

PROPOSED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

From Sacramento City Unified School District

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Sacramento City Teachers Association

MOU- COVID-19 Health and Safety Measures 2020-2021 School Year

July 2, 2020

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is between the Sacramento City Unified School District (District) and the Sacramento City Teachers Association (SCTA), collectively “the Parties,” regarding health and safety measures related to reopening District schools for the 2020-2021 School Year.

During the 2019-2020 school year, the Parties recognized that there was a need to close schools and move to a distance learning model to allow for physical distancing and accommodate shelter-in-place orders by public health officials to prevent the spread of illness arising from COVID-19.

For the 2020-2021 school year, as the State of California and local government officials provide information regarding the mitigation measures needed to reopen schools, the Parties recognize that there are negotiable effects of the plan to reopen District schools for 2020-2021 school year.

For purposes of this Agreement, the Parties agree that the following health and safety measures shall be implemented throughout District school sites to ensure a safe reopening of District schools for SCTA unit members.

1. Local Conditions.

- a. **Compliance with Local Orders.** The District will follow State and County Orders that allow schools to physically reopen.
- b. **Equipment availability.** The District will have sufficient protective equipment to comply with federal, state, and local public health guidance for students and staff appropriate for SCTA unit members. The District agrees to have a plan to ensure the ongoing support of protective equipment and to purchase thermometers or others devices for symptom screenings. The District will closely monitor mask inventories to ensure proper inventories are maintained.
- c. **Availability of Disinfecting Supplies.** The District will supply school-appropriate disinfecting supplies to continuously disinfect the school site in accordance with federal, state, and local public health guidance. The District will also provide hand sanitizer, soap, tissues, lidless trash cans, and paper towels for each classroom or workspace in which an SCTA unit member works.

2. Addressing Positive COVID-19 Cases or Community Surges

- a. **Emergency Closure Plan.** The District will develop a plan to close schools to physical attendance of students, if necessary, based on public health guidance and coordination with federal, state, and local public health officials.
 - b. **Exposure to COVID-19.** In accordance with guidance from state and local health officials, in the event a student, teacher, or other staff member, or a member of their household, tests positive for COVID-19 and has exposed others at the school, the District agrees to consult the local public health officials, so that the Superintendent may consider whether school closure is warranted and length of time based on the risk level within the specific community as determined by the local public health officer.
3. **Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP).** The District has and will update as needed the IIPP to address the unique circumstance during the COVID-19 crisis and will make such update accessible to employees.
4. **Campus Access.**
 - a. **Limits on Visitors.** The Parties agree that schools shall be closed to non-essential visitors.
 - b. **Monitoring for Symptoms.** Employees and students will be monitored throughout the day for signs of illness using active and/or passive screening for symptoms as stated below.
 - i. **Passive Screening.** The Parties agree that employees and students shall self-screen for symptoms at home, daily. Signs of illness include fever or chills (100 degrees or higher), cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea per CDC guidelines.
 - ii. **Active Screening.** All students and employees entering a site or school bus must be screened for illness; including a temperature check and review of signs and symptoms of illness. Any student or employee with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, or signs or symptoms of illness per the District's stay at home protocol, shall return home.
 - c. **Caring For Persons with Symptoms.** Any student, parent, caregiver, visitor, volunteer, or employee showing symptoms of COVID-19 will be sent home and directed to follow the local and District stay-at-home protocol. Employees will ensure that they have substitute plans available in the event of illness.
 - d. **Guidelines for Staying Home When Sick.** Unit members will be directed to stay home if they have signs or symptoms of illness including fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea. Employees and students shall also stay home if they have been told to quarantine or isolate due to COVID-19 precautions.
 - e. **Guidelines for Return to School after Being Sick.** The Parties agree that if an employee is sick they must stay home until they have had no symptoms listed below for at least 72 hours (three full days) without the use of medicine AND at least 10 days have

passed since the day the symptoms first appeared. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever or chills (100 degrees or higher), cough, shortness of breath 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. This guidance is subject to change by federal, state or local public health officials.

5. **Hygiene.** The District will address hygiene practices to ensure personal health and safety in school facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - a. **Hand hygiene.** In accordance with CDPH and Cal/OSHA guidance and in consultation with local public health officials, the District will provide opportunities for students and employees to meet hand hygiene frequency guidance. The District will ensure sufficient access to hand washing and sanitizer stations. The District will ensure hand sanitizer (with a minimum of 60 percent alcohol) is available at or near all workstations.
 - b. **Hand Hygiene and PPE Instruction.** The District will provide written instruction and signage on proper hand washing techniques and PPE use.

