

# Redlands Unified School District

## 2023-2024 Reopening of School and Safety Plan



*Effective July 1, 2023*

## **Mission Statement**

The Redlands Unified School District, as a unifying agent of several unique communities rich in local history, culture, and tradition, is committed to preparing students to become productive participants in a diverse, multi-cultural, democratic society through quality education, high expectations, flexible programs and innovative partnerships. Our students will be empowered with the knowledge and commitment necessary to confront the challenges of our changing world, as they become the leaders of the 21st century.



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# **1 Reopening of School Plan Introduction**

On February 3, 2023, the State Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board (Cal/OSHA) adopted the non-emergency COVID-19 Prevention regulations and will remain in effect for two years after the effective date. For more information regarding the Cal/OSHA ETS, please visit: [https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Non\\_Emergency\\_Regulations/](https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Non_Emergency_Regulations/).

On October 3, 2023, the California Department of Public Health updated its Guidance for K-12 Schools to be in full effect for the beginning of the 2023-24 school year. This Guidance was issued to ensure safe In-Person Instruction for all students and staff. For more information on the CDPH Guidance for K-12 schools, please visit: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/K-12-Guidance-2023-24-School-Year.aspx>.

This Plan is hereby submitted to the Redlands Unified School District which includes implementation of the required elements for safety, as well as some mitigation strategies and best practices previously implemented.

## 2 Instructional Models

Redlands Unified School District will begin the 2023-24 school year with In-Person Instruction.

### 2.1 Model 1 – Traditional In-Person Learning

The school year will begin in person and with a regular daily schedule. This includes the implementation of recess as usual at the Elementary level and the implementation of regular passing period protocols at the Secondary level. This option will include the implementation of several safety measures, directives and guidance from State and Local public health agencies (i.e., face-coverings) outlined in the COVID-19 School Safety Plan portion of this document.

### 2.2 Model 2 – Independent Study (RISE)

The second option for our students is our Redlands Independent Study Education (RISE) program. RISE is a K-12 Independent Study program that offers an alternative home school model where students partner with teachers in person or in a virtual environment. Attendance in Independent Study is earned by completing assignments. Face-coverings will be required for any indoor in-person interaction.

***To learn more about RISE and take part in this program, parents/guardians must complete an application on the RISE website: [www.redlandsusd.net/RISE](http://www.redlandsusd.net/RISE)***

### 2.3 Model 3 – Redlands eAcademy

The third option is Redlands eAcademy, which is RUSD's K-12 Blended Learning School. Blended Learning is a combination of face-to-face, teacher-guided instruction in small groups with independent and online learning. Students are expected to participate in 6 hours per week of teacher-led, interactive small group academic instruction either in person or in a virtual environment. An additional 18-25 hours per week of independent/online work may be required. Face-coverings will be required for any indoor in-person interaction.

***To learn more about Redlands eAcademy and take part in this program, parents/guardians must complete an application on the Redlands eAcademy website: [www.redlandsusd.net/req](http://www.redlandsusd.net/req)***

### 2.4 Classroom, School-Site or District-Wide Closure

The District will refer to the previous instructional model included in the 2020-21 Reopening of School Plan. Detailed schedules will be based on the type of closure (classroom, school site or District-wide), the State, legislative, and local guidance at the time of the closure. The District will work in collaboration with its Associations.

### General Measures

- Daily live instruction with designated certificated teacher.
- Live instruction will be done in a virtual environment.
- As part of daily live instruction, students will interact with peers to maintain school connectedness.
- Independent practice time.
- Accountability (Attendance and grades).
- Office hours for students and parents.
- Health, Safety and Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) activities to address individual student's health and wellness will be implemented.
- Daily student interaction and support systems to identify non-participating/engaged students will be documented.
- Supports to address the needs of students not performing at grade level, special student populations, including but not limited to English Learners, Special Education and Foster Youth population will be designed.
- Frequent communication with parents regarding student academic progress.

### 3 COVID-19 School Safety Plan

Safety is of the utmost importance. As outlined by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and in conjunction with the non-emergency COVID-19 Prevention by California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board (Cal/OSHA), the following layers of safety will be implemented at schools, District sites and after school programs (ELOP):

#### 3.1 Face-Coverings

##### General Measures

- Face-coverings are optional indoors and outdoors for all individuals in school settings.
- Face-covering requirements from employers:
  - Must provide face coverings and ensure they are worn when required by orders from the CDPH.
  - Must provide and ensure use of face coverings during outbreaks and major outbreaks.
  - For employees who are NOT COVID-19 cases, but who had a close contact, please refer to the section in the FAQ on CDPH's Isolation and Quarantine Guidance.

#### 3.2 Ventilation

For indoor spaces, ventilation will be optimized to the extent possible by following the <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Interim-Guidance-for-Ventilation-Filtration-and-Air-Quality-in-Indoor-Environments.aspx>. For more information, please visit this link: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CCDCPHP/DEODC/EHLB/IAQ/Pages/Airborne-Diseases.aspx>.

##### General Measures:

- The quantity of outside air for buildings with mechanical or natural ventilation systems will be maximized to the extent feasible.
- HVAC filters have the appropriate MERV rating **and** ionization system.
- All ACs are programmed for a minimum of 15% fresh air intake when they are operating.

