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# **COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY**

It is the policy of Lighthouse Community Public Schools ("LCPS" or the "School") to take all reasonable measures to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus disease ("COVID-19") among students and staff. In accordance with this policy, the School is temporarily implementing health and safety measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This policy recognizes that these measures are each designed to provide some protection against COVID-19. When certain measures are not feasible, the School reserves the right to implement alternative measures in their place. This Policy includes both mandatory measures (using terms "shall" or "will") as well as recommended measures intended to guide decisions in light of practical limitations.

This Policy is based on guidance provided by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"), the California Department of Education ("CDE"), the California Department of Public Health ("CDPH"), and the Alameda County Department of Public Health ("ACDPH"). The Governor and each county public health official is vested with the authority to impose health and safety standards, which may vary by locality in response to different local conditions. The School will, as necessary, consult with its county health officer, or designated staff, who are best positioned to monitor and provide advice on local conditions to individually determine whether more or less stringent measures are necessary to align with the applicable public health order.

This policy constitutes the COVID-19 Infection Control Plan for the School. Prior to the beginning of the 2021-22 school year or as soon as possible thereafter, the Chief Executive Officer or designee shall perform a comprehensive risk assessment of all work areas and work tasks in accordance with guidance from the CDPH and this Policy. The following staff members are the COVID-19 Compliance Officers and are responsible for implementing this Policy at the School:

Anna Martin, Senior Director of People and Operations (510) 919-8588 Belen Orozco, Director of Operations, (510) 562-8801 Franklin Zuniga, Operations Manager, Lighthouse Campus, (510) 562-8801 Brenda Liborio, Operations Manager, Lodestar Campus, (510) 775-0255

The School will offer an independent study learning program (as capacity permits) for students whose families have opted not to participate in the classroom-based program.

# 1. Limited Campus Access:

- 1.1 The School may limit access to campus to necessary and/or scheduled visitors and volunteers and may limit the number of students and staff with whom they come into contact, based on factors such as the current levels of community transmission, the vaccination status of the visitor, and the relative importance of the visit's purpose to school functions.
- 1.2 The School will exclude from the campus any employee, student, parent, caregiver or visitor who refuses to take or does not pass any Wellness and Temperature Screening requested by the School.
- 1.3 Students excluded from campus on the basis of an elevated temperature or other COVID-19 related symptoms shall be provided with short-term independent study opportunities to support



- their academic success to the greatest extent possible during exclusion.
- 1.4 Signage will be posted at all public entrances to the School warning visitors not to enter if they have symptoms of COVID-19.
- 1.5 Students and employees who are well but who have a household member that has been diagnosed with COVID-19 are directed to notify their teacher or the COVID-19 Compliance Officer, and the School will work with them to ensure that CDC-recommended precautions are followed.
- 1.6 If allowed on campus, any community groups and other third-party users of campus facilities shall be subject to applicable health and safety plans and restrictions.
- 1.7 Health and safety standards and procedures shall be applied equally to all users of a public school campus that is subject to a co-location arrangement.
- 1.8 All visitors to a School campus must wear a face mask while inside any School building, vehicle, or other enclosed space. Visitors may wear a face shield with a drape along the bottom if they are unable to wear a mask due to a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability, or if they are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
- 1.9 Students and employees who are well but who have a household member that has been diagnosed with COVID-19 are directed to notify the School's COVID-19 Compliance Officer, who will consult with other School staff to determine whether the student or staff member can continue coming to school with a modified quarantine in light of current guidance and this Policy.
- 1.10 To the extent that non-parent visitors are required to enter the School campus, the following precautions shall be taken:
  - 1.10.1 Non-parental visitors will be allowed on campus by appointment only.
  - 1.10.2 Non-parental visitors will must pre-register in a visitor's log, which will include name, email address, and phone number for contact tracing purposes.
  - 1.10.3 Non parental visitors will only be allowed to enter the specific areas necessary to conduct their business.
- 1.11 All vendors' employees who regularly enter the School campus must comply with this entire policy, including any and all COVID-19 testing and screening requirements. For purposes of this policy, vendors include the School's contracted partners who provide limited and specialized services on School campuses. Any vendor's employee who either refuses to test for COVID-19 or refuses to provide COVID-19 testing results to the School on demand shall be excluded from the School campus. Similarly, if any vendor's employee screens or tests positive for COVID-19 prior to campus entry must follow all exposure control protocol in this policy, including but not limited to campus exclusion, testing requirements, quarantine/isolation, as well as any other measures required by public health guidance.

# 2. Wellness Checks and Temperature Screenings:

- 2.1 While no longer required to do so by public health guidance, the School reserves the right to employ temperature and symptom screening checks as necessary throughout the school year. Regardless of vaccination status or recent testing results, all students and staff may be required to submit to symptom screening questioning and/or a no-touch thermometer temperature screening at the discretion of a COVID-19 Compliance Officer or designee thereof.
- 2.2 Symptom and temperature checks will confirm through questioning that the subject is not

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experiencing or has not experienced in the last 24 hours: fever, chills, cough, shortness of breach or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, or a temperature above 99.5 degrees.

- 2.3 To prevent stigma and discrimination in the school setting, student and employee health screenings should be kept as private as possible to maintain the confidentiality of student and employee medical and student records and information. Race, nationality, country of origin, and other protected characteristics should never be used as a basis for particularized health screening.
- 2.4 Any student or staff member who refuses to submit to symptom screening questioning or a temperature check may be presumed symptomatic and excluded from campus.
- 2.5 The COVID-19 Compliance Officer shall routinely conduct passive observation of the student body and staff to detect the prevalence of symptoms of COVID-19 to the greatest degree feasible.
- 2.6 Employees shall self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms, including elevated temperature, every day before arriving to the School campus.
- 2.7 Any student found to be experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 will be directed to wear a medical grade face covering (unless exempted from wearing a face covering) and will be escorted to an isolation area until he or she can be picked up by a parent or guardian.
- 2.8 Any employee found to be experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 will be directed to wear a medical grade face covering (unless exempted from wearing a face covering) and will be instructed to leave the School campus and seek medical care and testing for COVID-19.
- 2.9 If any student or staff is found to be exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms on campus, the School shall implement the procedures outlined in Section 5 of this policy, as necessary.

