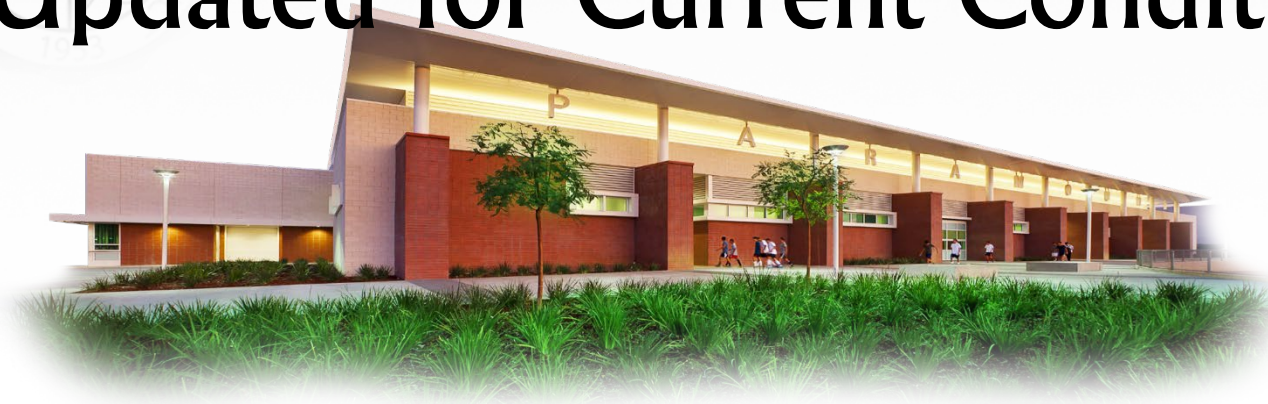
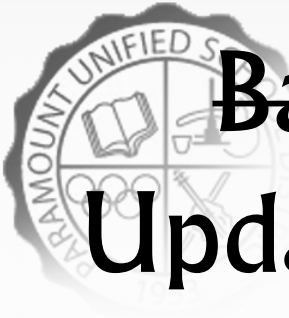


PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN PARAMOUNT SCHOOLS

~~School Reopening:~~
~~Back to School Task Force~~
Updated for Current Conditions



Dr. Ruth Pérez, Superintendent

Dr. Myma Morales, Assistant Superintendent-Human Resources

January 11, 2021



Presentation Purpose

- Share latest work done in the fall by the Back to School Task Force.
- Share California's newest guidelines regarding school reopening: *Safe Schools for All*.
- Share District preparations and next steps.





PUSD Guiding Principles

- To keep students and staff as safe as possible
- To continue to provide rigorous instruction to our students
- Ensure high level of engagement and participation for and from our students





PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

PUSD Reopening Updates:

What has taken place in Fall 2020:

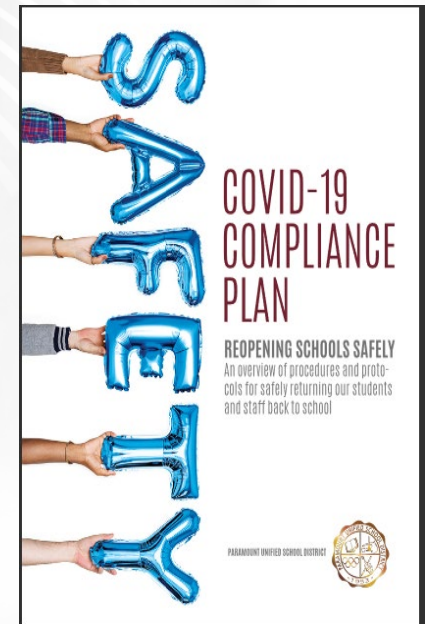
- Safety protocols and plans have been developed both for current implementation and eventual return
- Guidelines have been followed to have certain students on school campus for specific reasons following LADPH guidelines
- The Back to School Task Force reconvened.





SAFETY: COVID-19 COMPLIANCE PLAN

- The COVID-19 Compliance Plan was developed from recommendations from the BTS Task Force's early work.
- It was posted under the COVID-19 tab on the website.
- The Plan covers:
 - Safety Protocols for students and staff
 - Symptoms Screening
 - Potential Exposure Plans
- The Plan will continue to be updated as CDPH and LADPH guidelines change frequently.





