

Lake Tahoe Unified School District

# COVID-19 Pandemic Plan for 2020-2021 School Year





# Table of Contents

03	Message	from the Superintendent
04	Guidance	about this document
05	Introduction	to the plan
06	Phases	of learning delivery
10	Instruction	and model descriptions
11	Success	of students
12	Social	emotional support
13	Health	and Safety of Staff and Students
16	Governance	facilities, maintenance, food, buses
18	Special	populations
20	Thanks	to all for your help and assistance



## A Message from the Superintendent

### Dear Parents, Students and the South Lake Tahoe Community,

The COVID-19 pandemic has proven that schools are the heart of our community, not only for learning, but for nutrition, safety and social-emotional well-being. Our educators and staff have shown they are flexible, skilled and creative in meeting the rapidly changing needs of students and families. As we look to the 2020-21 academic year, we know our schools will need to become even better equipped and skilled at remote learning to address the diversity of the learners in our community, address learning loss and accelerate learning through plans to move students forward. We will need to address and implement critical health and safety protocols, and support mental health and wellness. LTUSD is committed to return to school as safely as possible with the resources available and in consideration of public health recommendations.

When campuses reopen, it is vital to provide students with an environment that is friendly, supportive and caring. We must identify students who need help or are having difficulty adjusting. We need to make sure all students return to class and reach out to those who do not. We need to be flexible, innovative, and multi-dimensional in our approach to the 2020/2021 educational landscape and beyond, with the ultimate goal of having students physically present in school. Considerations to ensure a return to in-person instruction with academic, social, and emotional learning needs of students as well as the needs of our families and community is at the forefront of the planning process.

Guidance for reopening schools and programs within LTUSD was completed through a task force process with input from all stakeholders, including LTUSD staff, teachers, students, parents, and community partners. This framework will serve as a guide document for the 2020/2021 school year. A huge thank you to all who participated in this process, and it is our hope that, with your continued guidance and support, we will be able to provide the best learning opportunities for our students.

Thank you,

Todd Cutler, Ed. D.  
Superintendent



Todd Cutler, Ed. D.  
Superintendent  
Lake Tahoe Unified  
School District

***"LTUSD is committed to return to school as safely as possible with the resources available and in consideration of public health recommendations."***





# Guidance

This document's intent is to provide overall guidance for the opening of the 2020/2021 school year. More detailed plans will be developed by each school site and District department. LTUSD is committed to the following guiding principles:

**Indicators-** The conditions under which the District will move between learning models. The advice from the the Governor's Office, CDE, CDPH, EDCHD, and community health and safety partners will be used to make these decisions.

**Instructional Models** - In-class learning provides an effective learning environment for all students to meet learning objectives and access instructional support from teachers and support staff. However there is recognition that health and safety implications will provide a need for multiple options.

**Academic Success and Social Emotional Support** - Both In-Person and Distance learning must be robust and offer the same educational access, opportunity, and continuity. Relationships and in-person connectivity are a critical component of social development for students.

**Health and Safety** - The health and safety of staff and students is the single highest priority. Health protocols, screening procedures, and materials/equipment needs are a priority.

**Governance and Operations** - Consideration of facilities and grounds, maintenance, food services, transportation, and Education Center operations.

**Special Education and Special Populations** - The ultimate goal is to support the development and implementation of a plan for special education students to return to school, while doing everything possible to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff and community.



# Introduction

## LTUSD Indicators for Partial or Total Closures

LTUSD Indicators for Partial or Total Closures of schools and classrooms to in-person learning.

The following phases were developed in collaboration with the LTUSD taskforce and local health experts. The guidance allows for LTUSD to implement a risk assessment of the COVID-19 Pandemic impact on the local community, analyze community spread, and assess the necessary safety protocols needed to strategically move between phases of distance and in-person learning. State guidance provided by CDE, CDPH, and CalOSHA provide the necessary specific parameters which allow the District to move between distance, hybrid in-person learning, and traditional instructional models. These guidelines will be continuously reviewed and updated as new information is available. Each phase presumes a six week period of instruction (or ½ trimester) in a learning model, with reassessment two weeks prior to the end of each six week period to assess the ability to pivot to a different phase, or continue in the current phase. This allows for adequate planning time for our community, our families, our staff, and our students while ensuring the best continuous learning opportunities.