### 3. COVID-19 Compliance Officer:

- 3.1 The School has designated COVID-19 Compliance Officers to act as a liaison between the School and state and local health officials, for the purposes of reporting positive cases, in the event of a cluster or outbreak of positive cases at the School, and to coordinate further as required by public health guidance.
- 3.2 The COVID-19 Compliance Officers shall monitor the prevalence of symptoms and illnesses among students and staff on campus and help isolate any students suspected of being infected with COVID-19.
- 3.3 The COVID-19 Compliance Officers shall be the point of contact for public health agencies for sharing information on positive cases, close contacts with positive cases, and any further information or assistance with contact tracing identification and investigation.
- 3.4 The COVID-19 Compliance Officers are the individuals named on page 1 of this Policy.

## 4. COVID-19 Testing and Reporting:

- 4.1 Consistent with CDPH Guidance, the School will periodically implement surveillance testing based on local disease trends, testing capacity, and the directives of state and local public health officials, among other relevant factors.
- 4.2 The School will adhere, at a minimum, to all state and local public health orders and guidance requiring testing on symptomatic, response, and asymptomatic/surveillance bases, which are described as follows:

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- 4.2.1 Symptomatic testing is used for individuals presenting with symptoms of COVID-19, either at home or at school. This testing is used to determine if a student with symptoms is infected with COVID-19. This is required before a symptomatic individual is permitted back on campus. If testing is refused, the individual will be deemed a confirmed case and excluded from campus pursuant to Section 5.4.1 of this policy.
- 4.2.2 Response testing is used to identify positive individuals once a confirmed case has been identified in a given stable group, school, or community. Response-based testing is provided to symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals who are known to have been exposed to a confirmed case in order to determine the extent of any spread of infection associated with the confirmed case. All individuals determined to be close contacts or otherwise exposed to COVID-19 are required to submit to response testing before being permitted back on campus. If testing is refused, the individual will be deemed a confirmed case and excluded from campus pursuant to Section 5.4.1 of this policy.
- 4.2.3 Asymptomatic/surveillance testing can be used for surveillance, usually at a cadence of at least every two weeks or more frequently, to understand whether schools have higher or lower rates of COVID-19 than the community, to guide decisions about safety for schools and school administrators, and to inform local health departments about district-level in-school rates of infection. Asymptomatic/surveillance testing can also be used for screening purposes, usually at a more frequent cadence than surveillance testing (so, weekly or twice weekly) and is used to identify asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic cases that might otherwise contribute to in-school transmission. Asymptomatic/surveillance testing will be implemented at the discretion of the School or as required by state and local health orders. If asymptomatic/surveillance testing is required by the school, any individual who refuses to be tested and does not have a valid exemption on file, may be excluded from campus or subject to discipline as the school deems reasonable and appropriate.
- 4.3 The COVID-19 Compliance Officers must be made aware of all positive tests among students and employees of the School. The COVID-19 Compliance Officer shall report those results to the appropriate state and/or local public health department.
- 4.4 Student consent for testing is required as follows:
  - 4.4.1 Students aged 12 and younger will require parental consent for COVID-19 testing.
  - 4.4.2 Students aged 13-17 may consent to COVID-19 testing on their own, pursuant to California Family Code Section 6926 and CDPH guidance.
  - 4.4.3 Students aged 18 and older do not need parental consent for COVID-19 testing.
- 4.5 Students who do not consent to or refuse to participate in any COVID-19 testing program or to report the results of any test to the School will not be allowed to return to in-person instruction or otherwise enter the School campus. Both the testing and the reporting are required under applicable public health guidance and legal authority. Alternative learning opportunities will be provided to the greatest degree possible.
- 4.6 Staff who refuse to participate in COVID-19 testing programs or to report the results to the School, where such testing is required, may be disciplined for such non-compliance, up to and including termination from at-will employment.
- 4.7 Consistent with applicable law, the School will consider accommodations from mandatory testing for medical reasons and any other lawfully recognized reason. Employees or students and/or parents/guardians who wish to request an accommodation should contact the School to request an accommodation as soon as they discover the need for one. The School cannot

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- guarantee the availability of any alternative arrangements for employees or staff seeking exemption from testing.
- 4.8 The School must maintain confidentiality of COVID-19 testing results, except for reporting the results to public health officials. All medical information about any employee must be stored separately from the employee's personnel file in order to limit access to this confidential information. The School should have a separate confidential medical file for each employee where the School can store all of that employee's medical information. Medical information includes COVID-19 test results, an employee's statement about any symptoms they have experienced, medical certifications showing the employee needs time off due to OVID-19, etc. The School will take similar precautions to safeguard students' rights to privacy and confidentiality, consistent with the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act and all other relevant legal requirements.
- 4.9 Per Cal/OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards, the School will provide testing at no cost to employees during paid time for:
  - 4.9.1 Symptomatic unvaccinated employees, regardless of whether there is a known exposure;
  - 4.9.2 Unvaccinated employees after an exposure;
  - 4.9.3 Vaccinated employees after an exposure if they develop symptoms;
  - 4.9.4 Unvaccinated employees in an outbreak (three or more employee cases);
  - 4.9.5 All employees in a major outbreak (20 or more cases).
- 4.10 In the event of a positive test result:
  - 4.10.1 The School requires that parents/guardians and staff notify school administration immediately if the student or staff tested positive for COVID-19 or if one of their household members or non-household close contacts tests positive for COVID-19.
  - 4.10.2 Upon receiving notification that staff or a student has tested positive for COVID-19 or been in close contact with a COVID-19 case, the School will take actions as required in Section 5 below.
- 4.11 All testing required by this policy shall use the polymerase chain reaction ("PCR") type of testing, unless indicated otherwise in a separately issued School COVID-19 testing policy.
- 4.12 Additional levels of employee and student COVID-19 testing may be implemented throughout the year in response to local disease trends, an outbreak, as determined by local public health authorities, or Cal/OSHA regulations. The School reserves the right to require employees to undergo additional frequencies of COVID-19 testing, consistent with applicable authority and directives from public health authorities and the school's charter authorizer, without regard to an employee's COVID-19 vaccination status.
- 4.13 With the exception of mandatory reporting to state and local public health departments, the School will strictly maintain the confidentiality of all testing results. All retained medical information about any employee must be stored separately from the employee's personnel file in order to limit access to this confidential information. The School should have a separate confidential medical file for each employee where the School can store all of the employee's medical information, to include COVID-19 test results, any statement or report regarding symptoms of COVID-19, any medical certifications showing the employee needs time off due to COVID-19, and similar information. The School will take similar precautions with students' medical information privacy, consistent with the requirements of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act.