6. **Protective Equipment.**
 - a. **Face Coverings.** All employees, students, parents/guardians and visitors shall wear a face covering, as defined, unless it is not recommended by a physician or is inappropriate for the developmental level of the individual. A “face covering” means a covering made of cloth, fabric, or other soft or permeable material, without holes, that covers only the nose and mouth and surrounding areas of the lower face. A face covering may include a scarf or bandana; a homemade covering made from a t-shirt, sweatshirt, or towel, held on with rubber bands or otherwise; or a mask, which need not be medical-grade. The District shall provide cloth and/or disposable face coverings/masks to employees and students who do not have one. The District will provide reasonable accommodations to unit members who are unable to wear a face covering for medical reasons.
 - b. **Face Shields.** Face shields may be used by teachers to enable students to see their faces and to avoid potential barriers to phonological instruction. Face shields with a cloth drape can be used for those who are unable to wear face coverings for medical reasons. Per Cal/OSHA, considerations for face shields should include a cloth drape attached across the bottom and tucked into the neckline of the garment worn by the employee.

7. **Physical Distancing.** Physical distancing will be practiced at all District work locations requiring individuals to maintain at least 6 feet from other people at all times. During times where maintaining appropriate physical distancing may be difficult, such as walking in a busy hallway or stopping to talk to someone, a face covering must be worn. The Parties agree to the following recommended safety mitigation measures and physical distancing practices including:
 - a. Limiting the numbers of people in all campus spaces to the numbers that can be reasonably accommodated while maintaining a minimum of 6 feet distance between individuals.

- b. If necessary, utilize other campus spaces for instructional activities (e.g., lecture halls, gyms, auditoriums, cafeterias)
 - c. Classrooms shall be reconfigured to encourage physical distancing and to ensure desks are approximately 6 feet apart.
 - d. Utilization of outdoor space for instructional purposes whenever possible and when weather is permitting.
 - e. Cancellation of in person field trips to spaces where large groups may gather.
 - f. Avoiding congregation of employees in work environments, break rooms, staff rooms, and bathrooms.
8. **Disinfecting School Sites Prior to Reopening.** Prior to reopening, all school sites will be disinfected. To ensure proper disinfection, the Parties agree to the following:
- a. Classroom teachers will stack chairs on tables or desks at the end of each work day.
 - b. Unit members will have access to supplies to disinfect their work surfaces between uses, such as desks, tables, chairs, seats, keyboards, phones, headsets, copy machines, and other equipment.
 - c. Unit members will have access to supplies to disinfect high touch surfaces daily such as door handles, handrails, sink handles, toys, games, and instructional material.
9. **Communication.** The District will communicate with all employees, students, and families about new COVID-19 related protocols. In the event a student or employee tests positive for COVID-19, the District will work with SCPH and provide notice to employees as permitted by law.
10. **Employee Absences.**
- a. **COVID Exposure or Positive Test.** If an employee tests positive for COVID-19 or has another qualifying circumstance, the employee will be permitted to use any and all leaves to which he or she is entitled to under the Collective Bargaining Agreement, as well as under state and federal law.
 - b. **Medical Susceptibility.** Employees who may be at high-risk for COVID-19 exposure during the pandemic and who provide the appropriate medical documentation will be entitled to any reasonable accommodation as required by state and/or federal law. Employees who may be at high-risk for COVID-19 and not able to be accommodated by the District will be permitted to use any and all leaves to which they are entitled under state and federal law.
 - c. **Exhibiting Symptoms.** Employees who exhibit symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19 and who are sent home from work by the District will be permitted to use any and all leaves to which they are entitled under state and federal law.

11. **Changes to Law.** This MOU may be changed by the parties as necessary to address any new orders issued by a federal, state, or local officer or agency that contradict or impacts the terms of this MOU.
12. **Non-precedential.** This MOU is not precedent-setting and has been created to address an emergency situation involving the COVID-19 pandemic.
13. **Limited Agreement.** This MOU addresses only the health and safety implications of reopening schools for the 2020-2021 school year and does not preclude continued discussions between the District and SCTA on other working conditions related to the reopening of schools.