Summerville Union High School District

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Summerville Union High School District
Safe Re-Opening Plan 2021-2022

Based on the COVID 19 virus pandemic, Summerville Union High School District has updated the Re-Opening Plan for the 2021-2022 school year to protect students, staff and our community to the best of our ability from the continued transmission of the virus. To that end the following plan will address specific areas of focus to mitigate this transmission.

School will start on August 25, 2021 in a 100% in-person learning format. All safety precautions will be taken as per guidance from Centers for Disease Control (CDC), California Department of Public Health (CDPH), California Occupational Health and Safety Administration (Cal/OSHA), Tuolumne County Public Health, and our weekly Superintendents' conversation with the Tuolumne County Public Health Officer and his team of professionals.

Students not wishing to return to in-person instruction must contact their Grade Level Coordinator to learn about the Independent Study option that is available. That is an option only for the 2021-22 school year.

The start of the 2021-2022 school year is upon us and school facilities (fields, gyms, classrooms) are closed to outside agencies for facility use permits unless the group has submitted a completed facility use permit and a Safety Plan approved by the Tuolumne County Public Health Department, the Tuolumne County Public Health Officer and the Summerville High facility use committee deems the facilities safe for use.

Sports Competitions are allowed under a plan crafted by the Athletic Directors and Principals of each of the Mother Lode League Schools with the three Public Health officials (Amador, Calaveras and Tuolumne) agreement and following the California Youth Sports Guidance. Competitions for all sports programs will start on a regular schedule when the 2021-2022 school year starts. If COVID-19 testing is required under local or state guidance, the school will provide that testing on campus for all participants (students and coaches). This testing is in the form of a PCR nasal swab test or a nasal swab rapid test. The PCR testing is fully funded by the state of California and carries no cost to the participant. The rapid test is not funded by the state. If parents or staff choose the rapid test they will be responsible for the cost.

General Measures

Summerville Union High School District Superintendent, Principal and Deputy Principal continue to be in at least weekly communication with the other Superintendents in the county, as well as our Public Health Officer and his staff to stay up to date with the most recent data regarding the active cases, hospitalizations, recoveries and deaths of the residents of Tuolumne County. In addition, we are sharing information about how to educate our communities, respond to the needs that the pandemic creates and provide resources for those in need.

This Safe Re-Opening Plan is created to provide for the safety of our students and staff as they interact in the in-person learning process with the start of the new school year.

We have continued to conduct risk assessments with the use of our school's task force made up of stakeholders from students, staff and parents. As a Superintendent's group we have used the state of California's checklist to address the risks that we can face as people come together. These risk assessments in addition to the CDC and CDPH guidance have been discussed and will be implemented in our plan which you will see in upcoming sections.

Our Administration continues to provide weekly updates to our students, staff and community with regard to ways to help mitigate the transmission of the virus, proper hygiene practices, social distancing, and most importantly, wearing masks when indoors.

We have created a task force to do screenings and febrile temperature checks and ask questions about how students and staff are feeling in the event that they are not feeling well. These are in accordance with the CDPH Guidance document.

Our plan continues to focus on being certain that we are implementing the plan with fidelity and that if there are any compliance issues that we will address those and remedy them immediately.

- **Promote Healthy Hygiene Practices**
    - A key part of our safely returning to school is educating our students and staff about proper handwashing techniques, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose and mouth, covering coughs and sneezes using tissues or the elbow and washing hands afterward.
    - Administration supervises the campus and continues to remind students and staff to do their part to provide for a safe learning environment that will allow us to stay open for full in-person daily instruction all year. The district was highly successful last year thanks to the support of our students, staff and community and we see much of the same for this year.
    - The school continues to provide face coverings in compliance with CDPH guidelines for each student or staff member that does not have their own. We have hand sanitizer containers that are JPA approved for use by students in each classroom and workspace.
    - As a part of our ongoing education, we recommend to all students and staff that they consider being vaccinated against COVID-19 and immunized against influenza unless contraindicated by personal medical conditions.
- **Face Coverings**
    - California Department of Public Health has required K-12 students to mask indoors. Adults in K-12 school settings are required to mask when sharing indoor spaces with students regardless of vaccination status. CDPH guidelines while indoors will be enforced on campus with the exception of those students or staff that provide a medical notification exemption. Assessment for exemption due to a medical condition, mental health condition, disability that prevents wearing a mask, or hearing impairment is a medical determination and therefore must be made by a physician, nurse practitioner, or other licensed medical professional practicing under the license of a physician. Self-attestation and parental attestation for mask exemptions due to the aforementioned conditions do not constitute medical determinations. Persons exempted from wearing a face covering 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. If additional or different accommodations are needed, the parent, student and administrative team will determine those accommodations through a formalized SST, 504 or IEP meeting. For staff, an interactive accommodation meeting will be conducted.
    - Reinforcing the proper use of face coverings as well as regular handwashing is a part of our plan. If students or staff refuse and they do not have a medical exemption, we will first talk to them individually as a part of our safety regiment and our progressive discipline plan and if needed they will be asked to leave campus. The District is focused on safety for all and being able to continue