There are several documents that guide recommendations for  
LTUSD's School Opening Parameters:

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

[California Department of Public Health \(CDPH\)](#)

[California Department of Industrial Relations Division of Occupational Safety and Health \(Cal-OSHA\)](#)

[Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California's Public Schools](#)

[California AB 98 - Education Bill Chapter 24](#)

	School Operating Status	Risk Assessment	Rationale	Safety Protocols	Food Service	Transportation	Athletics/ Activities
<b>Phase 1: Distance Learning Pre-K-12</b>  Synchronous/ Asynchronous Learning Five days per week	All schools closed for in-person instruction, with the exception of children at-risk as identified by teacher or need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LTUSD will follow recommendations from the CDC, CDPH, CDE, and Cal/OSHA</li> <li>Collaboration with local health agencies regarding transmission in the area.</li> <li>Increasing and substantial community spread. Test positivity rate &gt;8% or Case Rate &gt;100/100,000</li> <li>Health system capacity concerns (&gt;10% increase in hospitalization, &lt;20% ICU beds, testing/tracing not sufficient). Non-essential business closures mandated to slow spread.</li> <li>Preventing community spread outweighs the benefit of in-person schooling.</li> <li>El Dorado County (or South Lake Tahoe area) is ON County Monitoring List</li> <li>&gt;3 days.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The virus is spread through respiratory droplets from breathing, talking, coughing and sneezing. Most droplets fall to the ground within 3-6 feet of being exhaled.</li> <li>Droplets containing COVID-19 can spread to hands from coughing, sneezing, or from surfaces. If a person then touches their mouth, nose or eyes, they may become infected.</li> <li>Hand washing effectively removes the virus.</li> <li>Masks catch droplets before they spread.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School employees and contractors are permitted to be physically present in school buildings to conduct basic school operations, including live instruction, as determined by school administrators.</li> <li>Cleaning: cleaning practices are adjusted to maintain school building functional order.</li> <li>Masking AND physical distancing &gt;6 ft required for all.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schools enact food distribution programs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All student busing operations are suspended.</li> <li>Busing operations will continue for food distribution.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All athletics are suspended.</li> <li>All inter-school activities are discontinued.</li> <li>All after-school activities are suspended.</li> </ul>

# Phase 1

## Distance Learning



	School Operating Status	Risk Assessment	Rationale	Safety Protocols	Food Service	Transportation	Athletics/ Activities
<p><b>Phase 2: Hybrid Pre-K-12</b></p> <p><b>Cohort A:</b> 2 days per week in-person Instruction</p> <p>3 days per week Distance Learning &amp; Collaboration</p> <p><b>Cohort B:</b> 2 days per week in-person Instruction</p> <p>3 days per week Distance Learning &amp; Collaboration</p> <p><b>Cohort C:</b> Additional support for at-risk populations</p>	In person instruction via hybrid cohort models.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LTUSD will follow recommendations from the CDC, CDPH, CDE, and Cal/OSHA</li> <li>Collaboration with local health agencies regarding transmission in the area.</li> <li>Community spread stable and/or decreasing.</li> <li>Health system has capacity, however testing and tracing efforts may not be sufficient to control the spread.</li> <li>Some businesses may be asked to remain closed while others are allowed to be open.</li> <li>El Dorado County is OFF State of California Monitoring List for 14 days.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Smaller groups of students in classrooms allow for more distance between people.</li> <li>Limiting contact with others cuts down on possible exposures.</li> <li>Members of the cohort do not mix with the rest of the school. Teachers should have minimal contact with students and staff outside of the cohort.</li> <li>Benefit of in person schooling outweighs risk of community spread only with strict mitigation strategies and smaller sized cohorts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Masking for grades 3-12 is required.</li> <li>Masking or shields for grades. Preschool, TK-2nd is encouraged, but not required.</li> <li>Masking or shields is required for all staff members.</li> <li>Physical distancing &gt;6 ft required for all: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student-Staff interactions,</li> <li>Staff-Staff interactions,</li> <li>Student-student interactions,</li> <li>Restriction of non-essential visitors.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Adequate supplies (i.e., hand sanitizer) will be provided, and healthy hygiene practices (hand washing) will be implemented.</li> <li>Self-screening will be conducted prior to students and staff coming to school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical distancing shall be maintained between students during their lunch periods.</li> <li>Classrooms or outdoor areas should be used for students to eat meals at school, to ensure physical distancing guidelines are met.</li> <li>Meal times should be staggered to create seating arrangements with six feet of distance between students.</li> <li>If possible, school supplied meals should be delivered to classrooms with disposable utensils.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The use of hand sanitizer is required before entering the bus.</li> <li>The bus driver, staff, and all students (Preschool, TK-12, if medically feasible) must wear facial coverings while on the bus.</li> <li>Off-site field trips that require bus transportation to an indoor location are suspended.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Large scale assemblies of more than 50 students are suspended.</li> <li>Recess should be conducted outside whenever possible with appropriate social distancing and cohorts of students. If more than one class is outside, students should wear facial coverings.</li> <li>Limit gatherings, events and extracurricular activities to those that can maintain physical distancing.</li> <li>Comply with all guidance published by Nevada Interscholastic Association (NIAA).</li> </ul>