Los Angeles County Options for Students on Campus

The Los Angeles County was at that time and currently remains in the Purple Tier (Tier 1). Beginning in the fall, these are options for students allowed on campus (these currently continue to be allowed):

- 1) Day Care Programs (STAR program)
- 2) In-person one-on-one assessments (Suspended per January 8 LADPH letter)
- 3) Sports Conditioning (Suspended per January 8 LADPH letter)
- 4) **Small Cohort Groups**
- 5) **TK-2 Waiver program**





Safety: In-Person Assessments Guidelines

- ELPAC testing took place first following developed safety guidelines
- Testing was completed with all safety protocols followed and without issues
- Currently the in-person assessments are taking place with students in Special Education and the Summative ELPAC. (Changed per January 8 LADPH letter)
- PPE including masks, gloves and plexiglass were used.
- Parents were made aware of safety rules
- Symptoms were checked prior to student arriving for testing.
- The Los Angeles Department of Public Health visited all testing sites and observed safety procedures and all were found to be in compliance.





Safety: In-person Sports Conditioning for High School Athletes (Changed per January 8 LADPH letter)

Protocols for Youth Sports provided by Los Angeles Department of Public Health was the guiding document for the safe return of high school student athletes.

- Training was conducted for coaches on COVID safety protocols
- Parents and students were made aware of safety regulations
- Symptoms check were obtained prior to students reporting to school site
- Physical Distancing was maintained
- Sports teams have been phased in to return for conditioning





Back to School Task Force Reconvened

The BTS Task Force Fall work objectives were to:

- **Address the successful return of TK-12 small cohort groups**
- **Plan for the successful TK-2 return through the waiver process**
- **Re-Design Blended Program Model for all student return following SB98 guidelines**





Small Cohort Groups Guidelines

- Since September, Los Angeles Department of Public Health has made allowance for Small Cohort Groups to return to schools.
- At the beginning, only 10% of a school's population was able to return. Recently that was increased to have the ability to bring back 25% of the total student population at a particular school.
- The small Cohort Group is designed to have the students most in need of in-person instruction to return to school.





Back to School Task Force Planning Small Group Cohorts

The BTS Task Force sub-groups discussed Small Group Cohorts and recommended the following:

- Students with Special Needs who have the greatest challenge to learn in distance learning format should have priority (i.e. students in SDC classes).
- The return can be phased in with gradual return of grade-level groups
- Details can be discussed and finalized in the areas transportation, lunch, etc.
- Follow guidelines from LA County Public Health Department; maximum of 12 students and 2 adults in a cohort group, or 14 person maximum. Students remain in the same cohort; teacher can interact with up to two cohort groups.





Small Group Cohorts Pilot Program

Using the BTS Task Force recommendation of a phase in model, the District worked to develop and plan a Small Group Cohort pilot program.

- Begin with Elementary Moderate-Severe Special Day Classes
- Jefferson, Lincoln and Los Cerritos
- Worked with site principals and teachers to work on details
- Proposed start date January 12 and then moved to January 25





TK-2 Waiver Program Guidelines

- Allows all TK-2 students at a school site to return once the waiver is approved.
- All safety procedures need to be in place.
- District had planned to begin applying for waivers in mid- January but the waiver program has shifted in the Governor's reopening plan introduced on December 30.





Planning for Blended Learning Model for All Student Return

BTS Task Force specialty groups narrowed the two designs of the blended learning model that is needed to maintain a safe environment (6 feet physical distancing between students) by limiting the number of students in class at any given time once all students can return.

- All safety procedures will be in place per current DPH guidelines.
- Families would still have a choice to remain on distance learning
- Groups discussed **alternate day model** and **am/pm model**
- Plans to survey parents for choice of either model
- Planning on Blended Learning will continue so that the District is prepared as we monitor changing state and local guidelines





Governor's Safe Schools for All Plan

- Set requirements for schools to reopen and was first shared December 30.
- Plan has K-2 students returning in February.
- 3-5 students returning in March.
- Has component of regular COVID testing for students and staff.
- Provides funds to support District with testing and safety monitoring
- Still allows for families to remain in Distance Learning.
- Consult with labor partners and stake holders on COVID-19 Safety Plan per Governor's Guidelines.
- More details are yet to come





Legal Requirements – AB 685

AB 685 was signed into law on September 17, 2020. Beginning on January 1, 2021, the District will be required to provide written notices to employees and their unions if the District is informed of a potential exposure to COVID-19 at the workplace.

