

## Board of Education TK-6 Waiver and Small Cohort Discussion September 4, 2020



### **TK-6 Waiver**



### **COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Elementary Education Waiver Process**

As described in the CDPH/CalOSHA Guidance for Schools and School-Based Programs, elementary school reopening plans must address several topics related to health and safety, in a manner consistent with guidance from CDPH and the local health department. Those topics include:

- Cleaning and disinfection
- Small, stable, cohorting
- Entrance, egress, and movement within the school
- Face coverings and other essential protective gear
- Health screenings for students and staff
- Healthy hygiene practices
- Identification and tracing of contacts
- Physical distancing
- Staff training and family education
- Testing of students and staff
- Triggers for switching to distance learning
- Communication plans



### **COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Elementary Education Waiver Process**

- Reopen and COVID-19 Mitigation plan submitted to the Ventura County Office of Education on August 19, 2020
- Feedback received on August 24, 2020
- Updates made and re-submitted on August 26, 2020
- Final approval given to CVUSD on August 27, 2020
  - Thank you for your submission of your COVID-19 School Reopening Plan. After review, we have determined that your plan aligns with Ventura County Public Health (VCPH) Guiding Principles and Communication for School Districts and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Guidance for Schools and School-Based Programs. Your plan is being sent to VCPH.
- CVUSD has an approved reopen and COVID-19 Mitigation Plan that meets current criteria (attached on BOE agenda) 4



### New Framework Announced August 28, 2020

On August 28, 2020, the governor announced a new county-by-county reopening framework. The new framework will replace the state's current county monitoring list with a four-tiered system of monitoring criteria and restricted activities.

	Higher Risk → Lower Risk of Community Disease Transmission			
	Widespread Tier 1	Substantial Tier 2	Moderate Tier 3	Minimal Tier 4
Measures*				
New cases <sup>**</sup> /100,000 population per day ( <u>7 day</u> average; 7 day lag)	>7	4-7	1-3.9	<1
Testing % Positivity ( <u>7 day</u> average; 7 day lag)	> 8%	5-8%	2-4.9%	<b>&lt;2</b> %

Schools may reopen when their county moves from the "widespread" (purple) tier to the "substantial" (red) tier if they meet the established health state criteria for 14 consecutive days and remain below the purple tier for 14 days. In other words, a county must show improvement for 28 days total before its schools may reopen.



#### Statewide Metrics

10.9 New COVID-19 positive cases per 100K

6.0% Positivity Rate





### What Does Reopen Look Like?

- Staff Entry and Exit Front Office with Health Check and available PPE
- Student Entry and Exit See Maps
  - Numbered gates, entry divided by Room #s,
  - Drive through only and designated by Room #, parents stay in vehicles
  - Students line up in designated spots outside of the classroom with corresponding numbers
  - Students wash hands/sanitize upon entry into classroom
- Cafeteria and Lunch For Grab and Go School Lunch: Blended A takes to go, Blended B can eat at tables 12:10-12:27 with supervision, social distancing, and disinfecting after
- <u>Recesses by Zone</u> No shared equipment, sanitize equipment between recesses
- Student Supplies Back and forth daily, no shared supplies, teacher shared supplies disinfected daily
- Restrooms CSA or other staff to monitor during class time and recess
- Markings for Direction of Travel Hallways, Restrooms, Lunch Tables, Gates



### Maps for Drop Off and Pick Up

Informational videos and <u>Slides</u> by site for Parents and Students before we open to help them understand routines and procedures and to explain maps.

Current enrollment at Lang Ranch is 681. Of the 681, 168 are remote, which means a TK-5 opening will be 513 students on campus, or 75% of the total school enrollment.



