2020-2021 CHICO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN

Navigating the Return to School in a COVID-19 Environment



Updated: October 7, 2020

Dear Chico Unified Families,

The 2020 Coronavirus pandemic resulted in statewide closures of all schools and mandated that schools in Butte County begin the year in online instruction. Our teachers, staff, students and families have put forth tremendous efforts to continue student learning.

Just as COVID-19 continues to negatively impact our community, it has also impacted education. It has become increasingly difficult to meet the needs of all families. Some families desire online only while others need in-person instruction. The Chico Unified Board of Education considered varying needs when they adopted the Stages of Reopening Plan at their July 15, 2020 Board meeting. This plan ties instructional models to the Reopening stages, now known as Tiers, of the county. The Tiers are determined by the state based on COVID-19 rates in the county.

While some families are functioning and even thriving in the online environment, others are struggling. Chico Unified has surveyed families several times, including in the spring, summer, early October, and for elementary families, an additional Elementary Waiver survey. Our Chico Unified families have been consistent with about 70% of the families completing the surveys desiring a return to some form on in-person learning. Some families have child care issues. Some have students with special needs. Some have language barriers. Some have no one at home that can assist students, especially younger students, with their learning. Many families have reported their students are struggling socially and emotionally as well as academically.

We take the health of our students, families and community seriously. We have remained in an online-only model during the time our State and County health leaders told us it was unsafe to return to school.

In addition, we recognize that students or members of students' households may be vulnerable and more at risk for COVID-19. We are fortunate to have an established online learning school, Oak Bridge Academy. Parents can learn more about Oak Bridge Academy by visiting our website, <u>http://oakbridge.chicousd.org/</u>. In addition, thanks to parent and student request, we will offer site-based online learning options that allow students to remain attached to their home school while also receiving online instruction.

We understand the reopening of schools must be weighed against the need to protect the health and safety of students, faculty, staff and the broader community. We will continue to adhere to the guidelines set forth by the Butte County Public Health Department.

Tiered Framework & Learning Stages

The Governor of California developed a new framework to replace the County Data Monitoring metrics. Every county in California is assigned to a tier based on its test positivity and adjusted case rate. Data is received by the State of California weekly and tiers are updated on Tuesdays. To move forward, a county must meet the next tier's criteria for two consecutive weeks. Public health officials are constantly monitoring data. The chart below identifies the state's framework metrics as set by the <u>CA Blueprint for a</u> <u>Safer Economy</u>.

County risk level	Adjusted cases	Positivity rate
WIDESPREAD Many non-essential indoor business operations are closed	More than 7 Daily new cases (per 100k)	More than 8% Positive tests
SUBSTANTIAL Some non-essential indoor business operations are closed	4-7 Daily new cases (per 100k)	5 – 8% Positive tests
MODERATE Some indoor business operations are open with modifications	1 – 3.9 Daily new cases (per 100k)	2 – 4.9% Positive tests
MINIMAL Most indoor business operations are open with modifications	Less than 1 Daily new cases (per 100k)	Less than 2% Positive tests

Transitioning Between Tiers/Stages

Please note that counties cannot skip tiers in the color coded tiered system set forth in the CA Blueprint for a Safer Economy. It is possible to revert back to a more restrictive tier if the COVID-19 numbers worsen for two consecutive weeks. Under the Governor's framework, schools may not reopen for in-person instruction until the county has been in the Substantial (Red) Tier for two consecutive weeks. At that point, local school and health officials may decide to conduct in-person instruction in a modified schedule.

Learning Stages in Accordance with CA Blueprint for a Safer Economy

Purple: Widespread | Red: Substantial | Orange: Moderate | Yellow: Minimal

The Chico Unified School District approved several instructional models to align with the different stages of risk associated with the community transmission of COVID-19. The four stages drive the safety protocols and number of students and staff on a campus at any given time.

As health conditions change, Chico Unified School District will transition schools from stage to stage of the Reopening Plan. Potential changes will be communicated to families as the county moves from one Tier to another. School leaders will work to communicate and implement the changes in each school. Depending upon circumstances, a return to online learning may be necessary.