# Phase 2

## Hybrid Learning



	School Operating Status	Risk Assessment	Rationale	Safety Protocols	Food Service	Transportation	Athletics/ Activities
<p><b>Phase 3: Modified Traditional (Pre-K - 5)</b></p> <p><u>Cohorts A/B Combined</u> M/T/TH/F</p> <p>Wednesday: Distance Learning/Collab</p> <p><b>Hybrid (6-12)</b></p> <p><u>Cohort A:</u> 2 days per week in-person Instruction</p> <p>3 days per week Distance Learning &amp; Collaboration</p> <p><u>Cohort B:</u> 2 days per week in-person Instruction</p> <p>3 dys per week Distance Learning &amp; Collaboration</p> <p><u>Cohort C:</u> Additional support for at-risk populations</p>	<p>In-person instruction via cohorts (Modified Traditional for Elementary; Hybrid for Secondary)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LTUSD will follow recommendations from the CDC, CDPH, CDE, and Cal/OSHA.</li> <li>Collaboration with local health agencies regarding transmission in the area school health orders and current safety protocols, to determine the continuation or movement between instructional models.</li> <li>Community spread stable and/or decreasing.</li> <li>Health system has capacity.</li> <li>Businesses are open</li> <li>Testing and tracing are sufficient to control spread.</li> <li>Overall number of infected individuals still indicates the need for social distancing to stop transmission.</li> <li>El Dorado county is OFF State of California Monitoring List for 6 weeks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As community spread decreases, cohort sizes can increase, thereby allowing for the return of elementary students to a 5 day/week schedule.</li> <li>As there is some continued community spread, masking and distancing will still be required</li> <li>Children under age 12 have a lower chance of getting ill and less chance of spreading COVID-19 from child to child or child to teacher.</li> <li>Benefit of in person schooling outweighs risk of community spread with continued mitigation strategies, but return to 5 day/ week schooling is possible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Masking for grades 3-12 is required</li> <li>Masking or shields for grades Preschool, TK-2nd is encouraged, but not required.</li> <li>Masking or shields is required for all staff members.</li> <li>Physical distancing &gt;6 ft required for all: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student-Staff interactions,</li> <li>Staff-Staff interactions,</li> <li>Student-student interactions.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Restriction of non-essential visitors</li> <li>Adequate supplies (i.e., hand sanitizer) will be provided, and healthy hygiene practices (hand washing) will be implemented.</li> <li>Self-screening will be conducted prior to students and staff coming to school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical distancing shall be maintained between students during their lunch periods.</li> <li>Classrooms or outdoor areas should be used for students to eat meals at school, to ensure physical distancing guidelines are met.</li> <li>Meal times should be staggered to create seating arrangements with six feet of distance between students.</li> <li>If possible, school supplied meals should be delivered to classrooms with disposable utensils.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The use of hand sanitizer is required before entering the bus.</li> <li>The bus driver, staff, and all students (Preschool, TK-12, if medically feasible) must wear facial coverings while on the bus.</li> <li>Off-site field trips that require bus transportation to an indoor location are suspended.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indoor events are limited to 50 people. Outdoor events are limited to 250 people. Spectators not part of the same household must always maintain six feet of distance from one another.</li> <li>Athletes and coaches must use proper hand hygiene techniques before and after every practice, event, or other gathering.</li> <li>All equipment must be disinfected before and after use.</li> <li>Comply with all guidance published by Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA).</li> </ul>