- **Notify Potentially Infected Employee**
- **Notify the Union for Potentially Infected Employees**
- **Notify Potentially Infected Employees and Their Union of COVID-19 Related Benefits**
- **Notify All Employees and Their Union of the Employer's COVID-19 Safety Plan**





PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

Legal Requirements – AB 685



PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE TO EMPLOYEE OF POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO COVID-19

[DATE]

Dear [insert employee name],

PLEASE BE NOTIFIED, that within the past 24 business hours, the Paramount Unified School District ("District") has learned that at least one individual at your school or worksite¹ has either:

- A laboratory-confirmed case of COVID-19, as defined by the State Department of Public Health;
- Received a positive COVID-19 diagnosis from a licensed health care provider;
- Been issued a COVID-19-related order to isolate provided by a public health official; or
- Died due to COVID-19, in the determination of a county public health department or per inclusion in the COVID-19 statistics of a county.

You are being notified because you were on the premises at the same school or worksite as the individual during the infectious period² and, as such, it is possible that you were exposed to COVID-19. However, based on information available to the District, you did not come into close contact³ with the individual and are not required to self-quarantine at this time.

Continue to Monitor for Primary Symptoms of COVID-19 Infection

While people with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms and severity reported, the CDC has identified the following primary symptoms, which may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus:

Fever or chills	Muscle or body aches	Congestion or runny nose
Cough	Headache	Nausea or vomiting
Fatigue	New loss of taste or smell	Diarrhea
Sore throat	Shortness of breath / difficulty breathing	

This list does not include all possible symptoms. For more information, please visit the CDC's website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>.

IF YOU EXPERIENCE ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE FOLLOWING PERSONS, AND DO NOT REPORT FOR WORK AT

¹ The building, store, facility, agricultural field, or other location where a worker worked during the infectious period. It does not apply to buildings, floors, or other locations of the employer that the infected individual did not enter.

² For an individual who develops COVID-19 symptoms, the infectious period begins 2 days before the individual first develops symptoms. The infectious period ends when the following criteria are met: 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, and at least 24 hours have passed with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medications), and other symptoms have improved. For an individual who tests positive but never develops symptoms, the infectious period for COVID-19 begins 2 days before the specimen for their first positive COVID-19 test was collected. The infectious period ends 10 days after the specimen for their first positive COVID-19 test was collected.

³ Within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

IF YOU EXPERIENCE ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE FOLLOWING PERSONS, AND DO NOT REPORT FOR WORK AT YOUR WORKSITE OR SCHOOL.

- Students: [INSERT CONTACT INFO]
- Classified Staff: Dr. Beatriz Spelker-Levi, Director of Personnel at bspelker@paramount.k12.ca.us.
- Certificated Staff: Dr. Beatriz Spelker-Levi, Director of Personnel at bspelker@paramount.k12.ca.us.

Available Benefits and Options

The following benefits may be available to District staff should they require time off due to COVID-19:

- Workers' Compensation benefits.
- Sick leave and extended illness leave provided by collective bargaining agreement, policy or statute (Education Code sections 44977 and 44978 for certificated K-12 staff; Education Code sections 45191 and 45196 for classified K-12 staff; and Labor Code sections 245-249 for employees not qualifying for other sick leave).
- Industrial accident and illness leave provided by collective bargaining agreement, policy or statute (Education Code section 44984 for certificated K-12 staff; Education Code section 44192 for classified K-12 staff).
- Twelve weeks of federal Family Medical Leave Act leave / California Family Rights Act leave.
- Available vacation, comp-time or unpaid leave (if applicable) provided by collective bargaining agreement, policy or statute.

Please note that these benefits are only available to the extent an individual employee is eligible and has not already exhausted them. For more information regarding these benefits, please contact Human Resources. Employees may contact Dr. Beatriz Spelker-Levi, Director of Personnel at bspelker@paramount.k12.ca.us or Dr. Patricia Rodriguez, Risk Management Benefits Technician at prodriguez@paramount.k12.ca.us for Workers' Compensation benefits.

District Disinfection and Safety Plan

Please be assured that we are taking all necessary and recommended precautions in an effort to help keep our working environment safe. Specifically, we are following the CDC's latest guidance regarding disinfection and workplace safety, including when an employee becomes sick with COVID-19, available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>.

