

Happy Valley School District

Plan for Return to In-Person Instruction

2022-2023



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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 2022-2023 school year and beyond, 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](#), 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

It is recommended that K-12 students mask indoors. Adults in K-12 school settings who are a close contact at school are required to mask when sharing indoor spaces with students. Masks are optional outside, and parents are encouraged to set the masking expectation with their child.



Screening

We are asking parents to check their children for any COVID symptoms before coming to school. All of the Districts in Santa Cruz County are participating in a weekly PCR screening system. Every student who signs up will be tested twice weekly for COVID. Please see the [FAOS](#) on the PCR system for more information. Families giving consent for student screening will sign up through [Inspire Diagnostics](#).

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.

COVID-19

Any student or staff who is COVID-19 positive must quarantine for 10 days.

Students or staff who **test positive for COVID-19** must isolate for 10 days and may return if:

- at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; **AND**
- Symptom improvement; **AND**
- At least 10 days have passed since symptom onset

Students may return after Day 5 **IF** the following apply.

- Tests Negative on Day 5 from a CLIA certified program **AND**
- No symptoms or improving symptoms **AND**
- Monitor symptoms through day 10. (Return to isolation if symptoms develop.)
- Masking is Strongly Recommended indoors

Students or staff **with COVID-19 symptoms** must be isolated. If symptoms occur at school, students will be isolated 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 administered by a CLIA certified lab, **OR**
 - b. A healthcare provider has provided documentation that the symptoms are typical of an 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 indoors at school, the following applies:

- Exposed students, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, should get tested for COVID-19 with at least one diagnostic test obtained within 3-5 days after last exposure, unless they had COVID-19 within the last 90 days.
 - Inspire Diagnostics will be on campus to test students Mondays and Thursdays. If you have not yet registered, here is the [link](#).
 - PCR and antigen testing must be performed/observed by a healthcare provider, laboratory, or a CLIA certified program.
- Exposed students who had COVID-19 within the last 90 days should monitor for symptoms. If symptoms develop, they should isolate and get tested.
- All students with known exposure should wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days.

Independent Study

Should parents be uncomfortable sending their child back to school in person, Pacific Elementary School is offering Long Term Independent Study to Happy Valley students, with an approved Interdistrict Transfer.

Should Happy Valley need to close school for emergency situations, Independent Study will be offered with the following conditions:

- (1) Independent study will be offered within 10 days of the first day of a school closure.
- (2) Students who are individuals with exceptional needs shall receive the services identified in their individualized education programs.
- (3) Independent study is voluntary.

Please call our school office for more information.



Parent Involvement

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

Opportunities for parents to be involved include:

- Parent Club
- LCAP Parent Advisory Committee
- Safety Committee
- On-site volunteers
- 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 .