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- 4.14 All volunteers, contractors, vendors and other adults supporting School functions on campus must also comply with applicable COVID-19 testing requirements laid out in this Policy or any separately issued School COVID-19 testing policy.
- 4.15 Students, employees, and their families should refer to any and all separately issued School COVID-19 testing policies for further notification and details regarding current testing cadences and requirements. For questions about current testing policies, please contact a COVID-19 Compliance Officer for your school site.

# 5. Exposure Management -- Response to Suspected or Confirmed Cases:

- 5.1 For exposures or suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 among School employees, the School will follow all steps set forth in the COVID-19 Addendum to the School's Injury and Illness Prevention Program. If the provisions of the COVID-19 Addendum conflict with this policy with regard to employee COVID-19 exposures and confirmed cases, the School will follow the employee-specific policies in the Addendum.
- 5.2 The School will follow the exposure management guidance of the CDPH and any relevant local public health orders that are binding on the school. If CDPH or ACDPH guidance are updated so that they conflict with the provisions laid out in this policy, the school will follow the updated public health guidance.
- 5.3 If the event of a suspected COVID-19 case:
  - 5.3.1 The School will identify an isolation room and/or outdoor areas to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms.
  - 5.3.2 Any students or staff exhibiting symptoms should immediately be required to wear a medical grade face covering (unless exempted pursuant to this policy) and wait in a separate isolation area, under supervision, until they can be transported home or to a healthcare facility, as soon as practicable. For serious illness or difficulty breathing, call 9-1-1 without delay. Isolation will be carried out without regard to vaccination or recent testing status.
  - 5.3.3 The COVID-19 Compliance Officer should be alerted as soon as possible when anyone is isolated for suspected COVID-19 symptoms.
  - 5.3.4 A log shall be kept of all individuals entering the isolation room.
  - 5.3.5 Physical distancing of six feet or greater will be maintained in the isolation room to the greatest extent possible.
  - 5.3.6 Any individual who leaves campus after being isolated for suspected COVID-19 will be instructed to undergo COVID-19 testing at their earliest convenience and to provide the testing results to the school before returning to campus.
  - 5.3.7 Employees escorting and supervising any individual in isolation will wear gloves and a medical grade face covering.
  - 5.3.8 Isolation areas are not to be reused for school purposes until cleaned and disinfected.
  - 5.3.9 If the suspected case is confirmed by a positive test or medical diagnosis, then the School will follow the procedures in Section 5.4 of this policy.
  - 5.3.10 If the suspected case is ruled out by a negative test result or medical diagnosis, they shall be permitted to return to campus after symptoms have improved and they have been fever-free without the use of fever reducing medicine for 24 hours.
  - 5.3.11 If the suspected case does not provide the School with a negative test result or doctor's note regarding their infection status, the School will treat the student as a



positive case and require an isolation period commencing on the date COVID-19 consistent symptoms were first noted.

- In the event of one or more confirmed COVID-19 case(s) the School will follow the CDPH Framework for Reopening K-12 Schools as well as any binding ACDPH guidance. If public health protocols are updated so that they materially conflict with the protocol provided by this policy, the School will follow any updated guidance until this policy can be updated. Otherwise, the following steps will be taken in the event a confirmed case is identified the students or staff of the school:
  - 5.4.1 A confirmed case will isolate at home and be excluded from campus until after ten days have passed since symptom onset, after it has been 24 hours since fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication, <u>and</u> all other symptoms have resolved. If the individual was asymptomatic, they may end isolation after 10 days from their first positive COVID-19 test or, if they later develop symptoms, 10 days from the day they first develop symptoms.
  - 5.4.2 The COVID-19 Compliance Officer will be notified as soon as possible.
  - 5.4.3 The COVID-19 Compliance Officer will instruct the student or employee who tested positive to follow all current home isolation instructions provided by CDPH or ACDPH. If the individual is on campus when they are confirmed positive for COVID-19, they shall immediately be asked to wear a medical grade face covering and be escorted to the isolation room until arrangements can be made to send them home to begin isolation.
  - 5.4.4 The COVID-19 Compliance Officer will notify the county public health department as soon as possible by completing the Schools Portal for Outbreak Tracing ("SPOT") Intake Form available at spot.cdph.ca.gov. Prior to making the notification, the COVID-19 Compliance Officer shall note the full name, address, telephone number, and date of birth of the individual who tested positive; the full name, address, and telephone number of the person making the report; and the date the individual tested positive, the school at which the individual was present within 10 days preceding the positive test, and the date the individual was last on-site at school.
  - 5.4.5 The COVID-19 Compliance Officer will receive and ensure that all directives provided by Alameda County Public Health are followed by School staff.
  - 5.4.6 The COVID-19 Compliance Officer will notify all staff and families of the discovery of a positive COVID-19 case. This notification will maintain confidentiality as required by state and federal laws to the greatest degree possible while providing necessary, generalized information to potentially affected staff and families.
  - 5.4.7 The School will close off all areas used by any confirmed case and will not use them before cleaning and disinfection.
  - 5.4.8 The COVID-19 Compliance Officer will investigate the COVID-19 illness and exposures and determine if any work-related factors could have contributed to risk of infection.
  - 5.4.8 The School will update protocols as needed to prevent further cases in accordance with CDPH Guidelines ("Responding to COVID-19 in the Workplace").



