

**SRCS August FAQ's for Return to School Guidelines
2021-22 School Year V.1
August 9, 2021**

Frequently Asked Question	Response
COVID-19 Reporting	
Is there a new form to report a suspected or confirmed positive COVID-19 case?	Yes, please use this link: Reporting a Suspected or Confirmed Positive COVID-19 Case
Guidelines at School	
What time does my child's school start and end?	Your school is sending information home in advance of the first day of school regarding when school starts and ends. Please also check your school's website for this information: Link to School Websites
Why have the secondary (7-12) grade schools changed their beginning and ending times this year?	The State of California passed Senate Bill 328 - Pupil Attendance: School Start Time in October of 2019. The bill set requirements that middle schools could not begin before 8 AM and that high schools could not begin before 8:30 AM. The language of the bill can be found here .
Will my child need to wear a mask?	All students must wear masks indoors unless they have a medical exemption provided by a medical professional. This is required by the California Department of Public Health (and recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and Centers for Disease Control.) All schools must follow this CDPH direction. Students are not required to wear masks outdoors.
Why are masks required for students, even if they are vaccinated?	The state's priority is to return all students to full-time, in-person learning this fall while keeping the community safe from the spread of COVID-19 variants that can affect both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. For this reason, they are requiring masks at the beginning of this school year. They plan to reassess this requirement by no later than Nov. 1, 2021. Learn more at https://schools.covid19.ca.gov .

(Information is subject to change)

Do teachers and school staff have to wear masks?	All people must wear a mask indoors regardless of vaccination status or type of indoor venue. All school employees must remain masked indoors on all school campuses and district sites at all times even when students are not present. Masks may be removed only when outdoors and/or when an individual is alone in a room or office. The indoor mask requirement went into effect Tuesday, August 3, 2021. Learn more.
Who sets the rules about masks in schools?	The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) sets the COVID-19 health rules that all schools must follow. County health departments can create stricter rules, not more lenient rules, than the CDPH.
What should I do if my child cannot wear a mask?	If your student is unable to wear a mask and qualifies for an exemption , they must wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, as long as their condition permits it. If your student is unable to wear such an alternative as well and receives special education services, talk to your student's teacher or a school administrator about what other options are available. Schools are required to provide independent study options to students who are unwilling or unable to wear a mask. Contact your school site to learn more about these options.
Is ParentSquare Symptom and Exposure Screening Required?	No longer required. Parents should screen students for symptoms prior to coming to school.
What cleaning procedures will be in place?	District and site custodial personnel will continue with routine cleaning and disinfecting of classrooms, restrooms, and other school site areas. This includes: Cleaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Cleaning high-contact surfaces that are touched by many different people, such as handrails, and doorknobs/handles. We encourage and have supplied wipes for the wiping of desks by students between classes at secondary sites● Removing trash● Cleaning restrooms● Cleaning spills● Cleaning cleared countertop surfaces Disinfecting:

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	<p>All classrooms, restrooms, and offices will be disinfected nightly with our Alpha HP disinfectant using electrostatic sprayers. This disinfectant is recommended by the CDC and EPA for use against COVID-19. A disinfection form will be posted for sign-off at the completion of disinfecting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elementary Schools - Classroom and Offices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Classrooms and office areas disinfected nightly ○ Restrooms disinfected throughout the day during workday/school days ○ Indoor hallways and entryways will be disinfected daily ● Middle and High Schools - Classroom and Offices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Classrooms and office areas disinfected nightly ○ Restrooms disinfected throughout the day during workday/school days ○ Indoor hallways and entryways will be disinfected daily
Are water fountains re-opened for student use?	Yes - There are no restrictions on drinking fountains in the new California Department of Public Health (CDPH) K-12 Guidance. However, as it requires unmasking to drink from an indoor water fountain, we encourage students to come with their own water bottle and remain socially distant around water fountains.
Is student sharing of class materials such as crayons/supplies allowed?	Yes - Supplies can be shared. It is best practice to have kids perform hand hygiene before and after use.
Can lockers and locker rooms be used or opened?	Yes, these can be used again. Masks are required indoors regardless of vaccination status, which applies to locker rooms.
Are visitors or parent volunteers allowed on campus?	Nonessential visitors, volunteers, and community members will be asked not to come to an SRCS site unless a virtual option (e.g. video conferencing) is not available. Anyone entering an SRCS campus may be subject to the same precautionary measures as expected for students and staff.
Do we still use isolation tents?	Yes, isolation tents will be in use at the sites. Parents are expected to immediately pick up students if notified that they have been moved to an isolation area.
Are school assemblies allowed?	Yes, assemblies may be held with proper ventilation and mask-wearing.