### **COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Elementary Education Waiver Process**

Next steps: BOE to decide on submitting for a waiver: Yes or No

- a) If NO, continue to enhance and improve remote learning. Allow remote learning to develop and give students and teachers time to refine. With a waiver and when reopen happens, there will always be a component of remote learning. Meanwhile, keep reopen plans updated and ready for when the County goes into the phase that allows full opening.
- b) If YES:
  - i) Discuss and decide which grades (TK, K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
  - ii) Discuss and decide reopen date(s) (staggered reopen?)
  - iii) Fine tune elementary reopen plans, prepare schools
  - iv) Post plan for review on District website
  - v) Consult and collaborate with our Reopen and Redesign Committees
  - vi) Consult with bargaining units (determine acceptable criteria)
  - vii) Consult with community groups (DACs, CRPD, BGC, others)

viii)Submit waiver



### **COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Closure After Re-open**

- <u>Schools</u> per the Governor's July 17 memo, must physically close and revert to distance learning because of COVID-19 infections.
- Following a confirmed case of a student who was at school during his or her infectious period, other exposed students and staff should be quarantined for 14 days.
- The school should revert to distance learning when multiple cohorts have cases or 5 percent of students and staff test positive within a 14-day period.
- The district should revert to distance learning when 25 percent or more of its schools have been physically closed due to COVID-19 within 14 days.
- Closure decisions should be made in consultation with local health officers. After 14 days, school districts may return to in-person instruction with the approval of the local public health officer.



## **Cohorts and Small Groups**



### **Cohorts and Small Groups Received Guidance**

- <u>August 25</u>: Message from CDPH
- August 25: FAQ from CDPH
- August 31: AALRR and F3 interpretation of CDPH FAQ
- September 1: Additional guidance from SELPA
- Scheduled consultation with VCOE and SELPA next week



### "Cohorts" Defined by CDPH

- Cohort: a stable group of no more than <u>14 children</u> or youth and no more than <u>two supervising adults</u> in a supervised environment in which supervising adults and children <u>stay together for all activities</u> (e.g., meals, recreation, etc.), and avoid contact with people outside of their group in the setting.
- Pre-K through Post-Secondary grade spans



### **Review of Cohorts CDPH Guidance**

- No waiver required
- Focus on specific students:
  - Students with disabilities
  - English Learners
  - Others "at risk and high need" such as homelessness, foster youth and exposed to abuse
- Shall adhere to health and safety requirements:
  - Required PPE
  - Social distancing
  - Health screenings
  - Cleaning schedule
  - No cohort intermingling



### **Review of CDPH Guidance**

- Allows for the provision of:
  - "Limited instruction"
  - "Targeted supports and services" (e.g. speech therapy, designated EL, ec.)
  - "Facilitation of distance learning"
- "... may also implicate additional notice requirements and a duty to bargain with affected labor groups"
- Transportation and paraeducator supports shall be included if small cohorts return to campus
- Collaborate with local health department, but express approval from is not required



### **Additional Considerations**

- Cannot have more than 2 adults in a cohort
  - This might be difficult to follow given approximately 90 students with special education have a 1:1 paraeducator assigned
  - The 1:1 paraeducator would occupy one of the two adults in the cohort
  - Seeking input from Dr. Levin at VCPH on adjusting this requirement to allow more adults per cohort
- This is not a replacement of the distance learning program



### **Approximate Student Data\***

- 2000 students with an IEP
- 250 students access a specialized program
- 1750 students who are English Learners
  - Plus 320 who are "to be determined" and need ELPAC assessment
- 270 students with unstable housing
- 5000 students with low socioeconomic-status

\*Acknowledge that there is representation overlap in the data



### **Next Steps for Small Cohorts**

- BOE to decide if small cohorts shall return to on campus and in person "limited instruction, targeted supports and services and facilitation of distance learning." Yes or No?
- If no, continue to enhance and improve remote learning, provide parent trainings and allow remote learning to develop and give students and teachers time to refine.
- If yes,
  - Discuss and decide if all student groups return and/or all grades return
  - Consult and collaborate with labor partners
  - Consult and collaborate with our Reopen and Redesign Committees
  - Communicate with all staff and provide training on safety protocols
  - Communicate with families about small cohorts return to on campus and obtain information on how many students and families will access this option or remain in remote only
  - Discuss and decide schedule to return



# Discussion