with uninterrupted in-person education. As we all work together and support one another, we will ensure another safe year for Summerville Union High School District students and staff.

- **Ensure Teacher and Staff Safety**
  - Daily symptom monitoring procedures to screen febrile temperature as well as any other potential symptoms of the virus will be done for all staff.
  - Face coverings while indoors as per CDPH and Cal/OSHA standards will also be enforced.
  - If a staff member is at higher risk for severe illness or cannot safely distance from household contacts who are at higher risk and presents these concerns to administration, every effort will be made to accommodate the needs.
- **Intensify Campus Cleaning, Disinfection, and Ventilation**
  - All facilities will be sanitized daily by our custodial/maintenance staff in preparation for the arrival of students and staff.
  - Our Custodial/Maintenance team is responsible for monitoring and providing the approved products for use against COVID19 in each classroom/workspace according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Each will be trained to use the materials as well as be provided with any necessary PPE for its use.
  - Maintenance and Custodial use foggers from Victory Innovation Company that are proven to kill virus on the spot. These foggers will be used according to the specifications which include them being sprayed after hours so the active material can dry in place.
  - The Director of Maintenance Operation and Transportation will be responsible for establishing a cleaning and disinfecting schedule that avoids under and over use of cleaning and sanitizing products. Any products that are not to be with or around students will be used after students and other staff have left the area.
  - Ventilation is critical in the school environment. Vents will be set so that the rooms are constantly venting during the time that students and staff are present. Proper ventilation is especially important as custodial staff are cleaning and disinfecting the premises. Our HVAC units have recently been upgraded or replaced, so filter changes will be addressed as per CDPH guidelines. We use cloth filters in our HVAC units which filtrate at a higher rate than the paper filters.
  - Water testing will be done as per state water testing code to make sure that all water is safe to consume. Our water is already treated and tested daily by Tuolumne Utility District, but we will monitor on site as well.

<u>Implementing Distancing Inside and Outside the Classroom</u>

- **Arrival and Departure**
  - We will maximize the amount of space between students as well as between students and bus driver on school buses to the extent practicable. Windows will be opened to the greatest extent practicable to provide for air flow. Students and staff will be required to wear face coverings while on the bus. Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrance of each bus.
  - We will do health screenings at the start of each day for staff. We are also asking that parents do a preliminary screening for COVID symptoms at home before students leave for school.
  - All buses, classrooms, offices and other student areas will have a supply of masks and hand sanitizer in the event that a student forgot to bring one.
- **Classroom Space**

- Outside spaces will be maximized for classroom lessons, choir and PE activities to the extent possible. Band is permitted outdoors under CDPH guidance. We are prepared and many band instruments are fitted with pre-approved filters to prevent the excess flow of exhaled droplets as the class is held outdoors.
- Classrooms will have the regular number of desks as normal, allowing for separation between students and staff. Staff members are still to be six feet from students. All staff have been asked to remove extraneous materials from their classrooms or workspaces to allow for more space between people and to make cleaning and sanitizing less obtrusive. Only critical educational materials should be in the room. Each classroom will have hand sanitizer at the door, extra masks and antiviral wipes.
- Director of Maintenance has provided Plexiglas screens in office workspaces for separation between the employees and the public. As well they are provided for each classroom for teachers to have a protected space.

- **Non-Classroom Space**
  - Summerville Union High School District has implemented a policy limiting non-essential visitors, volunteers or any outside groups. Our facilities are available to outside groups for rental or use only with submission of a facility use permit and a safety plan that has been approved by Tuolumne County Public Health. Visitors will still be limited based on guidance from CDPH and local Public Health.
  - Any facility that is used by our students or staff will be a part of the regular daily cleaning and disinfecting process.
  - We continue to monitor unstructured time to prevent as much close interaction as possible. Students are single file lined through the food service facility to get breakfast or lunch.
  - All eating and socialization will happen outside as weather permits or in areas where students have more ability to socially distance while unmasked. The cafeteria will not be used for eating unless weather is inclement or until such time as guidance allows for the café to open and have students seated inside to eat. Tables will be separated as practicable in the café and students will be distanced as much as is practicable while unmasked. Outside seating for eating will be spaced out on grass areas, at tables that are distanced apart from one another and in classrooms.

