



Fresno Unified School District

# Reopening of Schools Information – APRIL 2021



## Returning to school in a hybrid model

Fresno Unified is excited to welcome students and staff back to campus in our hybrid model beginning April 6. Staff have been planning for this day for months and have been making adjustments to school sites and district offices to ensure a safe return to school. As we welcome students back in our hybrid model, it will look and feel different than when students and staff were on campus last school year. This document highlights important information as to what in-person instruction will look like in a hybrid model, including safety practices.

## Schedule for returning:

Due to current physical distancing guidelines of six feet, students will return to campus for in-person instruction two days a week using a phased-in hybrid model. Students in grades Pre-K-2, 7, 9 and 12 return April 6 with all other grades returning on April 13.



### APRIL 6:

- ▶ Grades Pre-K-2
- ▶ Grade 7
- ▶ Grades 9 and 12

### APRIL 13:

- ▶ Grades 3-6
- ▶ Grade 8
- ▶ Grades 10 and 11

## Returning to in-person instruction with added safety practices:

- Student/staff self-health screening prior to arrival
- Hybrid model with in-person instruction twice a week
- Physical distancing of six feet
- Required masks
- Frequent hand washing/sanitizing
- Increased daily cleaning/disinfecting
- Voluntary antigen testing
- School-wide notification in the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case
- Potential shifts to school site arrival and departure patterns



## Students with medical needs:

For students with medical needs, it is recommended that families discuss the risk of returning to in-person instruction with their medical provider. If accommodations, medications or procedures are needed, parents/guardians will work in partnership with their medical provider and with the school nurse /sites to ensure personal needs, supports and medical orders are in place prior to a student's return.





**Hybrid model:**

Students who chose to return to campus were identified in either **A group** or **B group**. Following the district’s simultaneous teaching schedule, the **A group** students will attend class in person on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and the **B group** will attend in person on Thursdays and Fridays.

Families that choose to keep their student home (**C group**) will continue distance learning daily as their teachers provide instruction to students physically in the classroom, while simultaneously teaching to those remaining at home.

**What is simultaneous teaching?**

Technology provides teachers with the ability to teach students at the same time (simultaneous teaching), whether students are in person or at home. This method provides more instructional time for students and ensures students receive the same high-quality instruction whether in person or remote. It also allows more students to stay with their teacher.

**Remaining in online instruction from home (C group)**

- Available to all students
- Daily instruction with your teacher
- Designated time for individualized student support
- Online student collaboration experiences
- 24/7 access to district curriculum



**AA/BB Model for Return to Campus:**

STUDENT GROUPS	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>A</b>	Monday Meetings / Advisory	IN PERSON	IN PERSON		
<b>B</b>	Monday Meetings / Advisory			IN PERSON	IN PERSON
100% Online <b>C</b>	Monday Meetings / Advisory				



For More Details on Schedules Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/2fj4j3uu>



IN PERSON



ONLINE

For more information regarding returning to school visit: <https://www.fresnounified.org/covid19>



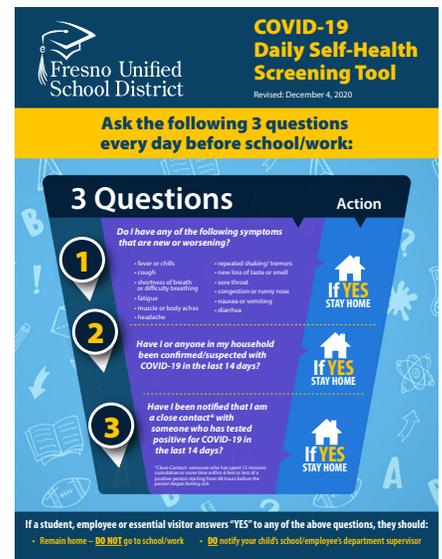
**Hybrid model:**

To ensure safety practices and reduce exposure, the number of non-essential visitors to our campuses and district offices will be reduced. Advance appointments are strongly encouraged to ensure physical distancing. All staff, students and visitors need to follow the self-health screening tool prior to arrival. If an individual answers yes to any of the screening questions, they should stay home and NOT report to or visit a Fresno Unified campus or building. Those questions are:

- Do I have any of the following symptoms?
  - Chills, fatigue, muscle or body aches
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea
  - Vomiting or diarrhea
  - Headache
  - Repeated shaking/tremors
- Have I or anyone in my household been confirmed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
- Have I been notified that I am a close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days?

