

**AMADOR COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

# COVID-19 UPDATE

Presented to the Board of Trustees  
by Dr. Amy L. Slavensky, Superintendent  
October 7, 2020





## Challenges & Solutions

Operational Challenges	Solutions & Action Steps	Status
Meet the 6 foot distancing requirement in classrooms, to the extent practicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measure each classroom and plan for physical distancing with 30-36% of students attending at a time.</li> <li>Update the Health &amp; Safety Plan with support from Dr. Kerr.</li> </ul>	<p>Done</p> <p>In progress</p>
Disinfect classrooms and other common areas between cohorts; maintain good air quality in classrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purchase backpack disinfecting sprayers</li> <li>Purchase/install MERV-13 filters</li> <li>Repair broken windows</li> </ul>	<p>Done</p> <p>Done</p> <p>In progress</p>
Transport students with the 6 foot requirement, to the extent practicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limit number of students per bus.</li> <li>Eliminate in-town routes and increase number of busses per route.</li> <li>Ask parents who can to transport their children.</li> </ul>	<p>In progress</p>
Noncompliance with CDPH guidelines, such as wearing masks and social distancing	Students will be excluded from in-person learning and assigned full-time distance learning, using a progressive discipline approach.	<p>Planned</p>

2



## Challenges & Solutions

Operational Challenges	Solutions & Action Steps	Status
Manage daily temperature checks with hundreds of students and staff on site at a time	Staff use touchless thermometers at all entry points to do temperature checks, to the extent practicable.	Purchased Returning classified staff
Implement surveillance COVID-19 testing for students and staff	Administration work with Dr. Kerr to ensure school-based testing procedures are consistent with the CDPH guidelines.	In progress
Have enough substitute teachers and custodial staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase sub teacher rate of pay during pandemic.</li> <li>• Continue recruiting, hiring and training substitute teachers and custodial staff.</li> </ul>	Pending Board approval In progress
Schedule breakfast and lunch allowing enough time for disinfecting classrooms between cohorts	Provide grab & go meals. Students eat outside in good weather and in the gym/MPR in poor weather.	Planned
In the event a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the cohort (elementary) or school (secondary) will close for 14 days.	The cohort or school will be temporarily closed and students will resume full-time distance learning.	Planned

3



## Challenges & Solutions

Instructional Challenges	Solutions & Action Steps	Status
<b>Elementary:</b> Some students will have a teacher change due to staffing for two instructional models.	Ensure families and students have this understanding before making their learning model selection.	Done
<b>Secondary:</b> Reduced instructional time students will receive with only one physical contact per week, per class, and other contacts virtual.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure meaningful, standards-aligned assignments in all classes.</li> <li>• More work can be accomplished with students in-person than virtually.</li> </ul>	Planned
<b>Secondary:</b> Keep the master schedule intact so students stay on track to graduate.	(See above.)	Planned
<b>Secondary:</b> Offer a Distance Learning option with the Hybrid Model option without completely reconfiguring classes or requiring the hiring of many more teachers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reconsider Edgenuity option due to insufficient course offerings.</li> <li>• Purchase laptop computers with cameras for all teachers.</li> </ul>	In progress  Done

4



## Challenges & Solutions

Instructional Challenges	Solutions & Action Steps	Status
<p><b>High School:</b> Keep students on track to graduate given the mid-semester change in the learning model (i.e., pacing and course content coverage may be affected).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement grading plan to support a mid-semester change.</li> <li>Recognize and accept that it will not be perfect.</li> </ul>	<p>In progress</p> <p>In progress</p>
<p><b>Secondary:</b> Consider half-day in-person sessions, 2 days a week, allowing students to continue current bell schedule and align with elementary.</p>	<p>In response to Town Hall meeting feedback, family needs, and transportation schedules, align elementary and secondary schedule to 2 full days/week of in-person learning.</p>	<p>Planned</p>
<p><b>Secondary:</b> Keep cohorts of students together with no mixing, to the extent practicable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep the master schedule intact with secondary students changing classes following one-way signs.</li> <li>Staff disinfect classrooms during passing periods, to the extent practicable.</li> <li>Return classified staff from rehire list and repurpose to support disinfecting.</li> </ul>	<p>Planned</p> <p>Planned</p> <p>In progress</p>

5



## Preparing for Safe Return to Campuses

- Town Hall meetings
- Transportation planning
- Ongoing training and monitoring of ACUSD Health & Safety Plan During COVID19 for a Safe Return to School
- Implementing safety measures
  - *Air filters replaced 3-4 times a year*
  - *PPE purchased and deployed*
  - *Masks and social distancing used*
  - *Daily disinfecting/cleaning using backpack sprayers*
  - *Signage made and deployed*
  - *Plexiglas installed*
- Collaborative planning with principals, labor partners and others
- Negotiating with labor partners
- Ongoing communication with stakeholders and community

6



## In-Person Learning: Targeted Support for Students in Small Learning Cohorts

- The California Department of Public Health released new guidance on “targeted, specialized support and services at school.” (August 25, 2020)
- **Beginning October 19, 2020**, ACUSD will provide in-person support (academic, social-emotional, behavioral) for its most vulnerable students.
  - *English learners*
  - *Students with disabilities*
  - *Students far below grade level*
  - *Foster youth*
  - *Students struggling with significant social-emotional issues*
  - *Students who are chronically absent*
- **School staff is communicating with families this week.**
- CDPH guidance requires small cohorts of no more than 14 students and 2 adults that do not mix groups.

7



## In-Person Learning: Hybrid Models

**Beginning November 16, 2020**

Note the changes in response to feedback from families and staff during two Town Hall meetings.

### Elementary (TK-5/6)

- **2 full days per week of in-person learning**
- **3 full days of distance learning**
- Social distancing
- Mask wearing
- Disinfecting between cohorts, to the extent practicable
- **Aligned with secondary schools**
- **Coordinating with families for support, to the extent possible**

### Secondary (6-12)

- 2 full days per week of in-person learning
- 3 full days of distance learning
- Social distancing
- Mask wearing
- Disinfecting between cohorts, to the extent practicable
- **Aligned with elementary schools**
- **Coordinating with families for support, to the extent possible**

8



## Next Steps

- Continue action steps and planning for in-person learning.
- Continue to collaborate and negotiate with our labor partners.
- Continue to communicate updates to all stakeholders on returning to in-person learning.
- Continue to make improvements to distance learning.
- Continue to provide professional development and collaboration time to support in-person learning and distance learning.
- Continue to implement the Learning Continuity Plan making adjustments as needed.
- Continue to collaborate with Amador County Public Health Office.