



# ***Dunsmuir High School Opening Plan 2021***

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

Revised 1-12-21(4)

**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 plan for in person learning for school. 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.**

**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/disinfecting, and keeping all 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 releases of updates from the California Department of Public Health and the Cal OSHA, Dunsmuir High School is planning to continue with in person classes for the remainder of the 20-21 school year. We have revised this plan as a guide to what that educational process will look like based on updates in PPH guidance since last summer.**

# ***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.**

## ***Before Coming to School***

### ***Screening at home-***

Families/staff are encouraged to take temperatures as necessary before attending 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 been diagnosed or exposed to COVID-19. Depending on the situation, your child may likely need to stay home for up to 14 days.

School staff will also be asked to screen before leaving for school and stay home if they have symptoms, and will continue to follow the same protocols.

## ***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 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, preventing 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 also during the school day, and will take student's temperatures with a no-touch thermometer for those who require attention.

### ***Signs of Illness-***

Anyone experiencing shortness of breath, cold/flu type symptoms, fever, etc. and will be isolated from others and observed, until arrangements can be made for them to be picked up. 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 health authority, a student or staff member who has a 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 and have satisfied the isolation/quarantine time as determined by public health. This applies to siblings/family members of the student with a fever as well.

Any staff member in the position of caring for an ill person has been trained in the appropriate use of personal protective equipment and procedures necessary for safety

of all individuals involved. 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, common area surfaces, technology, etc.) at the school throughout the day.

### ***Handwashing Routine-***

Routines will be established with teachers and students to regularly wash/sanitize their hands as they enter and leave classrooms, and additional handwashing/hand sanitizing stations are available throughout the school. (classrooms, auditorium, gym, restrooms, etc.)

### ***Ventilation-***

Windows and doors in the building (classrooms, common areas) will be open to provide fresh air. Heating and Air System will be in ventilation mode full time (24 hours/day) with the filters to be changed regularly throughout the year, to allow for purity and cleanliness in the environmental air in the building.

### ***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/school personnel. Authorized check in, identification and admission needs to be cleared by office/school 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 will 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. Lunch tables have been fitted with barriers that allow for the safe seating of up to 4 individuals per table. These tables and barriers will be cleaned/sanitized throughout the day in order to prepare for use and distanced eating areas.

Food service students/workers will be wearing masks and gloves. Minimal external touching of trays, utensils and food products by hand is allowed for ease and safety of food handling. Class dismissal for lunch will be staggered, and distancing markers will be in place for all students/staff waiting to receive their lunch tray.

Use of refillable water bottles is encouraged for all staff and students. For 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 is required to continue to wear face covering, and 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 necessary individuals are on the school campus to provide services and support to the students, and their families. These providers will continue to provide services, but will need to sign-in and out at the school office each and every day. These individuals will not come onto campus if they are ill, have any symptoms of cold/flu or COVID-19, and/or a temperature of 100.4°. Once they have arrived at school and any symptoms occur, the necessary isolation and protocols will apply.

### ***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 are 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, and prior to removal of face covering.

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

Try to fit it snugly against the sides of the face, while making sure you can breathe 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

## ***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**