Cloth face coverings should be washed after each daily use, either by using warm water with laundry detergent or by hand using 4 teaspoons of bleach per quart of room temperature water.

Physical Education/Athletic Teams

- Activities will be held in large, well ventilated areas or outdoors
- > All equipment will be sanitized at the end of each use; personal items and equipment should not be shared
- Equipment bags and personal items will be placed 6 feet apart
- Sports participants who must practice in groups will be limited to 10 or fewer; participants must remain with the same group and not mix with or rotate to other groups
- Multiple groups can practice in one large area/field as long as separate groups are able to physically distance from one another including no floating coaches or support staff
- ➤ Groups of participants will be staggered to ensure physical distancing and avoid mixing participants in high-traffic areas (decks, locker rooms, drop off, pick up, etc.)
- > Use visual signs (marks on the ground) and give frequent reminders for practicing physical distancing
- Physical activities that require less contact with surfaces will be encouraged
- ➤ Gatherings, events and extracurricular activities will be limited to those that can maintain physical distancing and support proper hand hygiene

WITHIN CLASSROOMS



STUDENTS' SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

Time away from school has been challenging for most students. Teachers and other staff on campus will be assisting students in making a positive adjustment back to school.



INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

Distance learning has created differences in learning and support. Teachers and other support staff will be assessing students to determine where gaps may exist in order to help fill the gaps and accelerate learning.



TRAINING FOR STUDENTS

Teachers and other support staff will take time with students to talk about what has changed on the school campus since students left. Training will be provided in healthy hygiene practices, use of space on school campuses, keeping physically distant as much as possible, and how movement through the campus walkways may have changed.

Medically Fragile, Special Education and Handicapped Students

Students with underlying Health Conditions-

Families are encouraged to discuss safety concerns regarding return to class with their child's healthcare provider to determine if the student should continue with remote learning through the fall. This conversation should also occur with school staff in order that we may prepare the proper learning environment for the student.

Students with Mobility, Emotional, Behavioral, Developmental Needs

Classroom staff will use all appropriate prevention measures and will encourage students to do the same, as they are able. Any special considerations need to be communicated to school staff.

Students Receiving Specialized Physical Healthcare Procedures

Daily procedures will continue to be performed by trained staff members using the appropriate precautions and protective equipment necessary

COVID-19 Resurgence and School Plans

COVID-19 Procedures

DHS will participate in the Public Health Department Illness Surveillance Program and submit a weekly report to the PHD.

Communication and coordination with our families and community will be a critical part to reopening schools for the 2020-2021 school year.

Procedures for potential school closures and subsequent re-openings will be based on indicators of COVID-19 transmission in school and the community, and will continue to evolve as we learn more about COVID-19. Siskiyou County Public Health and the Siskiyou County Office of Education will provide specific guidance on this to schools and districts as the new school year approaches. Procedures to investigate COVID-19 cases at school will include contact tracing conducted in coordination with school officials. Please be prepared in the event of a classroom or school closure situation.

This document is subject to change as the guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the local Health Authority give updated information and guidance. For instance, currently, passive screening at home before coming to school is recommended. If conditions change, the PHD may require active screening.

Plans for Re-Opening school will be modified as the California Department of Public Health Guidance is updated