- 5.4.10 The School will implement communication plans for exposure at school and potential school closures to include outreach to students, parents, teachers, staff and the community.
- 5.4.11 The School will provide information to staff regarding labor laws, Disability Insurance, Paid Family Leave, and Unemployment Insurance, as applicable to schools.
- 5.4.12 The School will provide guidance to parents, teachers, and staff reminding them of the importance of community safety measures.
- 5.4.13 The School will develop a plan for continuity of education using independent study. That plan will address how to also continue nutrition and other services provided in the regular school setting to establish alternate mechanisms for these services to continue for students in quarantine and isolation.
- 5.4.14 The COVID-19 Compliance Officer will investigate all close contacts of the confirmed case over the ten days prior to the day the case was confirmed. This process will utilize class seating rosters and consultation with teachers/staff to identify close contacts to the confirmed COVID-19 case in all classrooms and on-campus activities.

A "close contact" is someone who spends a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24 hour period within 6 feet of an infected person, or is directly exposed to an infected person's bodily fluids, at any point from two days before the infected person's onset of symptoms until they are isolated.

- In the event of a cluster of confirmed cases (three or more identified within 14 days), the School will contact local county public health officials and work closely with such officials to determine whether the cluster constitutes an "outbreak" warranting a heightened public health response or school closure, which may include the following precautions:
  - 5.5.1 The School's Compliance Officer will work closely with local public health officials and will provide all required information in a timely and complete manner. The School and Compliance Officer will comply with all CDPH and local public health requirements and guidance on responding to the outbreak.
  - 5.5.2 The School will notify students, families, employees, and stakeholders that the school and public health officials are investigating a cluster and/or outbreak. This notice will encourage all stakeholders to follow public health recommendations.
  - 5.5.3 The School will notify all stakeholders whether the school will need to be closed for 14 days due to widespread and/or ongoing transmission of COVID-19 at the school or in the general community.
  - 5.5.4 The School will identify absenteeism among those in affected classes and coordinate with the local health department to contact those absentees to screen for symptoms of COVID-19 if they were exposed to a case during the case's infectious period.
  - 5.5.5 The School will limit visitors to the affected School campus, except for those that are essential to the School's mission. Law enforcement, fire, medical, emergency, and other similar government employees who are responding to, working at, or inspecting the facility will be permitted on campus.
  - 5.5.6 The School will otherwise discontinue in-person instruction and group activities on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A close contact also includes a situation in which a person provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19.



campus during the outbreak.

5.6 The School may be temporarily closed for in-person instruction as determined by and in consultation with the local health department. After such a closure, the School may reopen after 14 days and after cleaning, disinfection, conclusion of a public health investigation, and local health department consultation.

# 6. Exposure Management -- Close Contacts and Quarantine:

- 6.1 A "close contact" is someone who spends a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24 hour period within 6 feet of an infected person, at any point from two days before the infected person's onset of symptoms until they are isolated.
- 6.2 **"Fully vaccinated"** refers to those who have received either a single dose vaccine or the second dose of a two-dose vaccine series over two weeks ago.
- 6.3 Anyone determined to be a close contact (household or non-household) of a confirmed COVID-19 case while on school grounds should be instructed to wear a medical grade face mask and be escorted to a supervised quarantine area (separate from the school's isolation area) until they can be sent home and instructed to consult with their healthcare professional regarding COVID-19 response testing and quarantine or isolation, as necessary.
  - 6.3.1 The quarantine area should be managed the same as the isolation area, as described in Section 5.3.
- 6.4 Staff that are identified as a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case will be directed to quarantine away from campus for ten days or as otherwise specified in the school's COVID-19 Injury and Illness Prevention Plan COVID-19 Addendum.
- 6.5 Fully vaccinated students and students who have recovered from laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days who come into close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case in any setting may continue to attend school and do not need to quarantine so long as they self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days and do not develop symptoms of COVID-19. These students are strongly recommended to get tested and continue practicing strict COVID-19 infection prevention measures like hand washing, masking, and avoiding large groups.
- 6.5 <u>Modified Quarantine</u>. Unvaccinated students who come into close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case in a school setting supervised by staff while both parties were correctly wearing masks for the entire exposure period may continue to attend school during a modified 10-day quarantine, so long as they:
  - 6.5.1 Do not show symptoms of COVID-19;
  - 6.5.2 Continue to appropriately mask indoors and outdoors while at school;
  - 6.5.3 Undergo PCR or antigen testing at a healthcare setting or certified testing site at least twice weekly during the ten day quarantine;
  - 6.5.4 Continue to quarantine from all extracurricular activities including sports and activities within the community setting for the full ten days.
  - 6.5.5 When not attending in-person instruction, students undergoing modified quarantine must otherwise remain at home for the duration of their quarantine.
  - 6.5.6 Modified quarantine is not available if the exposed student is part of a TK-12 outbreak.

    All exposed students must quarantine at home during an outbreak.
  - 6.5.7 Students undergoing modified guarantine must eat six feet away from other students.
  - 6.5.8 Modified Quarantine may end after Day 7 from exposure if the second test taken during quarantine is performed on or after Day 5 from exposure and is negative and the student remains asymptomatic.

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- 6.6 **Standard Quarantine**. Unvaccinated students who come into close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case while either the student or confirmed case was not wearing a mask correctly must guarantine away from school until after:
  - 6.6.1 Day 10 from last exposure; or
  - 6.6.2 Day 7 from last exposure if a COVID-19 test taken after the Day 5 from last exposure is negative, so long as they student remains asymptomatic, continues daily self-monitoring for symptoms for 14 days from exposure, and continues practicing strict COVID-19 infection protection measures like hand washing, masking, and avoiding large groups for 14 days.
- 6.7 If any symptoms develop during the 14-day self-monitoring period of any type of quarantine, the exposed student must immediately isolate, get tested, and contact their healthcare provider with any questions regarding their care.
- 6.8 Proof of vaccination status must be provided at the School's request before a student or employee can claim any benefit of vaccination status under this policy.
- 6.9 Negative test results must be provided at the School's request before a student or employee can claim any benefit of a negative test under this policy.
- 6.10 Proof of prior COVID-19 infection must be provided at the School's request before a student or employee can claim any benefit of prior infection under this policy.