#### 3.3 Staying Home When Sick and Getting Tested

Per the CDPH Guidance for K-12 Schools, the District will follow the recommended strategy for Staying Home when Sick and Getting Tested from the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/business/stay-home-when-sick.htm). To access this Guidance, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/business/stay-home-when-sick.htm>.

##### General Measures

*Revised December 12, 2023*

- Testing will be encouraged for students, staff, visitors, and volunteers who exhibit symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) to help with rapid contact tracing and prevent possible spread at schools and District sites.
- Students, staff, visitors, and volunteers who exhibit symptoms of a COVID-19 infection are not to return for in-person instruction until they have met CDPH criteria to return to school:
  - At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; AND
  - Other symptoms have improved; AND
  - They have a negative test for SARS-CoV-2:
    - OR a healthcare provider has provided documentation that the symptoms are typical of their underlying chronic condition (e.g., allergies or asthma);
    - OR a healthcare provider has confirmed an alternative named diagnosis (e.g., Streptococcal pharyngitis, Coxsackie virus);
    - OR at least 5 days have passed since symptom onset.

### 3.4 Case Reporting, Contact Tracing and Investigation

#### General Measures

- Per AB 86 (2021) and California Code Title 17, section 2500, schools are required to report COVID-19 cases to the local Public Health Department.
- The District will work in conjunction with its COVID-19 liaison to assist the SBDPH with contact tracing and investigation.
- The District will refer to its trained contact tracing team.

### 3.5 Quarantine and Isolation

For both vaccinated and unvaccinated persons, follow the CDPH [Isolation Guidance](#) (or those diagnosed with COVID-19).

### 3.8 Daily Health Screenings, Exclusion from School and Contact Tracing

#### General Measures

- Parents are highly encouraged to take their student's temperature and review pre-screening questions prior to leaving home to prevent in-person transmission.
- Pre-screening questions focus on symptoms related to COVID-19 (e.g., Per [CDC](#), symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea).



- All staff members, essential visitors, and essential volunteers are encouraged to take their own temperature and review pre-screening questions prior to leaving home to prevent in-person transmission.
- All students, staff members, essential visitors, and essential volunteers should report any incident of COVID-19 symptoms, close contact exposure, or positive testing results to site or District Administration.
- Site Administrators will communicate with the District COVID-19 Response Team.
  - Response Team is made up of Human Resources Manager, Risk Manager, School Nurses, and their support staff.
- A member of the District COVID-19 Response Team will contact the student, staff member, essential visitor, or essential volunteer.
- Positive cases of COVID-19 will be reported to the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health who will assist the District in providing the appropriate response.
- It is considered an excused absence for students who are self-quarantining.
- Parents may request for their student(s) who are on self-quarantine to be placed on Independent Study (Short-Term RISE).
- Staff members will be instructed to call in sick, stay home, and get tested if they have symptoms of COVID-19

### 3.9 Other Measures

- Physical Distancing:
  - According to CDPH and consistent with CDC K-12 School Guidance, recent evidence indicates that In-Person Instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., face-covering) are implemented. Except during an outbreak, no physical distancing or barriers are required.
- Visitors:
  - Nonessential visitors, volunteers and activities involving other groups at the same time will be allowed at Principal discretion and they must follow all safety protocols in this document as well as the District's protocol for obtaining Raptor System clearance.
- Student Transportation:
  - Loading procedure will commence from the back to the front of the bus.
  - Windows will be kept open for the purpose of air circulation (weather permitting).
  - Drivers will wear a face-shield while the bus is in operation.
  - Drivers will disinfect the buses after each use including the seats, handles, and seat belts.
- Elementary Recess:
  - Elementary recess will return to a normal environment with the use of playground equipment and shared P.E. equipment.

- Physical distancing will be encouraged for students while in outdoor settings and when in groups, as face-coverings are not required outdoors.
- Meetings, Athletics, Extracurricular Activities:
  - High school athletics will operate as outlined by CIF regulations.
  - Extracurricular activities will continue as outlined by current CDPH Guidance.
  - Field Trips will be reinstated as long as all applicable CDPH Guidance are adhered to as well as local County Guidance

## 4 Additional Considerations

### 4.1 Training and Education

#### General Measures

- Parents can access a list of COVID-19 symptoms on the CDPH website and will be instructed to keep their child(ren) at home if they are exhibiting any of the symptoms, even if they are mild, and schedule a COVID-19 test.
- Student emergency contact information must be updated in the Student Information System in AERIES with the most current information in the event a student must be picked up. Increasing the number of contacts may be useful in developing an emergency pick up plan.
- Staff members have received mandatory training on COVID-19 related topics via Keenan SafeSchools webinar which include:
  - How to identify symptoms and risk factors.
  - How to reduce the risk of exposure with the proper use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (i.e., putting on face-coverings, shields, gloves, and/or goggles).
  - The proper use of non-contact thermometers.
  - Properly sanitizing their classrooms, workspaces, and how to securely store cleaning agents.
  - Where to find the most credible news and information about the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Staff and parents have access to the Redlands Coordinated Systems of Support (RCSS) Team and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) resources found on the Wellness tab under Staff Resources: [www.redlandsusd.net/wellness](http://www.redlandsusd.net/wellness).
- Staff tasked with cleaning and disinfecting will be provided with appropriate training.
- Staff will train students and emphasize the importance of proper hygiene (i.e., handwashing, using sanitizers, coughing/sneezing etiquette), the proper use of PPE, and social distancing.