	School Operating Status	Risk Assessment	Rationale	Safety Protocols	Food Service	Transportation	Athletics/ Activities
<b>Phase 4: Traditional Pre-K-12</b>	All schools open for in-person instruction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LTUSD will follow recommendations from the CDC, CDPH, CDE, and Cal/OSHA</li> <li>Collaboration with local health agencies regarding transmission in the area school health orders and current safety protocols, to determine the continuation or movement between instructional models.</li> <li>Businesses are open.</li> <li>Health system has capacity.</li> <li>Testing and tracing are sufficient to control spread.</li> <li>Overall number of infected individuals indicates that social distancing is not needed.</li> <li>El Dorado county is OFF State of California Monitoring List for &gt;6 weeks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As community spread decreases, cohort sizes can increase thereby allowing for the return to a 5 day/week schedule.</li> <li>As community spread is controlled, masking becomes less necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COVID-19 specific safety protocols no longer required.</li> <li>Standard school safety procedures and protocols will continue to remain in place.</li> <li>Continue to teach and practice healthy hygiene practices.</li> <li>In the event of a diagnosed case of COVID-19, the District will immediately close the classroom and exposed areas for cleaning and disinfection.</li> <li>When state of CA stops requiring masks, school can consider discontinuation of masking.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COVID-19 specific safety protocols no longer required.</li> <li>Standard school safety procedures and protocols will continue to remain in place.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COVID-19 specific safety protocols no longer required.</li> <li>Standard school safety procedures and protocols will continue to remain in place.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COVID-19 specific safety protocols no longer required.</li> <li>Standard school safety procedures and protocols will continue to remain in place.</li> </ul>



# Phase 4

## Traditional



# Instructional Models

LTUSD is committed to reopening schools in a Traditional Model as soon as this can safely be done and with the recommendation and approval of the El Dorado County Public Health Department (EDCPHD). At the time of this planning document, Social Distancing Guidelines, increases in COVID-19 cases and community spread are requiring modified school reopening models. The following Models maximize in person instruction while mitigating the risk of exposure to COVID-19 for students and staff. Continuous evaluation and risk assessment in collaboration with local public health, and El Dorado County Public Health, will provide for the District to transition to a Traditional School Model or a Distance Learning Model as allowed/required by the county or state.

## **Distance Learning (PreK-12)**

Due to health and safety concerns, schools are required to be closed for a short duration of time. Distance learning occurs when the learner and instructor, or source of information, are separated and students receive synchronous and asynchronous instruction five days per week remotely. Additionally, some in-person learning will occur for the most at-risk populations.

## **Hybrid Learning (PreK-12)**

Hybrid learning is a combination of in-person learning in a classroom (or other physical space) and distance learning. Smaller cohorts of students participate in in-person instruction, on a designated schedule and campus, two to three days per week, and two to three days per week of at-home distance learning.

## **Modified Traditional (PreK-12)**

A Modified Traditional Model allows for enhanced safety protocols to include minimal intermixing of cohorts of students. Teachers remain with individual cohorts, minimizing movement of students and staff as much as possible. Limiting group gatherings and shared common space, physical distancing in classrooms, enhanced safety and hygiene practices to include masking when physical distancing is not possible, increased hand washing, and health screening with illness response protocols will be in place.

## **Traditional School (PreK-12)**

The teacher and students meet physically in their school settings in the manner they did prior to the pandemic with appropriate safety protocols.

## **Elevated Digital Learning Academy (TK-8)**

Elevated is a digital learning academy under Lake Tahoe Unified School District (LTUSD) offering students in grades Transitional Kindergarten through 8th, an online, comprehensive, educational program. Instruction will be delivered entirely online through regularly scheduled, live instruction with district teachers and prerecorded lessons. Curriculum is fully aligned to California state standards and content is the same as that taught at LTUSD school sites.