Individuals that test positive for COVID-19 will isolate for a minimum of 10 days. Close Contacts of a confirmed positive will quarantine for a minimum of 10 days.

Students/staff who have any COVID-19 like symptoms may be asked to isolate for a minimum of 10 days or if symptoms persist beyond 10 days, for at least one day after symptoms resolve without the use of medication. They may return to school sooner if test negative AND symptoms have resolved for at least one day without the use of medication OR if a licensed health care provider determines that symptoms are not new or worsening based on a chronic medical condition & listed symptoms OR if a licensed health care provider has made an alternative diagnosis based on a diagnostic test such as a positive strep or influenza screen.



All household contacts should not return to school or work for a minimum of 10 days from the last contact with symptomatic student or staff. Household contact may return, if symptomatic student/staff is cleared and remains with no symptoms.

If parents need to pick up a student who is sick or for an off-campus appointment, parents should physically distance and wear a mask when arriving to the office/campus.

In addition to the self-health screening tool, students, staff and essential visitors should practice proper hand hygiene when leaving home, arriving at school/work and throughout the day.

For more information regarding returning to school visit: <https://www.fresnounified.org/covid19>



## Transportation

Buses will be disinfected daily. Students are asked to honor physical distancing at bus stops, space out on buses, and are required to wear a face mask. Proper hand hygiene is encouraged before and after riding a bus. To support contact tracing efforts, if a student is medically exempt from wearing a mask, six feet of distance will be required. The hybrid model reduces the number of students traveling to school each day and supports physical distancing. However, should student capacity not permit suggested physical distancing guidelines, students will distance as much as physically possible. Students from the same household may sit together. The district routes will follow traditional pick up and drop off timelines to ensure students arrive to school for a 9:00 a.m. start.

To reduce transportation demand, we encourage parents who can to transport their student or consider walking them to school.

Fresno Unified is working with its partners at First Student Transportation to ensure the needs of our students with special needs are safely met.

### On Campus



- To accommodate meal periods, sites may use outdoor eating spaces and access alternative indoor eating spaces so that fewer students are in the cafeteria and physical distancing guidelines are supported.
- Classroom floor plans will be altered to maximize physical distancing and reduce class sizes. Masks are required in class and while on campus
- While water fountains will be available, students are encouraged to bring their own reusable water bottles. Filtered water bottle filling stations are available at all school sites.
- Practicing proper hand hygiene throughout the day is encouraged, including when entering and exiting class, libraries and cafeterias, and after recess and physical education. Sites will identify ways to reduce sharing of toys, materials and equipment where necessary. Many classrooms have sinks that will serve as hand washing stations. Where sinks are not as accessible, hand sanitizer, bathrooms and portable hand washing stations should be used.
- Recess and physical education are expected to continue with modifications to reinforce physical distancing. Frequent hand hygiene practices should be followed while also keeping students in like groups in the event contact tracing becomes necessary.
  - PE teachers are focusing on activities that limit the use of high touch equipment
  - Equipment that is used will be cleaned after play
  - Reinforcing hand hygiene before and after activity
  - Equipment can be kept with the same class for daily use
- Due to health concerns, choir and music classes will look different. Fresno Unified will follow the direction of the state and county in phasing back in these activities.
- If a student shows symptoms of COVID-19 during the school day, the student is isolated if necessary and parents called to immediately pick up their student. School health professional will notify parents as to the pick-up process and location. If a student/employee is suspected of having COVID-19, they should contact their health care provider for guidance before returning to school or work.