2020/21 Instructional Models

The following pages outline the 2020/21 Instructional Models approved by the Board of Education on July 15, 2020. All families have the option to utilize Oak Bridge Academy for online independent study. In addition, each school site is developing site-based online learning options that will allow students to remain connected to their home school.

California Stages of Reopening Source: https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Update-on-California-Pandemic-Roadmap.pdf

PURPLE TIER -STAGE 1

Safety and Preparedness

Making essential workforce environment as safe as possible.

RED TIER -STAGE 2

Lower Risk Workplaces

Modified school programs and childcare re-open. **ORANGE TIER -**STAGE 3

Higher Risk Workplaces

Creating opportunities for higher risk sectors to adapt and re-open.



YELLOW TIER -STAGE 4

End of **Stay-At-Home** Order

Return to expanded workforce in highest risk workplaces.



2020-2021 Instructional Models

Below are the four stages the Governor has identified and how they may impact our ability to return to school and provide instruction at each stage. We are offering all of our families an opportunity to participate in the Oak Bridge Academy **online independent study instructional model.** Students may begin in this online model and still have the ability to transition to a different model at the semester or trimester. Students will also have access to site-based online instruction at their home school.

Current Status: RED TIER (Formerly Stage 2)

EDUCATIONAL MODEL: MODIFIED TRADITIONAL IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION / SITE-BASED ONLINE INSTRUCTION

In Stage 2 there is a need for a more restrictive environment. Students attend school utilizing a modified schedule to limit student interactions on campus and increase social distancing capabilities. (Butte County is currently in this stage.)

ELEMENTARY LEVEL SCHEDULE (Grade TK - 5)

Modified Traditional AM/PM In-Person Instruction

School site start times will remain the same as pre-COVID.

AM Student Group	PM Student Group
 In-person instruction in classroom with teacher and peers. Students work independently on teacher-assigned work in the afternoon. Pick up sack lunch while exiting campus (optional) 	 Students work independently on teacher-assigned work in the morning. Lunch (optional): pick up sack lunch and eat in open space area In-person instruction in classroom with teacher and peers.



SECONDARY LEVEL SCHEDULE (Grades 6 - 12)

Modified Traditional AM/PM In-Person Instruction

School site start times will remain the same as pre-COVID.

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Period 1	Period 4	Period 1	Period 4	Period 1
Student	Period 2	Period 5	Period 2	Period 5	Period 2
Group A (AM only)	Period 3	Period 6	Period 3	Period 6	Period 3
	Optional Sack Lunch / Transition of Student Groups				
	Period 4	Period 1	Period 4	Period 1	Period 4
Student	Period 5	Period 2	Period 5	Period 2	Period 5
Group B (PM only)	Period 6	Period 3	Period 6	Period 3	Period 6

Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Period 4	Period 1	Period 4	Period 1	Period 4
Student	Period 5	Period 2	Period 5	Period 2	Period 5
Group A (AM only)	Period 6	Period 3	Period 6	Period 3	Period 6
	Optional Sack Lunch / Transition of Student Groups				
	Period 1	Period 4	Period 1	Period 4	Period 1
Student	Period 2	Period 5	Period 2	Period 5	Period 2
Group B (PM only)	Period 4	Period 6	Period 3	Period 6	Period 3



6 Period Schedule With 3 Periods Per Day (AM/PM with daily teacher prep)

- In this AM/PM schedule, Student Group A and Student Group B schedules are not identical to one another each day. This version allows for daily teacher prep. Student groups would still attend all five days of the week at the same time of day - either AM or PM.
- Number of different in-person lessons per 2 weeks = 5 or 7 min. Passing periods
- 55 minute lunch plus a passing period

PURPLE TIER (Formerly Stage 1)

EDUCATIONAL MODEL: REMOTE LEARNING (NO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION)

In Stage 1, the State and/or county move to the most restrictive environment. Students receive instruction remotely in an online model. Most students will receive no in-person instruction. There may be limited in-person instruction for students with identified needs.

- All students transition to online learning utilizing designated curriculum software (Elementary: "<u>Wonders</u>" Program by McGraw Hill for Language Arts and iReady for Math, Secondary: <u>Edgenuity</u>)
- There will be daily instruction as well as daily online teacher contact. Standards based curriculum, instruction and assessment will continue. Student grades will be based upon completion of work assigned and subject area competency.