# Academic Success

Each instructional model will ensure that both in-person and distance learning are robust and offer equal educational access, opportunity, and continuity. Consideration for instructional planning leading to successful implementation, and the reaction of a learning environment that provides the instructional supports, relevant and accessible curriculum, and materials is our highest priority. LTUSD ensures academic success in order to:

- Provide optimal learning opportunities for all students
- Prioritize our most in-need students
- Address the social-emotional needs of students by focusing on Social Emotional Learning, Connectedness, and Engagement
- Assess learning loss and/or learning gains to mitigate, intervene, and accelerate student learning outcomes
- Establish protocols for authentic assessment, progress monitoring, and authentic learning
- Accelerate learning versus remediate learning by embedding prior year content into current year standards and context
- Develop habits of mind that promote independent learning



The district recognizes that social emotional learning is fundamental to academic success.



# Social Emotional Support

Relationships and in-person connectivity are a critical component of social development for students. LTUSD will provide comprehensive social emotional learning supports and strategies. LTUSD recognizes that the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic has increased the traumatic experiences and stress on the staff and students and emotional recovery planning is necessary for establishing positive, safe and supportive learning environments. LTUSD's commitment to Social Emotional Learning shall:

- Create environments that allow staff and students to navigate the unprecedented challenges of alternative learning and instructional models.
- Build skills necessary for enhancing self-management skills, resilience, and connections.
- Provide staff and students with comprehensive training and instruction in SEL.
- Establish a crisis response team focused on student and staff mental health and wellness.
- Assess natural resources (personnel, existing partners) to determine if there is a need for external support, and reach out to the existing community providers to assess the potential for expanded work.
- Evaluate staff mental health readiness utilizing questionnaires, surveys, and direct outreach.
- Provide resources for staff self-care, including resiliency strategies.







# Health and Safety

Our schools must provide a safe and supportive learning environment that ensures access to the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment, implements health screens and protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and establishes and educates staff and students on Healthy Hygiene Practices. When in person learning instructional models are implemented the District will follow the guidance of the CDC, CDPH, county and local health authorities. Current recommendations ensure the that the following guidance will be implemented across all educational environments:

- Face coverings must be used in accordance with CDPH guidelines unless a person is exempt.
- Face coverings (masks/shields) are required for grades 3-12.
- Face coverings (masks/shields) are strongly encouraged for grades Preschool, TK-2nd.
- Face coverings (masks/shields) are required and will be provided for all staff members.
- Face coverings (masks/shields) will be provided for all preschool programs and grades TK-2.
- Staff members and students may bring their own PPE as long as it complies with public health guidelines.
- Face coverings are not required for persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents them wearing a face covering. This includes persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance.
- Face coverings are not required for persons who are hearing impaired, or when communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
- Plexiglass barriers and/or face shields with neck drapes will be provided for staff members who encounter situations of a proximity of less than six (6) feet between individuals, or those who support multiple cohorts.
- Healthy Hygiene Practices (hand washing; avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth; and covering coughs and sneezes) will be taught and reinforced.
- Routines will be established to help students and staff regularly wash their hands at staggered intervals (e.g., upon arrival, before and after meals or snack time, before and after going to the restroom, etc.)
- Self-screening for daily symptom monitoring will be conducted prior to students and staff coming to school.



## Physical Distancing and Movement

- Teachers and students should remain in the same space and in cohorts as small and consistent as practicable, including recess and lunch.
- The space between seating and desks will be maximized. Seating will be arranged to minimize face-to-face contact, and physical partitions will be used where needed.
- Physical distancing >6 ft is recommended for all student-staff interactions, staff-staff interactions, and student-student interactions.
- Unidirectional pathways and staggered passing times will be created in order to help maintain physical distancing requirements in all common walkways and congregation areas (both outdoor and indoor).
- School sites will identify multiple access points to be used for student and parent ingress and egress before and after school.
- Pick up and drop off times, recess, and lunch times will be staggered and designed to maintain physical distance requirements to maintain cohort stability.

