School Re-Opening Criteria for Spring/Summer 2020

This guidance uses the most up-to-date information available from the CDC and emerging best practices, thus subject to change.

Local public health districts support schools in resuming normal operations based on their community needs and COVID-19 community spread. Below is a checklist of criteria*, and once met local public health districts will provide a letter of endorsement to re-open. Meeting all these criteria will prepare schools for the array of circumstances they may encounter.

*SBoE = aligns with, and meets, State Board of Education criteria

Category 1: No Community Spread

- ☐ Review, update, and implement emergency operations plans
- ☐ Reinforce healthy hygiene practices
- ☐ Intensified cleaning disinfection protocols and practices are in place (SBoE)
- ☐ Monitor and plan for absenteeism (and plan for students/parents who do not feel comfortable returning to school) (SBoE)
- ☐ Review group gatherings and events, and determine if social distancing strategies can be put in place
- ☐ Communications plan for informing parents and staff of the school district and charter school response plans, protocols, and policies to manage the impact of the coronavirus. (SBoE)
- ☐ Revised student/staff illness policies – require them to stay home when ill, procedure for when they become sick at school, and parent/guardian responsibility for immediate pick-up from school when notified
- ☐ Verify point of contact for each school district and charter school for effective communication and collaboration with local public health officials (SBoE)
- ☐ Prepare for your first confirmed COVID-19 case in school, including short-term closures for students and staffs (2-5 days) and cancellation of all group events and activities
    - Draft communication messages regarding dismissal decisions and possible COVID-19 exposure
    - Work with local public health to determine whether extended school dismissal is needed after cleaning and disinfecting

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Category 2: Minimal to Moderate Community Transmission

- ☐ Coordinate with local health officials
- ☐ Identify social distancing strategies based on feasibility of space and needs of the school, including staff duties which require close contact and mitigation strategies to use (SBoE)
- ☐ Encourage students, staff, and visitors wear cloth face coverings while at school, and provide for those who do not have one but wish to wear one
- ☐ Communicate with local public health districts to determine if screening employees and students daily for COVID-19 symptoms upon entry to the facility, including check for low-grade fever with no-touch thermometer
- ☐ Identify and plan for vulnerable staff and students with a special emphasis on people over age 60 and those who are medically vulnerable (SBoE)

Category 3: Substantial Community Transmission

- ☐ Continue coordination with local health officials
- ☐ Consider extended school dismissals and reinstate continuity of teaching and learning plans