### Meals

Every school site will provide meals on a grab and go basis for students in distance learning from 7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. Children ages 1-18 may go to their closest Fresno Unified school site to receive meals. Students in the hybrid model will receive breakfast and lunch at school on the days they are physically on campus.



### After School Programs

- Currently, all after school programs remain virtual.
- When programs return in person, after school program staff and participants will be required to wear a mask, follow physical distancing guidelines, and wash hands frequently. High touch areas will be sanitized frequently.

For more information regarding returning to school visit: <https://www.fresnounified.org/covid19>



### Our Plan for Cleaning and Disinfection

- Routine cleaning will happen daily by the site custodian using EPA approved disinfectants (chairs, tables, doorknobs, handles, uncluttered flat surfaces, keyboards, light switches/buttons, phones, sinks and anything in a classroom or designated areas that would be considered a high touch point).
- Foggers are available and will be used as needed.
- Where frequent handwashing is not possible, limit use of shared items where possible, such as electronic devices, supplies.
- Staff can clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces during the day as needed.
- Buses will be cleaned daily (flat surfaces including glass, seats, panels, handles and handrails).
- On demand cleaning and disinfection will occur as needed due to COVID-19 exposure and will be coordinated by COVID-19 Action Team (CAT), Communications and Maintenance/Operations leadership.



### Indoor Air Quality

Fresno Unified is ensuring that proper preventive maintenance is being performed on all heating and air conditioning units and is changing filters on a regular basis. Systems maximize the influence of filtered outside air into the HVAC system to cycle air out of enclosed space and replace it with fresh air. As an added safety measure, every classroom will be equipped with a portable air filter.



### Hand Hygiene

Practicing hand hygiene is a simple yet effective way to prevent COVID-19.

All students, staff, families and essential visitors will have access to soap and water.

If soap and water are not readily available, access to hand sanitizer (with more than 60% alcohol content) will be made available.

### When to wash your hands

- Before and after leaving class or when sharing items
- Before, during and after preparing food
- Before eating food
- Before and after caring for someone
- After using the restroom
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After you have been in a public place and touched an item or surface that may be frequently touched by other people
- Before touching your eyes, nose, or mouth because that's how germs enter our bodies

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**Contact Tracing**

Health Services COVID-19 Action Team (CAT) works with Human Resources, school administrators, Health Department, Health Services staff, Communications, students, staff and families to ensure that we are doing our part to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

**Notification**

In the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case on campus or at work, employees and families at that location will be notified within 24 hours. Notification will honor employee and student confidentiality and can be made by email, letter and/or phone message.

**Investigation**

CAT will make contact with suspected individual and will provide resources and communicate next steps to school site and individual.

**Clearance**

Following Fresno County Department of Public Health guidance and in alignment with FCDPH scenario guidance, CAT will collaborate with school site and individual to ensure that there is appropriate clearance for returning to school/work.

**Close Contact Notification**

CAT will ensure that close contacts are notified, disinfection is coordinated for any recent positive cases.

**Staff Training and Family Education**

As has been our practice during this pandemic, professional learning will be provided to staff. Information will be provided to parents through district communication channels, including phone messages, Peachjar flyers, website, television public service announcements and school site engagement.

Please note, symptoms DO NOT always mean COVID-19, so to reduce rumors and unnecessary concern with classmates/coworkers, we encourage parents, students and employees to keep their personal health conditions confidential until symptoms have been confirmed by medical testing and/or medical professionals.



**Testing**

To reduce the spread of COVID-19 and potential outbreaks, as required by state and local guidance, employees and students will participate in routine volunteer surveillance testing. Testing is non-evasive and will be overseen by trained district staff or community partners. Testing plans will be communicated by the district and school site.

- Testing sites will be communicated
- Up to 10% of district staff will be tested based on local guidelines
- Parent permission slip required



**Triggers for Switching Back to Online Learning**

We will review all situations when there are any potential outbreaks of 3 or more cases at a school site or district office.

Classroom or school shutdown will be considered on a case by case basis in coordination with FCDPH consistent with CDPH guidance, including switching back to online learning if they deem necessary.

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