### 7. Sanitizing/Hygiene Materials and Practices:

- 7.1 The School will develop plans and routines to ensure that students and staff wash or sanitize hands frequently, including upon arrival to campus, after using the restroom, after playing outside and returning to the classroom, before and after eating, and after coughing or sneezing.
- 7.2 Staff will teach and reinforce proper handwashing technique, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, using a tissue to wipe the nose, and covering coughs and sneezes.
- 7.3 The School shall make soap, tissues, no-touch trashcans, face coverings, water and paper towels for hand washing available. Students and staff should wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application. Soap products marketed as "antimicrobial" are not necessary or recommended.
- 7.4 If handwashing stations near classrooms are not practicable, and to facilitate use by students and staff as needed, the School shall make available fragrance-free alcohol-based hand sanitizer that is at least sixty percent (60%) ethyl alcohol. (Note: frequent handwashing is more effective than the use of hand sanitizers.) This hand sanitizer will be made available to both students and staff at strategic locations throughout the school campus.
  - 7.4.1 Children under age 9 should only use hand sanitizer under adult supervision. Call Poison Control if consumed: 1-800-222-1222.
  - 7.4.1 Hand sanitizer with isopropyl alcohol as the main ingredient shall not be used.
- 7.5 If possible, a restroom should be dedicated to individuals in the isolation and/or quarantine area. This restroom must be cleaned and sanitized after use by any individual in the isolation or quarantine area.
- 7.6 The School shall place posters conspicuously that encourage hand hygiene to help stop the spread of COVID-19.
- 7.7 Employees should visit the CDC's coughing and sneezing etiquette and clean hands webpage for more information.

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# 8. Routine Cleaning and Disinfecting:

- 8.1 The School incorporates by reference the latest CDPH and CDC guidance for Cleaning, Disinfection and Ventilation as appropriate to maintain a high level of cleanliness throughout the year and reduce the risk of exposure to and spread of COVID-19 at the school site. If the guidance on cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation is updated so as to conflict with the measures provided for in this policy, the school will follow the updated public health guidance.
- 8.2 Custodial staff will perform thorough cleaning when students are not present. When cleaning, the space will be aired out before children arrive.
- 8.3 Routine cleaning practices include, but are not limited to:
  - 8.3.1 Using everyday janitorial cleaning supplies and disinfectants for surfaces such as floors, tables, desks, counters, sinks, toilets, and other hard-surfaced furniture and equipment;
  - 8.3.2 Dusting hard surfaces;
  - 8.3.3 Damp wiping of hard surfaces to ensure they are free of debris;
  - 8.3.4 Wet mopping of floors;
  - 8.3.5 Vacuuming carpets and mats.
- 8.4 All frequently touched surfaces in the workplace, such as chairs, desks, tables, keyboards, telephones, handrails, light switches, sink handles, bathroom surfaces and door handles, will be routinely disinfected.
- 8.5 Staff should wait twenty-four (24) hours before cleaning and disinfecting any area that was used by a person who was experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If it is not possible to wait twenty-four (24) hours, then staff should wait as long as possible before commencing cleaning and disinfection.
- 8.6 The School will clean and disinfect areas commonly visited by staff no less than once per day during operating hours and implement a schedule for such cleaning and disinfecting. These areas include, but are not limited to: break rooms, restrooms, lobbies, classrooms, laboratories, nurse's offices, counseling and student support areas, staff offices, and cafeterias.
- 8.7 The School will conduct a heightened cleaning process in all areas that a confirmed COVID-19 case visited while on campus.
  - 3.7.1 Employees performing this cleaning must wear a mask and gloves at all times and will refer to Material Safety Data Sheets and/or follow all instructions on cleaning chemical labels.
  - 8.7.2 While disinfecting, the School will use an EPA-registered disinfectant that is approved for emerging pathogens.
  - 8.7.3 Disinfection is required for all non-porous surfaces in the confirmed case's space/office, as well as all shared equipment (tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls) in bathrooms and shared spaces used by the confirmed case.
  - 8.7.4 Disinfection is required for porous surfaces like carpets and other fabrics in the confirmed case's space or office. This may require removal of visible contamination or debris, cleaning with appropriate cleaning products, and disinfection using a liquid or spray approved for use on the particular material.
  - 8.7.5 Cleaning and disinfection is also required for any high-touch surfaces like those on desks, hardback chairs, doorknobs, light switches, handles of any kind, computers and accessories, and telephones.

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- 8.7.6 Once the spaces where the confirmed case has been present have been cleaned and disinfected, they may be used.
- 8.8 The School will ensure proper ventilation during cleaning and disinfecting. Staff are encouraged to introduce fresh outdoor air as much as possible, by opening windows where practicable.
- 8.9 The School will comply with CDPH's Guidance on "Ventilation of Indoor Environments and Ventilation and Filtration to Reduce Long-Range Airborne Transmission of COVID-19 and Other Respiratory Infections: Considerations for Reopened Schools" to the greatest extent practicable.
- 8.10 Students and employees are discouraged from sharing desks, computers, books, phones, pens, art supplies, or other work tools and equipment, including playground equipment, when possible. When shared use is allowed, the items and equipment will be cleaned and disinfected between uses.
- 8.11 Staff will be trained as appropriate in the chemical hazards, manufacturer's directions, and Cal/OSHA requirements for safe and correct application of cleaning and disinfectant agents in accordance with the Healthy Schools Act guidance from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation and Cal/OSHA.
- 8.12 When choosing disinfecting products, the School will use those approved for use against COVID-19 on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)- approved list "N" and require staff to follow product instructions.
  - 8.12.1 To reduce the risk of asthma and other health effects related to disinfecting, the School will select disinfectant products on list N with asthma-safer ingredients (hydrogen peroxide, citric acid or lactic acid) as recommended by the US EPA Design for Environment program.
  - 8.12.2 The School will avoid products that contain peroxyacetic (paracetic) acid, sodium hypochlorite (bleach) or quaternary ammonium compounds, which can cause asthma.
  - 8.12.3 Staff shall follow label directions for appropriate dilution rates and contact times.
  - 8.12.4 The School will establish a cleaning and disinfecting schedule in order to avoid both under- and over-use of cleaning products.
- 8.13 Subject to available resources, disposable disinfecting wipes shall be made available so that employees can wipe down commonly used surfaces (e.g., doorknobs, keyboards, remote controls, desks, other work tools and equipment) before each use. Disinfectant wipes and sprays will be kept away from students.