## Cleaning

- A schedule will be developed for increased, routine cleaning and disinfection.
- Adequate supplies (e.g., alcohol based hand sanitizer, gloves, disinfecting wipes, tissues, and no-touch trash cans) will be provided to support healthy hygiene behaviors.
- All staff will be trained to regularly clean and disinfect high touch areas and surfaces in their work areas in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance for schools and childcare centers.
- Frequently touched surfaces (e.g., playground equipment, door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains) within the school and on school buses will be cleaned and disinfected at least daily or between use as much as possible.
- Use of shared objects (e.g., gym or physical education equipment, art supplies, toys, games) should be limited when possible, or cleaned between use.
- Shared site resources (e.g., drinking fountains) may be suspended. Personal reusable water bottles are encouraged.
- If transport vehicles (e.g., buses) are used by the school, drivers will practice all safety actions and protocols as indicated for other staff (e.g., hand hygiene, cloth face coverings), and clean and disinfect school buses or other transport vehicles regularly.
- Cleaning and disinfecting products should be properly stored away from children. All products must meet EPA disinfection criteria.



- Cleaning products should not be used near children, and staff should ensure that there is adequate ventilation when using these products to prevent children or themselves from inhaling toxic fumes.
- If the school has an outbreak, sites will follow the Outbreak Management guidelines provided by the CDPH

## Health & Safety Checks

- Staff and students who are sick or who have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 should stay home.
- Each site may consider doing symptom screenings, visual wellness checks, and/or temperature checks via touchless thermometer for all staff and students entering the facility. If an individual's temperature is above 100.4 degrees, they should be excluded from participation.
- Signs of Illness During School:
- Students and staff should be monitored for signs of illness throughout the day including:
  - Headache or tiredness, unable to participate in routine activities or need more care than staff can provide
  - Fever with behavior changes, difficulty breathing, uncontrolled coughing, unusually tired, persistent crying, etc.
  - Open sores, rash, signs of infection, etc.
  - Runny nose with colored mucus
- If a student (or staff member) exhibits any of the above symptoms, they will be physically separated from the group and will be required to wear a mask until they can be safely transported home or to a healthcare facility. Each site should have a designated isolation area where individuals exhibiting symptoms could be safely separated from the larger group.
- Parents / guardians are required to and must agree to come pick up their child without delay if they are exhibiting these symptoms.





# Governance

As the district implements the flexible instructional models, guidance for the governance and operations infrastructure will be followed. Transportation, Nutrition and Food Services, Maintenance of Facilities and Grounds and Custodial responsibilities ensure the safe implementation of each distance, in person and traditional learning model.

## Facilities and Grounds

- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, for example, by opening windows and doors. If opening windows poses a safety or health risk, maximize central air filtration for HVAC systems.
- Thorough cleanings will be conducted when children are not present. When cleaning, air out the space before children arrive. If using air conditioning, use the setting that brings in outside air. Replace and check air filters and filtration systems to ensure optimal air quality.
- Doors to rooms should remain open to help prevent contact with surfaces such as door handles, doors and door jambs.

## Custodial and Maintenance

- Ensure adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, tissues, no-touch trash cans, face coverings and hand sanitizers with at least 60 percent ethyl alcohol for staff and children who can safely use hand sanitizer.
- Staff should clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces within school and on school buses at least daily and, as practicable, frequently throughout the day. Frequently touched surfaces in the school include, but are not limited to:
  - Door handles
  - Light switches
  - Sink handles
  - Bathroom surfaces
  - Tables
  - Student Desks
  - Chairs
- When choosing cleaning products, use those approved for use against COVID-19 on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved list "N" and follow product instructions.





## Food Services

- Physical distancing shall be maintained between students, between staff and students, and between all staff during their lunch period(s).
- Children are encouraged to bring their own meals as feasible, or individually plated meals will be served in classrooms instead of in the cafeteria, while ensuring the safety of children with food allergies.
- To the maximum extent possible food service items (e.g., utensils, dishes) will be used. If disposable items are not feasible or desirable, all non-disposable food service items will be handled with gloves and washed with dish soap and hot water or in a dishwasher. Individuals should wash their hands after removing their gloves or after directly handling used food service items.
- Meals will be served in classrooms or outdoor areas instead of cafeterias where practicable. Individually plated or bagged meals will be served. Sharing foods and utensils and buffet or family-style meals should be avoided.
- If food is offered at any event, pre-packaged boxes or bags will be offered for each attendee. Avoiding the sharing of food and utensils ensures the safety of children with food allergies.