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Can you sing or play a wind instrument indoors?	Singing with masks is permitted inside. Woodwinds and brass instruments to be played outside.
Do athletes need to be vaccinated?	County health encourages all athletes to be vaccinated.
What about extracurricular?	We anticipate guidelines for extracurricular activities and sports coming soon. The state is still refining its guidelines.
Vaccinations	
Is the COVID-19 vaccine required for students age 12+?	No, the COVID-19 vaccine is not required for students age 12+. CDC and CDPH highly recommend that students age 12 and up receive the vaccination.
What are the benefits of vaccination?	In addition to protecting against serious illness, hospitalization, and death, vaccinations provide many benefits to students . Learn more from the California Department of Public Health .
Is the vaccine safe for children 12-18 years old?	The California Department of Public Health has a vast resource of information regarding vaccines for school-age children including information on safety and benefits. The information can be found here: https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/#Vaccination-for-children
How can I get my child vaccinated?	Vaccines are free and readily available to all children age 12+. In general, vaccination does not require ID or proof of citizenship. To learn more and find a vaccine clinic near you, visit scoe.org/vaccines or socoemergency.org/vaccine .
Quarantine Procedures	
What happens if my child is exposed to COVID-19?	The CDPH provides very specific directions for what should happen if a child is exposed to COVID-19. These directions are different from those provided last school year and are meant to help students stay in the classroom with fewer disruptions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quarantines for Vaccinated: Students and staff that have been fully vaccinated are not required to quarantine as long as they do not demonstrate symptoms.

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	<p>2. Quarantine for Unvaccinated: If an unvaccinated student comes into close contact with someone who has Covid and they were not wearing a mask, they must quarantine for at least 10 days since the last exposure; the quarantine can end after Day 7 if a diagnostic specimen is collected after Day 5 from the date of the last exposure and tests negative. The student must also self-monitor for symptoms daily for up to 10 days from the last known exposure and continue all the recommendations around mask-wearing, hand-washing, and other precautions. If an unvaccinated student or staff member begins to show symptoms during the quarantine, they must immediately isolate and remove themselves from school, get tested, and contact their health care provider with any questions regarding their care.</p> <p>3. Modified Quarantine: Modified quarantine allows students to stay in school so long as they do not develop symptoms of illness. The requirements students must meet for the modified quarantine:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Are asymptomatic; Continue to appropriately mask, as required; Undergo at least twice weekly testing during the 10-day modified quarantine; and Cannot participate in all extracurricular activities at school, including sports, and activities within the community setting.
<p>What should I do if my child shows symptoms of COVID-19?</p>	<p>If your child shows symptoms of COVID-19, please keep your child home from school and contact your medical provider. Your child should stay home for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> At least 24 hours have passed since the resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and Other symptoms have improved; and At least one of the following has occurred: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> They have a negative COVID-19 test. A healthcare provider's note that the symptoms are typical of an underlying chronic condition like allergies or asthma. A healthcare provider has diagnosed a different condition. At least 10 days have passed since symptom onset.

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Meals					
Will breakfast and lunch be provided?	<p>Yes, meals will be provided on a daily basis. <u>All students</u> are eligible for meals this year at no charge.</p> <p>We will ask students to maximize physical distance as much as possible while eating (especially indoors). Eating indoors: Masks may be removed while eating and remain socially distant from other students. Students eating outdoors may remove masks.</p>				
Will my student receive meals if participating in Independent Study?	Yes, your student is still eligible for meals. Please contact your site administrator or Ed Burke, Director of Child Nutrition Services (eburke@srcs.k12.ca.us) for more information.				
Assembly Bill (AB) 130					
What will independent study look like? Does it include every grade level?	<p>For the 2021-2022 school year, schools are required to offer an independent study option to be made available to students in grades TK-12 whose health would be put at risk by in-person instruction, as determined by their parent or guardian.</p> <p>Independent Study provides instruction based on the state-adopted content standards by certificated teachers. There are specific requirements for instructional time that may include both synchronous and asynchronous work. These expectations will also be outlined in the students' written Learning Agreement, which must be signed prior to enrollment in an independent study program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Live interaction” means interaction between the student and school staff, and may include peers. Live interaction is provided for the purpose of maintaining school connectedness. This interaction may take place in person or in the form of internet or telephonic communication. • “Synchronous instruction” means classroom-style instruction or designated small group or one-on-one instruction delivered in person, or in the form of internet or telephonic communications and involving live, two-way communication between the teacher and student. <table border="1" data-bbox="785 1266 1999 1370"> <tr> <td data-bbox="785 1266 1031 1370">Kindergarten to grade 3</td> <td data-bbox="1031 1266 1730 1370">Daily synchronous instruction for all students throughout the school year</td> <td data-bbox="1730 1266 1999 1370">60 minutes/day</td> </tr> </table>		Kindergarten to grade 3	Daily synchronous instruction for all students throughout the school year	60 minutes/day
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Is independent study optional? How do I sign my student up for independent study?	<p data-bbox="751 537 1633 570">Participation in independent study is optional and not required.</p> <p data-bbox="751 610 2011 678">If the parent determines that they would like to pursue Independent Study, they can begin the enrollment process by completing this form:</p> <p data-bbox="751 719 1430 751">Interest to Register for Independent Study Form</p> <p data-bbox="751 792 2011 894">It is a parent’s right to request a parent-teacher conference prior to enrolling their student in Independent Study in order to inform their decision and ensure that it is appropriate for their student.</p>						
Will students be able to use the independent study option for a portion of the year and then return to their home school?	<p data-bbox="751 964 2011 1101">Students who are enrolled in Independent Study for 15 days or more, and who would like to return to in-person instruction, must follow the procedure for disenrolling. Once disenrolled, students will have an opportunity to re-enroll, adhering to the re-enrollment process.</p> <p data-bbox="751 1141 2022 1243">To disenroll, the parent/guardian must start by notifying the teacher of the interest to return to a school site. The district will then have 5 instructional days to return the student to in-person instruction.</p>						