RED TIER (Formerly Stage 2)

EDUCATIONAL MODEL: MODIFIED TRADITIONAL IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION

In Stage 2 there is a need for a more restrictive environment. Students attend school utilizing a modified schedule to limit student interactions on campus and increase social distancing capabilities. (Butte County is currently in this stage.)

ORANGE TIER (Formerly Stage 3)

EDUCATIONAL MODEL: TRADITIONAL WITH SAFETY MODIFICATIONS

In Stage 3, students are back to school in a traditional manner with the Chico Unified Board Adopted Health and Safety Protocols remaining in place.

YELLOW TIER (Formerly Stage 4)

EDUCATIONAL MODEL: TRADITIONAL MODEL (PRE-COVID)

In Stage 4, students are back in school in an instructional model similar to instruction prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Stage 1 (Purple Tier) & Stage 2 (Red Tier) Instructional Model Options

At the beginning of the school year, families were asked to enroll in their existing neighborhood school or Oak Bridge Academy. Families desiring online education for the duration of the COVID pandemic were encouraged to enroll at Oak Bridge Academy. Families desiring to return to their home school when schools were allowed to reopen were encouraged to remain enrolled at their home school.

As we come closer to reopening in a Stage 2 (Red Tier) model, each school site is working to develop online programs that will allow students to remain enrolled at their home school and remain connected to the staff and students at that school. Once Butte County moves into Orange Tier/Yellow Tier, all students may be allowed to return to their home schools. When all students are allowed to return to school in a more traditional format, families who desire to continue in an online learning-only model may have fewer site-based online options. Oak Bridge Academy (our dedicated online learning school) will remain a permanent online-only option. Re-rostering (students being moved to a different class) may be required as we transition between instructional models during the Stages of Reopening.

Chico Unified School District



Health & Safety Protocols

Physical Distancing

All students and staff are expected to practice physical distancing to the greatest extent possible. We recognize that physical distancing can sometimes be difficult to maintain, such as walking in a hallway or into or from a building. We also recognize that in most classrooms, six-foot social distancing between students is not feasible. This makes the use of facial coverings even more essential. Facial coverings will be mandatory at all times while on campus. For the safety of all on the school campus, students unwilling to wear facial coverings in an appropriate manner will be transferred to an online learning instructional program.

Students and staff are encouraged to wash their hands frequently. Hand sanitizer is recommended when soap and water are not available. Hand sanitizer will be available at multiple locations on each school site, including in each classroom.

At a minimum, students and staff should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer:

- When they arrive to school/work
- Before lunch
- When entering a classroom
- When using the restroom
- When hands are visibly dirty
- After using a tissue or coughing into their hands

Remember to cover coughs and sneezes. If a tissue is used, throw away after use and wash hands with soap and water.

Facial Coverings

An acceptable face covering includes cloth face coverings and surgical masks. A face covering must be worn when on campus.

Wearing a face covering prevents a person from spreading respiratory droplets while talking, singing, breathing or coughing. Facial coverings primarily protect other people in case the wearer is asymptomatic or unknowingly infected with COVID-19.

All CUSD staff and students are required to wear a facial covering while on a school campus. If a student or staff member is unable to wear a facial covering due to medical reasons, the medical exemption issued by a physician must be on file in the school office.

Facial coverings should be worn at all times including:

- While on any school site or district facility
- While entering or exiting the school grounds or district offices
- While on the school bus

- While engaged in work and interacting in person with another person
- While working in any space visited by multiple people

Facial Coverings versus Face Shields. Face shields are not a sufficient stand-alone measure of protection. They cover the eyes but not the respiratory system. If someone is wearing a face shield, they should also be wearing a surgical mask or face covering. Face shields with cloth drapes can be used without a mask.

What if a person refuses to wear a face covering?

Facial coverings are required on school campuses during Stages 1-3 of the Reopening Plan. In the event that a student who is not exempt from wearing a face covering consistently refuses to wear one, the California Department of Public Health requires schools to provide distance learning for this student. Staff will work to educate students how to correctly wear facial coverings as well as the rationale for doing so. If a concern about wearing face coverings arises, please notify the school's Principal or Nurse for additional support. In the case of medical exemptions, notification must be made and the medical exemption on file with the school office.