#### 9. Facility Measures:

- 9.1 Maintenance staff will ensure that ventilation systems and fans operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors and other methods.
- 9.2 Windows and doors should not be opened if doing so poses a safety or health risk by exacerbating seasonal allergies or asthma symptoms.
  - 9.2.1 The School will consider alternatives, such as increased central air filtration (targeted filter rating of at least MERV 13) if opening windows poses a safety or health risk to persons using the facility.
- 9.3 HVAC systems will be set to maximize indoor/outdoor air exchanges unless outdoor conditions make this inappropriate.

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- 9.4 If an HVAC system becomes nonoperational, additional ventilation should be provided with the use of fans or relocating classes until repairs are completed.
- 9.5 The COVID-19 isolation and quarantine areas should be outdoors when feasible to maximize ventilation and minimize exposures to COVID-19 infection. Under no circumstances should an isolation or quarantine area be in a room without a functioning HVAC system.
- 9.6 Maintenance staff will ensure that all water systems and features (e.g., drinking fountains) are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown to minimize the risk of Legionnaires' disease and other diseases associated with water.
- 9.5 Consider installing additional temporary handwashing stations at all school entrances and near classrooms to minimize movement and congregation in bathrooms.
- 9.6 Consider installing privacy boards or clear screens to increase and enforce separation between staff and students.

# 11. Physical Distancing:

- 11.1 Although strict physical distancing is no longer required in schools due to the use of universal masking, per CDPH and CDC guidance, the School will implement distancing wherever possible as an alternative layer of protection.
- 11.2 The School will prioritize the use and maximization of outdoor space for activities where practicable, especially for meals, physical education, and any singing or activities that otherwise produce increased respiration or respiratory droplets.
- 11.3 The School will maximize space between seating and desks.
- 11.4 The School will consider redesigning activities for smaller groups and rearranging furniture and play spaces to maintain separation.
- 11.5 Employees will be encouraged to eat outdoors. They may also eat at their desk or cubicle if these areas are enclosed as a separate room, provide more distance, or include barriers.

#### 12. Extracurricular Activities:

- 12.1 All extracurricular activities operated by or supervised by school personnel or occurring on a school site, whether or not occurring during school hours, will be undertaken in compliance with the requirements of this Policy and all required public health measures appliable to K-12 schools. This applies to sports, band, chorus, clubs, and other similar activities and organizations. All extracurricular school activities must be conducted in compliance with the latest CDPH K-12 guidance as well as any local guidance appliable to youth sports and extracurricular activities.
- 12.2 All indoor sports must be played with masks on, unless doing so is recognized as unsafe by a well-recognized public health authority, such as the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- 12.3 Theater, music, dance, and similar classes and clubs should maintain physical distancing, in addition to the use of face masks where possible.
- 12.4 When engaged in activities that could generate respiratory droplets, such as enunciating (i.e. theater workshops) or dancing, physical distancing should be increased and activities should be conducted outdoors where possible.
- 12.5 Music classes that involve instruments where a face mask must be removed to play should observe one of the following precautions: 12.5.1 Be held outdoors,

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- 12.5.2 Use modified face coverings and bell coverings when playing wind and brass instruments and maintain six feet of physical distancing, or
- 12.5.3 Conduct weekly PCR or antigen testing of all participants, regardless of vaccination status, beginning September 27, 2021.

## 13. Use of Masks/Face Coverings:

- 13.1 The School will follow CDPH, CDC, and local public health guidance on the use of face coverings. All staff are encouraged to review the CDPH and CDC guidance on cloth face coverings; face coverings must be used in accordance with CDPH Guidelines and this Policy unless a person is exempt as explained in this Policy. If the relevant public health guidance is updated so as to conflict with the measures included in this policy, the school will follow the updated public health measures over this policy.
- 13.2 All students must wear a cloth face mask when indoors at any School building, vehicle, or other enclosed space, unless exempted pursuant to the accommodation procedures in section 14 of this policy.
- 13.3 All adults in K-12 settings, including all teachers, staff, parents, visitors, and outside workers, must wear a cloth face mask when in any indoor space shared with students or other staff.
- 13.4 Face masks are required without regard to vaccination status.
- 13.5 All face masks must comply with CDC standards for face coverings.
- 13.6 Face masks are optional outside.
- 13.7 Face masks and face shields may be removed for meals, snacks, naptime, showers, or outdoor recreation, or when needing to be replaced. When any type of face covering is temporarily removed, it should be placed in a clear paper bag marked with the owner's name and the date worn until it needs to be put on again.
- 13.8 Proper use of face masks will be strictly enforced. The School will exclude from campus anyone who refuses to wear a face mask if not exempted pursuant to this policy. Students exempted from campus for refusing to wear a mask without a valid exemption will be provided alternative educational opportunities to the greatest extent possible.
- 13.9 The School will provide face coverings to students and staff who lose their face coverings or forget to bring one to school.
- 13.10 Employees are expected to teach and reinforce proper use of face coverings, and in limited circumstances, face shields.
- 13.11 The School will post signs regarding the need for, proper use of, removal of, and washing of face masks and shall educate students, particularly younger elementary school students, on the rationale and proper use of face masks.
- 13.12 When pedagogically necessary, teachers may use clear plastic face shields with an appropriate seal (cloth covering extending from the bottom edge of the shield and tucked into the shirt collar) in certain limited situations in the classroom to enable students to see their faces and avoid potential barriers to phonological instruction as long as the wearer maintains physical distance from other to the extent practicable. Staff must return to wearing a face covering outside of the classroom, unless otherwise exempted.