## Transportation

- Buses should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected daily and after transporting any individual who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. Drivers will be provided disinfectant wipes and disposable gloves to support disinfection of frequently touched surfaces during the day.
- Drivers should be a minimum of 6 feet from students and must wear face coverings.
- Students (preschool -12) must wear facial coverings while on the bus; unless exempt.
- Assigned seating by cohort will be encouraged.
- Symptom screenings should be performed by parents prior to being dropped off at the bus.
- Open windows for increased ventilation will be encouraged (weather permitting).
- Alternative modes of transportation will be encouraged for students who have other options.



# Special Populations

## **Special Education and Special Populations including English Learners, students who are Medically Fragile and At-Risk Students**

The district is preparing a flexible instructional platform to include multiple instructional models that ensure the needs of all students are met. The district will ensure students with disabilities and other special populations are fully integrated into every aspect of planning consideration in order to ensure the educational benefit to students and their families. In order to honor the diversity of need within our student population the district will:

### **Considerations for Students on IEPs, 504s, English Learners, and At-Risk Students:**

- Prioritize the health and safety of students and staff, as guided or directed by public health officials.
- Provide academic support and access to ensure educational progress.
- Continue with goals for English learners to achieve the same rigorous grade-level academic standards that are expected of all students
- Provide a comprehensive program of designated and integrated English language development (ELD) instruction targeted to their proficiency level and will include assessment of proficiency and support access to curriculum.
- Establish protocols to reclassify students as fully English Proficient will be provided to be utilized across all Models of Instruction.
- Implement distance learning plans for each individual student which will provide an explanation of how the student's IEP will be executed in that model of instruction. Because a distance learning instructional model is different from an in-person instructional model there will be obvious variations in how the IEP will be executed.
- Ensure service minutes align with the IEP frequency/duration to the greatest extent possible. As a result of SB 98, there is a legislative expectation that school districts develop distance learning instructional models that ensure that IEPs are executed in that instructional model.
- At all initial IEP team meetings and at all regularly-scheduled IEP team meetings for students with existing IEPs, the IEP team must include a description of the means by which the IEP will be provided under emergency conditions in which instruction or services, or both, cannot be provided at



the school or in person for more than 10 school days.

- Assessments are critical to the IEP process and should not be compromised due to current limitations. If assessors believe that in-person assessments are a necessary part of an assessment, they should take steps to conduct in-person assessments in compliance with all state and local health directives and guidelines.
- Develop and implement a plan to provide in-person instruction to those students who cannot reasonably access distance education.

### **Students with Significant Health Needs**

Students who have significant health needs may be at higher risk for severe illness. Based on currently available information and clinical expertise, students who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Groups that might be at increased risk of becoming infected or having unrecognized illness include the following:

- Individuals who have limited mobility or require prolonged and close contact with others, such as direct support providers and family members.
- Individuals who have trouble understanding information or practicing preventive measures, such as hand washing and physical distancing.
- Individuals who may not be able to communicate symptoms of illness.
- Underlying medical conditions, include:
  - People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma.
  - People who have serious heart conditions.
  - People who are immunocompromised.
  - Many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications.
  - People with severe obesity.
  - People with diabetes.
  - People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis.
  - People with liver disease.



- Identifying the requirements of PPE for the differing populations of Students with Disabilities.
- If additional equipment is needed, provide guidelines and training for the use of new equipment.
- Develop a plan to further support students with access and functional needs who may be at increased risk of becoming infected or having unrecognized illness due to COVID-19.
- Review existing student health plans to identify students who may need additional accommodations, develop a process for engaging families for potentially unknown concerns that may need to be accommodated or identify additional preparations for classroom and non-classroom environments as needed.

## **Monitor and Plan for Absenteeism**

- Identify critical job functions and positions (such as SDC teachers, health aides, nurses, etc.) and plan for alternative coverage or cross-train staff when feasible.
- Determine what level of absenteeism will disrupt continuity of teaching and learning.
- Written tiered reengagement strategies for students who are absent from distance learning for more than 3 school days or 60% of the instructional days in a school week.

# **Thank you**

LTUSD Board of Trustees  
The LTUSD Reopening Task Force  
El Dorado County Office of Education  
El Dorado County Public Health Office  
Barton Health  
The South Lake Tahoe Community