Air Filter Protocols

- Air filters are replaced quarterly throughout the district
- Due to forest fires in the area, air filters were replaced the week of October 5, 2020
- Chico Unified School District (CUSD) uses MERV 13 rated air filters
 - As a comparison, typical rated air filters used in home are MERV 5-8
 - MERV 13 is highest rated filter we can use before impacting air flow into systems
 - MERV 13 filters pollen, dust, dust mites, mold, bacteria, pet dander, cooking oil smoke, smoke from fires, smog, and virus carriers

Please Note: Law requires a specific amount of outside air flow into classrooms and indoor spaces through our Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems. The calculation works out to approximately 15% of air in a classroom being outside air. The district is utilizing an energy management system with all HVAC units set to meet the legal requirement for outside air intake.



Safety Guidelines Chico Unified Schools - 2020/2021

Sanitation

- Hand sanitizer dispensers will be placed at the entry/exit point of each classroom.
- Hand sanitizer units will be placed at common areas of the school grounds.
- Disinfecting will be completed daily on high volume touch points throughout the campuses.
- Cleaning protocols to ensure proper disinfecting will be under ongoing review and modification as needed.
- Schools will limit the sharing of supplies between students.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Chico Unified will require protective facial coverings as mandated by State or local agencies.
- Food handlers and health care staff will wear all required personal protective equipment.

Health Screening

- Signage will be in placed to remind the school community to not enter if they are experiencing any symptoms of illness.
- Families are recommended to take temperatures daily before going to school.
- Anyone with a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher may not go to, or remain at a school site.
- Students and adults should also screen themselves for respiratory symptoms such as cough and shortness of breath prior to coming to school each day. Students and adults experiencing those symptoms should not attend school.

Social Distancing

- Social distancing signage will be in place.
- Physical barriers may be installed in high traffic areas on campus where social distancing is not possible, such as front offices and cafeterias.
- Classroom furniture/equipment will be arranged for social distancing to the greatest extent possible.

Visit www.chicousd.org to Learn More

CLEANING PRODUCTS USED DISTRICT-WIDE IN CHICO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT				
PRODUCT	DESCRIPTION	ACTIVE INGREDIENTS	NOTES	
Re-Juv-Nal	A phosphate-free, pH neutral formulation designed to provide effective cleaning, deodorizing, and disinfection for hospitals, nursing homes, schools, food processing plants, restaurants, transportation terminals, office buildings, manufacturing facilities, hotels, retail business, and athletic/recreation facilities, sports stadiums, amphitheaters and convention centers where housekeeping is of prime importance in controlling cross- contamination from treated surfaces.	Octyl decyl dimethyl ammonium chloride 1.627%, Dioctyl dimethyl ammonium chloride 0.814%, Didecyl dimethyl ammonium chloride 0.814%, Alkyl (50% C14, 40% C12, 10% C16) dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride 2.170%, Inert Ingredients 94.575%. <i>For more information visit: <u>www.hillyard.com</u></i>	 Disinfectant/detergent cleaner with neutral pH. Leaves a pleasant scent. EPA registered disinfectant. Custodian use only due to dilution requirement 	
<section-header></section-header>	A hospital-grade disinfectant/detergent, cleaner, sanitizer, fungicide, mildewstat, virucide, deodorizer that cleans and controls the hazard of cross-contamination from environmental surfaces. Q.T. Plus is designed for use on walls, countertops, fixtures, restroom and shower rooms, and other hard surfaces where disinfectant is a must.	Octyl decyl dimethyl ammonium chloride 3.255%, Dioctyl dimethyl ammonium chloride 1.302%, Didecyl dimethyl ammonium chloride 1.953%, Alkyl (50% C14, 40% C12, 10% C16) dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride 4.340%, Inert Ingredients 89.150%. <i>For more information visit: <u>www.hillyard.com</u></i>	 Higher pH removes soils ordinary neutral disinfectants cannot. Mild lemon fragrance. EPA registered disinfectant. Custodian use only due to dilution requirement. 	
QT-TB (Ready to Use)	QT-TB is a ready-to-use,quaternary based disinfectant designed specifically for institutional cleaning and disinfection in hospitals,nursing homes,veterinary clinics, offices,schools, motels,and hotels. It provides a high level of disinfecting against a broad spectrum of both gram negative and gram positive microorganisms. And the spray formula makes it even easier to use.	n-Alkyl (60% C14,30% C16,5% C12,5% C18) dimethyl benzyl ammonium chlorides 0.105%, n- Alkyl (68% C12, 32% C14) dimethyl ethylbenzyl ammonium chlorides 0.105%. Inert Ingredients: 99.790%. <i>For more information visit: <u>www.hillyard.com</u></i>	 Designed specifically for institutional cleaning and disinfection. Ready-to-use, spray formula makes is easy to use. EPA registered disinfectant. Custodian and Staff use. 	
NEW (Neutral Electrolyzed Water)	NEW (Neutral Electrolyzed Water) is an all-natural, organic, non-toxic, non-irritant, environmentally and ecologically safe sanitizing and disinfecting solution. It is produced from the electrochemical reaction of water, salt, weak acid and electricity. The applications for this technology are infinite and include any process or facility requiring sterilizing, disinfecting, cleaning or water purification.	Hypochlorous Acid (HOCl) 0.046%, Electrolyzed Oxygenated Water (H20) 99.954% For more information visit: <u>https://www.chlorking.</u> <u>com/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/HYPOGEN_Brochure_V4F.pdf</u>	 Solution will be stored in ready-to-use spray bottles. EPA registered disinfectant. Custodian and Staff use. Safe for Student use in secondary schools. 	