#### 14. Face Mask Exemptions:

14.1 Pursuant to CDPH guidance on the use of face masks, only students with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face mask are eligible for

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- exemption from the face mask requirement. This includes those who are hearing impaired and those who must communicate with the hearing impaired.
- 14.2 Employees seeking an exemption from the face mask requirement should refer to the COVID-19 Addendum to the Injury and Illness Prevention Plan.
- 14.3 If a student cannot wear a mask due to a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability, he or she will be permitted to wear the next most effective alternative that can be tolerated, such as a transparent face shield with a cloth draping sealing the bottom.
- 14.4 Parents and guardians who believe their student may need an accommodation from the face mask policy due to a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability should contact the Director of Operations Arlene Aldrette as soon as the need for the accommodation is discovered.
- 14.5 Assessment of whether a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability warrants a mask accommodation is a medical determination that must be made by a physician, nurse practitioner, or other licensed medical professional practicing under the license of a physician. Self-attestation and parental attestation for mask exemptions due to the aforementioned conditions do not constitute medical determinations.
- 14.5 The School will provide parents/guardians with an accommodation request form and medical provider contact consent form that permits the school to consult with the medical provider that is documenting the need for the exemption regarding the extent of the accommodation. No accommodation can be granted without this fully executed request and consent form.
- 14.6 No student is permitted to appear on campus without a face covering until they are granted authorization to do so from the School. Any student appearing on campus without a face covering who has not been granted an accommodation by the School will be excluded from campus.
- 14.7 The School will not extend any religious or personal beliefs exemptions from the face mask requirement or any other part of this policy.
- 14.8 Students who are exempted from wearing a face mask or face shield are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated against COVID-19. If a student is exempt from wearing any type of face covering and is not vaccinated, the School will implement physical distancing and other isolation measures to the greatest degree feasible.
- 14.9 Accommodations for special education/504 students will entail the following:
  - 14.9.1 Determinations about the use of face masks for special education students will be made during IEP team meetings.
  - 14.9.2 When considering potential accommodations, SPED/504 teams will consider the nature of the medical condition, mental health condition, or disability and whether the student can use a mask correctly, avoid frequent touching of the face and mask, limit sucking, drooling, and excess saliva on the mask, and remove the mask without assistance, among other factors.

#### 15. Use of Gloves and PPE:

- 15.1 The School is no longer required by emergency public health orders to require the use of gloves and person protective equipment due to COVID-19, but there are still several circumstances where the use of personal protective equipment can be provide an alternative layer of infection protection.
- 15.2 The School will provide surgical masks, face shields, and disposable gloves for employees engaging in the following duties:

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- 15.2.1 Caring for or supervising students or employees who are displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or who have been identified as close contacts of a confirmed case.
- 15.2.2 Performing either routine cleaning and disinfection or intensive cleaning and disinfection after a confirmed case has been on campus.
- 15.2.3 Instructing or otherwise caring for students who are exempted from the face mask requirement.
- 15.2.4 Performing food service tasks or supervision of other duties that involve removal of masks for eating or otherwise.
- 15.5 As required by Cal/OSHA, the School will provide training on the proper use of personal protective equipment to protect employees from the hazards of the cleaning products used.
- 15.6 Any employee or student who wishes to wear gloves and/or personal protective equipment beyond the required facial coverings may do so, provided that they dispose of them safely and appropriately and do not wear gloves or personal protective equipment of a type of in a manner that interferes with their ability to perform their duties.

## 16. Support for Students at Increased Risk of Becoming Infected or Unrecognized Illness:

- 16.1 The Executive Director, Assistant Director, or designee will review student health plans, including 504 Plans, to identify students who may need additional accommodations to minimize potential exposure.
- 16.2 The Executive Director, Assistant Director, or designee will develop a process for engaging families for potentially unknown concerns that may need to be accommodated.
- 16.3 The School will identify additional preparations for classroom and non-classroom environments as needed to ensure the safety of students at increased risk of becoming infected or having unrecognized illness. Persons who might be at increased risk of becoming infected or having unrecognized illness include the following:
  - 16.3.1 Individuals who have limited mobility or require prolonged and close contact with others, such as direct support providers and family members;
  - 16.3.2 Individuals who have trouble understanding information or practicing preventive measures, such as hand washing and physical distancing; and
  - 16.3.3 Individuals who may not be able to communicate symptoms of illness.
- 16.4 The School is prepared for opening to provide Free Access to Public Education ("FAPE") in the least restrictive environment ('LRE") for each student. All students with disabilities will receive services according to the IEP. In accordance with IDEA it is critical to reinforce the understanding that students receiving special education services, or 504 accommodations are general education students first. Balancing the educational needs with the health and well-being of students and staff is our top priority.
- 16.5 Every child and adolescent with a disability is entitled to FAPE and is entitled to special education services based on their individualized education program (IEP). The School will continuously review and problem solve to balance safety and service needs. In order to provide the required level of safety, systems, processes, and service delivery models have been reviewed. Adherence to social distancing guidelines will be followed as feasible except for instances when the services outlined in a specific IEP call for closer proximity. This will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. For example, additional provision of personal protective equipment supplies to staff who are required to deliver hand-over-hand instruction or hygiene service needs for students.
- 16.6 All IDEA/ADA compliance timeline will be followed on schedule and in accordance with

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### IDEA/ADA regulations.

#### 16.7 Services:

- 16.7.1 The IDEA allows for flexibility in determining how to meet the individualized needs of students receiving special education services. State guidelines for the delivery of special education and related services will be implemented while protecting the delivery of special education and related services will be implemented while protecting the health and safety of students as well as the individuals providing the services.
- 16.7.2 If a student is unable to access their education in person due to medical or other circumstances, including the inability to wear a face covering, alternative means of delivering these services will be provided.
- 16.7.3 The School will provide appropriate protective equipment relative to the responsibilities of all Support Service Staff and disability needs.
- 16.7.4 All staff and students will receive training on the appropriate use of personal protective equipment and healthy hygiene practices that are proven to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