	To re-enroll, the parent/guardian must start by notifying the teacher of the interest to re-enroll into independent study. The district will then follow up with the parent/guardian to discuss the independent study agreement before re-enrollment into the program.
Will the teachers working with students in Independent Study be the same teacher they would have had in their home school?	No. There will be separate teachers designated to support independent study.
Can students receiving Special Education services be enrolled in independent study?	Each student's IEP will have to reflect team approval before the student can be eligible. If the Team agrees, it must be noted that transportation services are not available.
Assembly Bill (AB) 104	
What is AB 104?	<p>State Assembly Bill (AB) 104 provides options for students and parents/guardians to address learning recovery needs. Each area of the new law is described below. AB 104 provides that by July 31, 2021, LEAs serving high school students must post the following to their website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The application to request a grade change: Pass/No Pass Grade Change Form (due Monday, August 16) • The list of postsecondary educational institutions that will accept Pass or No Pass grades on the student's transcript for admission purposes: Link to List • A statement that some postsecondary educational institutions, including those in other states, may not accept a Pass or No Pass grade instead of a letter grade for admission purposes <p>Opportunity to Change Grades to Pass/No Pass Students who were enrolled in high school during the 2020-21 school year may apply to have one or more letter grades replaced with a Pass/No Pass Grade. It is at the discretion of students and parents to determine which courses to choose letter grade changes, as they know which colleges they intend to apply and whether there will be admissions implications. Without a request to change a transcript, pursuant to AB 104, a letter grade earned in the 2020/2021 school year shall remain on the student's transcript. School districts are not authorized to accept and/or consider late applications.</p> <p>Applications will be available starting July 30, 2021. Once the information is posted on our website, students will have 15 days to request the change. Upon request, the district</p>

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	<p>will change the grade and notify the student within 15 days. The teacher of record will also be notified that the grade was changed.</p> <p>The California State University system must accept Pass/No Pass Grades without prejudice for an applicant who had enrolled in a high school in the state during any school year from 2020-21 to 2023-24. Some higher education institutions, including those from other states, may not accept Pass/No Pass Grades.</p> <p>Student Retention for 2021-2022 Parents/guardians of students enrolled in Kindergarten through 11th grade during the 2020-21 school year who received deficient grades for at least one-half of the coursework in 2020-21 may provide a written request to the school for a meeting to discuss student retention for the 2021-22 school year. Student retention or grade retention means keeping a student in the same grade level for another year.</p> <p>Staff will meet with the parent/guardian and student to discuss learning recovery options, research regarding retention, and data regarding student progress. The District has the final decision. If you are interested in a discussion regarding retention, please contact your child’s school. (add 30 days language)</p> <p>Graduation Requirements Students enrolled in their 3rd or 4th year of high school (Juniors or Seniors) during the 2020-21 school year and who are not on track to graduate in four years, will be provided the opportunity to complete the state graduation requirements to graduate. Options can include, but are not limited to, a fifth year of instruction or credit recovery. We are in the process of identifying eligible students and will provide more information as it becomes available. (look at the timeline of this)</p>
<p>Where can I get more information about changing grades to pass/no pass?</p>	<p>Visit our district website: HERE</p> <p>The application to request a grade change is due Monday, August 16, 2021.</p>