COVID-19 EXPOSURE: WHAT SHOULD I DO?





HOW DO I...

Self-Quarantine?

- Stay at home for 14 days from last day of exposure.
- Avoid contact with others.
- Don't share household items.

Self-Monitor?

- Be alert for symptoms of COVID-19 especially a dry cough or shortness of breath.
- Take your temperature every morning and night and write it down, along with other symptoms.
- Call your doctor if you have trouble breathing or a fever of 100.4°F/38°C or higher.

Physical Distance?

- Stay home as much as possible.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from people.
- Do not hug or shake hands.
- Avoid groups of people.
- Wear a face covering in public and when 6 feet of distance is not possible.

Getting Tested

- No cost tests at the fairgrounds in Chico.
- Make an appointment at <u>https://lhi.care/covidtesting</u> or call: 888-634-1123
- Visit <u>buttecounty.net/ph</u> to see other testing options.

Close Contacts to a Lab-confirmed COVID-19 Case

Butte County Public Health will provide follow up to close contacts. Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of a person during their infectious period for 15 minutes or longer. This can occur 2 days before symptoms appear or the positive test is collected, and during the first 10 days from symptom onset or the positive COVID-19 test.

BCPH will monitor Student/Employee for symptoms during their quarantine period. It is recommended that all those in quarantine get tested for COVID-19 on day 3 to 5 and day 14 of their quarantine period. Allow exposed student/employee to learn/work remotely during self-quarantine if able to from home.

Allow exposed student/employee to return to school 14 days after their last exposure to the person who tested positive as long as they remain asymptomatic.





Based on the CDC's <u>Public Health Recommendations for Community-Related Exposure</u>, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-healthrecommendations.html



When a Student/Employee Tests Positive for COVID-19

In most cases, the Infected Student/Employee will notify the employer of a positive test result. If so, notify Butte County Public Health, 530.552.3050.

In some cases, Butte County Public Health (BCPH) will be the first to notify a School that a student/employee tested positive.





Based on the CDC's <u>Cleaning and Disinfecting</u>, and <u>Discontinuation of Home Isolation</u> <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/return-to-work.html</u>

Collaboration

Returning to School after Testing Positive for COVID-19

Infected Students/Employees who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 may not return to work until they meet the CDC criteria for discontinuation of isolation. Butte County Public Health (BCPH) will utilize the following Symptom/Time based strategy.

BCPH determines if the patient had symptoms consistent with a COVID-19 infection regardless if it is before or after testing.





Based on the CDC's <u>Cleaning and Disinfecting</u>, and <u>Discontinuation of Home Isolation</u> <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/return-to-work.html</u> Legend School BCPH Individual