

MARYSVILLE JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Reopening Schools

2020-21

Version 2 (7-20-20)



Reopening schools during COVID-19 is not an obligation the Marysville Joint Unified School District (MJUSD) takes lightly. Our first commitment is to the students and families we serve as it is our priority to keep them safe. The reopening plan aligns with recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), State of California, Yuba County Health Department, the California Department of Education's (CDE) *Stronger Together* guidebook, as well as considerations from our families and our staff.

This plan outlines major considerations the district is addressing to reopen schools safely and to sustain their reopening. The safety of both our learners and our staff is paramount in the design. In light of the rapidly changing pandemic, the document is fluid and will be revised as necessary. The plan will be updated strategically depending on the status of the coronavirus spread throughout our community in the coming weeks and months. On Friday, July 17, Governor Newsom issued statewide guidance on reopening schools. Schools should not reopen for in-person learning until a county has been off the county monitoring list for 14 consecutive days.

Risk Tolerance

The MJUSD is constantly assessing the risk tolerance to balance health and safety standards and guidelines with our educational program to determine our schools' reopening strategy for the fall. The more contacts a student or staff member has and the longer the interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread. Fortunately, there are a number of things schools can do to help lower the risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread.



Lowest Risk:

Students and teachers engage in virtual only classes, activities, and events.



More Risk:

Small, in-person classes, activities, and events. Groups of students stay together with the same teacher throughout/across school days and groups do not mix. Students remain at least 6 feet apart and do not share objects (e.g., hybrid virtual and in-person class structures or staggered/rotated scheduling to accommodate smaller class sizes).



Highest Risk:

Full-sized, in-person classes, activities, and events. Students likely will not be spaced apart, may share classroom materials or supplies, and may mix between classes and activities.

Your input has been critical in developing our reopening strategy. Your voices were heard through:

- More than 4,000 parent survey and written responses
- Input from teachers via surveys, meetings, and written responses
- Multiple sessions with principals and directors
- School Board presentation

The collective conversations, correspondence, and collaboration helped gauge the overall pulse for returning to school in August. Thank you for helping set the course for the comprehensive school reopening plan.

Visit mjusd.com to view the draft plan.

Promoting Behaviors That Reduce the Spread

The MJUSD is implementing 5 strategies to encourage student and staff behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19. These 5 strategies, like 5 fingers, come together to form a fist to fight COVID-19 as we keep our students, staff, and community healthy and safe.

1 Social Distancing

2 Facial Coverings

3 Hand Washing

4 Stay Home When Appropriate

5 Cleaning & Disinfecting



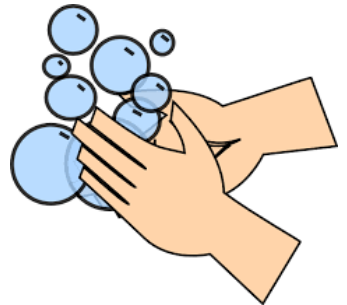
1 Social Distancing or “physical distancing,” means keeping a safe space between yourself and other people who are not from your household. Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms’ length) from other people who are not from your household in both indoor and outdoor spaces.

2 Facial Coverings are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms. All adults, and students in 3rd grade and above, are expected to wear facial coverings when 6 feet distance cannot be maintained. Facial coverings are strongly recommended for students in 2nd grade and below, but not for those under 2 years.



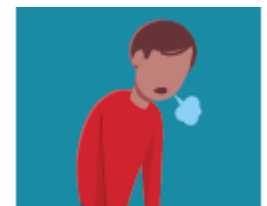
3 Hand Washing

will be taught and reinforced with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used for staff and older children.



4 Stay Home When Appropriate

to avoid the spread. Families and staff will be educated about when they/ their child(ren) must stay home and when they can return to school. People who are sick or who have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 must stay home. Students and staff must stay home if they have tested positive or are showing symptoms. Close contact is less than 6 feet apart for 15 minutes or more.



5 Cleaning & Disinfecting

reduces the risk of exposure to COVID-19. High cleanliness standards are to be maintained. Cleaning and disinfecting areas used by students and staff with a special focus on frequently touched surfaces within the school and on school buses at least daily or between use as much as possible.



Instructional Program Models

Our intent has always been to bring students back to school full time, as we believe the most ideal educational experience for the vast majority of our students is to be in front of a teacher. However, we want to ensure the safety and health of students and staff. We have designed learning opportunities that allow students, staff, and parents to seamlessly transition through online, blended, and seat-time models.