This may include the following measures:

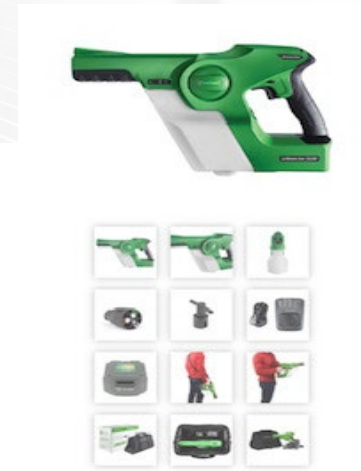
- Separating employees who appear to have COVID-19 symptoms.
- Closing off areas used by the person who is sick.
- Immediately cleaning surfaces and objects that are visibly soiled.
- If possible, waiting 24 hours before cleaning or disinfecting the area.
- Opening outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area.
- Cleaning surfaces with soap and water prior to disinfection.





Safe return to school – Safety systems

- Implementation of cleaning and sanitizing systems
 - Staff cleaning and sanitizing – Especially high touch areas
- LA County health Department inspections at all sites
- Installation of water stations (bottle fillers) district wide
- Purchasing of PPE and Signage
 - Sanitizer
 - Face coverings (surgical masks)
 - Plexiglass shields
 - Other equipment
- Improvements of district ventilation and air circulation systems





Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Requirements (AB 685)

Positive test reporting: All positive tests of district employees working on-site in the 14 days prior to the date of the test must be reported, employer to offer testing.

Employee Notification of a Potential Exposure to COVID-19—Employers must provide a written notice to all employees, and to employers of subcontracted employees. This notice must be sent within one business day of notice of the potential exposure.



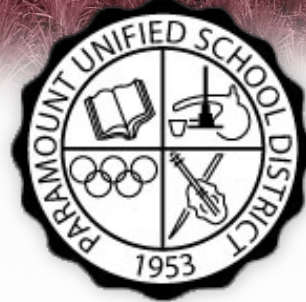
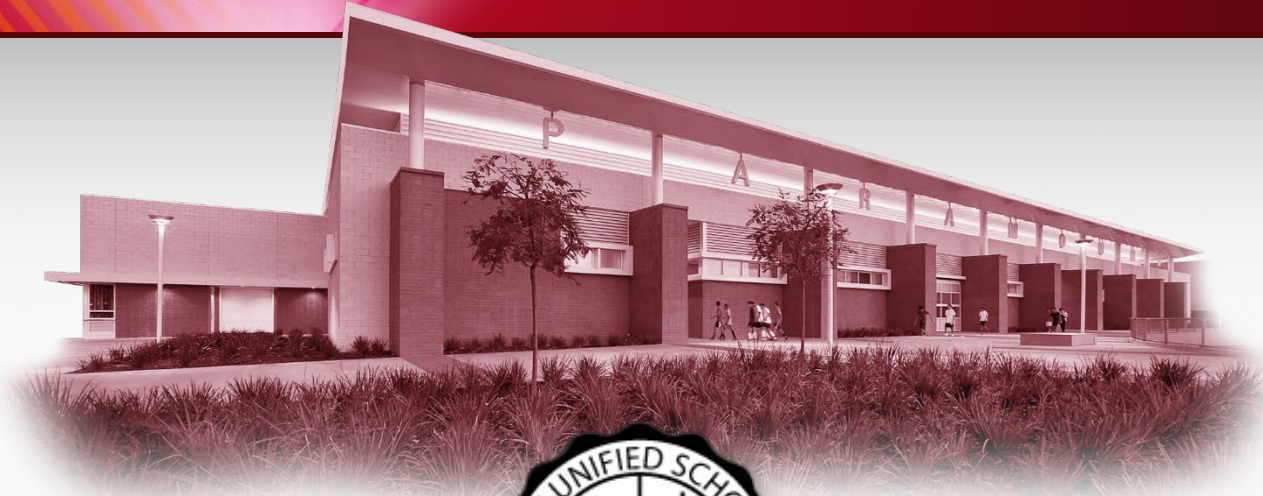


Next Steps

- Work on meeting the Governor's *Safe Schools for All Plan* Guidelines
- Update District Safety Plans to meet Governor's new guidelines
- Communicate with stakeholder groups via meetings, Back to School video and social media



PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



The mission of the Paramount Unified School District is to ensure learning and success for each student by providing a quality education.