### 17. COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

- 17.1 The purpose of this Vaccination Policy is to protect the health, safety, and well-being of all School employees, students, families, and stakeholders to the maximum extent possible, and to facilitate a safe and meaningful return to in-person instruction. The School drafted this policy in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws, including guidance from the Equal Opportunity Commission, CDC, the CDPH, and local health authorities.
- 17.2 Pursuant to the California "State Public Health Officer Order of August 11, 2021," all employees, volunteers, contractors, vendors, or any other adult supporting School functions must either provide the school with proof of COVID-19 vaccination status or test for COVID-19 at least once per week. For employees, this directive is a condition of both employment and continued employment.
- 17.3 The School also strongly encourages all students who are eligible for vaccination to get vaccinated for COVID-19 at the earliest available opportunity.
- 17.4 In keeping with CDPH requirements, the School may only accept the following forms of proof of COVID-19 vaccination status:
  - 17.4.1 A COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (issued by the Department of Health and Suman Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or World Health Organization Yellow Card) which includes the name of the person vaccinated, type of vaccine provided, and date the last dose was administered;
  - 17.4.2 A photo of a Vaccination Record Card as a separate document;
  - 17.4.3 A photo of the client's Vaccination Record Card stored on a phone or electronic device;
  - 17.4.4 Documentation of COVID-19 vaccination from a health care provider;
  - 17.4.5 Digital record that includes a QR code that when scanned by a SMART Health Card reader displays to the reader the client's name, date of birth, vaccine dates, and vaccine type;
  - 17.4.6 Documentation from other contracted employers who follow these vaccination records guidelines and standards.
- 17.5 Any employee, volunteer, contractor, vendor, or other adult that supports School activities on campus who either fails to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination or fails to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination that meets the above qualifications will be deemed unvaccinated and

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- subject to weekly testing, regardless of past infection or the presence of antibodies.
- 17.6 The School will securely maintain the confidentiality of employee COVID-19 vaccination data in strict compliance with all applicable legal authority.
- 17.7 Employees may request an exemption from COVID-19 vaccination and/or COVID-19 testing due to a medical issue or sincerely held religious belief, practice, or observance that may prevent that employee from being vaccinated or testing for COVID-19. Upon receiving a request for accommodation from COVID-19 testing and/or vaccination, the School will engage in an interactive process and determine what, if any, accommodations can be provided. However, the School may not be required to provide an employee with an accommodation, should the accommodation result in a direct threat to health and safety at the School or to the employee or if the accommodation will cause an undue hardship for the School, among other reasons.
- 17.8 Proof of vaccination in compliance with section 17.4 of this policy must be provided to the school by October 15, 2021.
- 17.9 Any employee that neither provides proof of vaccination nor submits to weekly COVID-19 testing and who is not otherwise exempt from these procedures will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination from at-will employment.
- 17.10 The School reserves the right to refuse entry onto campus to any volunteer, vendor, contractor, or other adult who provides support services to the School, should they fail to comply with the proof of vaccination and testing directives as stated in this policy.
- 17.11 All employees who have not been vaccinated should do so outside of working ours. Employees who demonstrate they are unable to get vaccinated outside working hours may use either COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave or accrued sick leave for time spent attending a COVID-19 vaccination appointment. In such cases, employees must consult with their supervisors regarding the best time to be excused to receive the vaccine and are responsible for arranging coverage during their absence to get vaccinated, if applicable.
- 17.12 Employees who experience symptoms associated with receiving the COVID-19 vaccine that prevent the employee from being able to work or telework may be entitled to COVID-19 Supplemental Pad Sick Leave, if available and upon request.
- 17.13 The School will not discriminate, harass, or retaliate against any employee for receiving the COVID-19 vaccine or for electing not to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. However, the school reserves the right to appropriately discipline an employee for non-compliance with this policy, consistent with applicable law.
- 17.14 Employees with any questions regarding the vaccination policy may contact the human resources department.

## 18. Communications to the School community:

- 18.1 The School will engage with families and staff to develop strategies to prepare and respond to the COVID-19 emergency, including guidelines for families about when to keep students home from school and other topics.
- 18.2 Communications will include a process for engaging families for potentially unknown concerns that may need to be accommodated.
- 18.3 Prior to the start of the school year, or as soon afterward as feasible, the School will communicate to staff, students, and parents about new, COVID-19-related protocols, including:
  - 18.3.1 Proper use, removal and washing of face coverings.

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- 18.3.2 Screening practices.
- 18.3.3 How COVID-19 is spread.
- 18.3.4 COVID-19 specific symptom identification.
- 18.3.5 Preventing the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick, including the importance of not coming to work if staff members have symptoms, or if they or someone they live with has been diagnosed with COVID-19.
- 18.3.6 Local community testing sites and options for obtaining COVID-19 testing from private medical providers, including any testing arranged by the School.
- 18.3.7 Guidelines for employees regarding COVID-19 specific symptom identification and when to seek medical attention
- 18.3.8 Guidelines for families about when to keep students home from school.
- 18.3.9 Systems for self-reporting symptoms.
- 18.3.10 Criteria and plan to close schools again for physical attendance of students.
- 18.3.11 Changes in School extracurricular, academic, and meal programs to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- 18.3.12 Contact information at the School for students who may have been exposed to COVID-19.
- 18.3.13 School contact information if a student has COVID-19 symptoms or may have been exposed to COVID-19.
- 18.4 The School will provide information to parents regarding this policy and related guidance, along with safety measures that will be in place in indoor and outdoor settings with which parents and guardians must comply.
- 18.5 This Policy will be posted at all public entrances to the School campus.
- 18.6 The School will develop a communications plan for implementation if the school has a positive COVID-19 case in accordance with CDPH and CDE guidelines.

### **NON-COMPLIANCE WITH POLICY:**

Violations of this policy may result in the student/staff/visitor being asked to leave the campus until compliance with this Policy is met.

#### GOVERNANCE:

The Executive Director is authorized to implement changes or additions to this policy in order to ensure compliance or consistency with new or revised orders or guidance from local, county, state or federal authorities ("Agencies"), to take any and all actions consistent with orders and guidance from the Agencies that is not specifically addressed by this policy, and to ensure compliance with the School's charter petition. The Executive Director shall provide the Board with regular updates as to actions taken pursuant to this section.

#### **REVISION HISTORY:**

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COVID-19-v1	0722020	
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