Instructional Focus.....

For the 2020-21 school year, the MJUSD will provide in-person instruction to the extent possible while keeping our students and staff safe in accordance with federal, state, and local guidelines. Our goal is to provide parents and students a range of instructional program options that will equitably and appropriately meet the needs of all families during this unprecedented pandemic.

We anticipate the need for three phases of instruction from the lowest risk to higher risk models. The phases are designed to work in conjunction with each other in a seamless fashion.



Instructional Guiding Principles.....

- Relationships are critical. We want our students to be connected to school and their teachers no matter what instructional models are currently implemented.
- Students, particularly those most vulnerable, learn best with daily direct teacher contact. All of our planning is built to bring students back 5 days a week as soon as possible, while respecting current COVID-19 health and safety guidelines.
- Distance Learning is defined as instruction in the home without attending in-person class sessions at the school site, while remaining formally enrolled at the student's current school of residence or other assigned comprehensive school.

Distance Learning will be part of all solutions, and our plan must have the flexibility to transition between instructional models without continual restructuring.

- We acknowledge there will be a variation in how schools operate when diagnosed COVID-19 cases impact the school environment. We will need the capacity to transition effectively and rapidly based on emerging circumstances.

Reopening Plans.....

- Students will be assigned to fixed learning cohorts (same groups of students) to create smaller classes.
- School will be on a shortened day schedule.
- Teachers will be available on Mondays by appointment to provide intervention to meet specific needs of students and specific student populations (e.g., English Learners, Homeless, and Foster).
- Teachers will work with Distance Learning students on Mondays and every afternoon after students leave for the day.



For health and safety questions, call the Student Services Department at 530-749-6180.
For instructional questions, call the Educational Services Department at 530-749-6159.

Instructional Programs cont.

Sample Elementary Bell Schedule

Times	Tuesday through Friday
8:00-8:15	Social Emotional Learning check in
8:15-8:30	Breakfast
8:30-12:00	Academic time
12:00-12:30	Lunch
12:30-1:30	Academic time and staggered release
1:30-3:00	Distance Learning Support

Sample Secondary Bell Schedule

Times	Tuesday through Friday
7:45-8:00	Social Emotional Learning check in
8:00-12:00	Academic time (including 10 min. nutrition break)
12:00-12:30	Lunch
12:30-2:00	Academic time and staggered release
2:00-3:00	Distance Learning Support

Sample Instructional Cohort Model.....

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Days in school
Distance Learning	0-4 students with teacher by appointment					0
1 cohort in class	Distance Learning Support, Lesson Recording, Collaboration	Cohort A	Cohort B	Cohort C	Cohort D	1
2 cohorts in class		Cohorts A & B	Cohorts C & D	Cohorts A & B	Cohorts C & D	2
4 cohorts in class		Cohorts A, B, C, D	Cohorts A, B, C, D	Cohorts A, B, C, D	Cohorts A, B, C, D	4

This graph illustrates the progression from Distance Learning to full time in school as health and safety guidelines permit. During Distance Learning, teachers are available to call in students for direct support individually or in very small groups. This allows for direct support, relationship building, and practicing of health and safety protocols. As conditions permit, classes will transition students to campus on a regular basis. The first option is one cohort a day, allowing cohorts to have one full day of in-person class per week. The second option increases to two cohorts, allowing in-person instruction two days per week. The last transition will allow all cohorts to attend school at the same time. The K-3 class size maximum is 24:1, thus each cohort will have 6 students. For grades 4-6, cohorts will have 8 students. At the high schools, cohorts will consist of roughly 9 students. When students are not in class, they will participate in Distance Learning.

Transportation

We are working on an alternative solution for some students who routinely ride the bus. There are many challenges to safeguard all students' health under the Yuba County Health Order and CDE guidelines. More information will follow regarding bus capacity, which will be extremely limited due to social distancing requirements.



Nutrition Services

The MJUSD will continue to provide breakfast, lunch, and supper at no cost under the Community Eligibility Provision. Meal applications will not be required. Meals will be served on modified schedules to meet conditions of the current Yuba County Health Order and CDE guidelines, including the packing of menu items. Food service operations have robust cleaning and sanitizing procedures already in place. These procedures have been revised to address the protocol for the increased frequency of sanitizing food contact surfaces.