- **Transportation:**
  - School buses and vans will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized between each route. Students will be expected to socially distance as practicable and wear face coverings while on the bus or in the van. The Victory fogger is also used to sanitize the vehicles transporting students.
  - Students will be provided access to hand sanitizer on each vehicle, and distance to the extent practicable between people will be observed. Windows will be down to provide maximum air flow during the ride to or from school.
  - Summerville Union High School Transportation has developed a clear and concise protocol in order to keep our fleet in top sanitary condition. All drivers have been trained to recognize the specifics of what a clean and sanitary vehicle looks like, in addition to the valued health and safety practices of each rider. Our buses will remain clean each day and a sanitizing fogger will be applied twice a week to help reduce any sign of illness. Masks, hand sanitizer and tissues will continue to be available on board. All riders must wear masks until further notice from our Superintendent. We strive to keep all our buses top notch so we can continue to provide awesome service to every rider.

Train All Staff and Educate Families

Through continued professional development and staff meetings, we will work to educate our staff about the best methods to prevent the spread of the virus. We will also work with our families through our weekly campus updates to educate them on what we are doing at school to prevent the spread of the virus and what they can do to assist us and our community to flatten the curve of the COVID 19 virus.

- Fact sheets have been provided to our community about wearing face coverings while on campus, washing hands, socially distancing and staying within our household bubbles to the extent practicable. These educational messages will continue until such time as we have beat this virus completely.
- There are modules about virus protection in our getsafetytrained.com online mandatory training that all staff must complete. This module is also available for students and parents as well.

Check for Signs and Symptoms

- Staff is responsible for self-screening and forms/apps are turned in to the District Office daily. If there is a potential health issue with a student or staff member, they will be provided absolute privacy and confidentiality under HIPAA and FERPA. Students and staff will be encouraged to stay home if they have been in close contact with someone that is COVID 19 positive or are experiencing COVID-like symptoms.
- All of our protocols and policies will be provided to our students and staff so that they know about confidentiality, their right to stay home or use sick leave without fear of retribution.
- No policy will be instituted that would penalize a student for missing class due to symptoms of illness potentially related to COVID 19.
- As previously mentioned hand sanitizer and masks will be available in each classroom and each work space.
- The written staff screenings/apps that are completed have been and will continue to be saved to the server for permanent records. Since these are confidential health documents they will not be available to everyone. These are ready in case Public Health needs to do a check or any contact tracing.
    - Once school resumes, all employees are encouraged to use the google online version of the screening document and that will be saved to the server.
    - This is to be completed daily for every staff member regardless of whether they are on campus or in the event they have to be working remotely.

Plan for When a Staff Member, Child or Visitor Becomes Sick

- Summerville High School has a task force that is responsible for working with Public Health, families and emergency care workers if needed during this pandemic.
- Any student that is sent to the office or comes to the office on his or her own accord, will be asked to wear a mask if he/she is not already and will be segregate in the health room. If that room becomes too crowded or unsafe for other students, then the Superintendent's office or Room 705 will be used as a back-up.
- Our first-line office staff will work with the student to ascertain what is not feeling well, call for emergency services if needed, contact parent to pick up the student as well as engage the rest of the task force team if contact tracing questions need to be answered through Public Health.
- If a staff member suggests that he/she does not feel well, he/she will be asked put on a mask if they are not already wearing one, asked to go home if they are ok to drive home or provided transport by an office staff member if they need assistance.
    - Students or staff will be escorted to our confidential health room until such time as a parent can come and pick them up or they are safe to drive themselves home.

  - If at any time anyone is experiencing breathing issues or any other potential emergency condition, 911 will be called.

- Summerville Union High School District is using the revised (August 2021) flow chart established in collaboration with Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools Office, Public Health and Superintendents of each local school district to determine where to exclude and for what period of time as well as what must occur to have the student or employee return Click here to view the revised flow chart.
- Public Health will be contacted after we work with a student or parent if there is a feeling that the person will need to be tested and either isolated or quarantined. Our task force will work with Public Health to get phone numbers and addresses for any potential contact tracing that will be required.
- The area where the ill student or staff member was located prior to being in the office will be closed off and immediately cleaned and sanitized prior to any other people going in the area.
  - In the event of Public Health notifying the school of a concern, the area may be left for 24 hours prior to the heavy sanitizing so as to not infect one of our custodial or maintenance workers.
- Anyone that has been isolated or quarantined under advisement of Public Health, will be told that they cannot return to the campus until they have met the CDC criteria to discontinue home isolation which includes being fever free for at least 24 hours without fever reducing medication and at least ten days have elapsed since the onset of the first symptoms.
- Students will continue to be provided with instructional materials during the time that they are either isolating or quarantining.
- Summerville Union High School District will continue to participate in the weekly zoom calls with our Public Health Officer and all Superintendents so that we have the most up to date information to share with our stakeholders in our weekly campus updates.
  - We will also observe guidelines from CDPH as well as information from the state and federal government about responding to COVID 19 in the Workplace.

Maintain Health Operations

As a part of our ongoing education and information gathering, we will continue to monitor staff and student absenteeism and share with Public Health any trends we may be seeing. As students and staff return to campus in the fall of 2021, we will continue to monitor the types of illnesses and any symptoms they are experiencing and isolate them (wearing masks) promptly.

We have our Health Task Force trained and ready to respond as needed. All staff will know who our task force members are. Their task is to be a team of people to liaise with Public Health to coordinate all documentation and gather information necessary to assist Public Health in tracking/tracing. Additionally, the general information will be shared with all students, staff and community members should we have a positive case of COVID 19. A key part of this task force's job is to maintain people's privacy and confidentiality under HIPAA and FERPA regulations.

- We have a phone call system set up to contact our Attendance Line so parents can self-report symptoms. This line will also notify them to contact the local Public Health department to self-report.
- Our School Messenger system (voice message and email with attachments) will continue to be used for the Weekly Campus Update as it has been used since this all started, but it will also be used to notify our students, staff and community in the event of a positive test and what this means for classes, cohorts and the school overall, but no identifying information will be shared.
- We will support all students and staff that are at higher risk for severe illness or those that cannot safely distance from household contacts at higher risk by accommodating them through distance learning/remote teaching or Independent Study.
- **Summerville Union High Health Task Force:**
  - Steve Sweitzer, Deputy Principal (Lead)
  - Jamee Dahl, Secretary
  - Trichelle Clark, Attendance Clerk
  - Cindy Jensen, Executive Assistant
  - Matt Soto, Campus Supervisor/ Teacher
  - Michael Merrill, Superintendent

Considerations for Reopening and Partial or Total Closures

Our Administrative Team will remain in contact with our County Superintendent, Public Health Official and any other entities that we rely on for the transmission of current up to date information so we continue to adjust our operations accordingly.

Summerville Union High School District employees will be supported by the district through labor laws, leave time, as well as provided information on government programs supporting sick leave and worker's compensation for COVID 19.

Under our Governor's Executive Order N-62-20, we will continue to remind all students, staff and parents to:

- practice physical distancing in the community and on campus
- not gather in large groups above recommended levels
- use handwashing routines regularly
- use hand sanitizer
- wear a face covering when indoors

Click here for Summerville's Covid-19 Prevention Plan

Resources

www.cdc.org (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

www.cdph.ca.gov (California Department of Public Health)

www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov (Tuolumne County Public Health Department)

www.dir.ca.gov (Cal/OSHA—Division of Occupational Safety and Health)

www.tcsos.us (Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools Office)

www.summbears.net (Summerville Union High School District

General Checklist for Schools

https://files.covid19.ca.gov/pdf/checklist-schools--en.pdf

Schools Guidance FAQ's

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Schools-FAQ.aspx

Education Waiver process

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/In-Person-Elementary-Waiver-Process.aspx

Waiver Letter Template and Cover Form

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Waiver-Letter-Template-Cover-Form_8.3.2020.pdf

Waiver Notice

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/CDPH-Waiver-Notice_8.3.2020.pdf

Youth Sports FAQ

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Youth-Sports-FAQ.aspx

Facebook pages

Summerville High School: https://www.facebook.com/GoSummBears

Connection Visual and Performing Arts Academy: https://www.facebook.com/connectionsvpaa

Radio Stations and Print Media

- KVML 1450 AM
- KZSQ 92.7 FM
- KKBN 93.5 FM
- mymotherlode.com