

## **Pierce Joint Unified School District School Reopening Plan**

Pierce Joint Unified School District will begin the 2020/2021 school year on Thursday, August 13, 2020 in Distance Learning for all students. A transition to in-person learning will take place when Colusa County is off of the COVID-19 state watchlist. Parents not wanting their child to return to in-person instruction due to COVID-19 concerns will continue to have the option to have their child remain in the Distance Learning program.

This plan will address safety measures that will be put into place at our school sites to protect the physical and psychological health and well-being of our students and staff as well as the educational needs of our children. Colusa County Public Health will be provided with this plan for review and feedback.

As we know, conditions can change quickly meaning that this plan may be adapted as necessary to meet the ever-changing guidance parameters during this pandemic.

Pierce Joint Unified utilized the California Department of Education's Checklist for Reopening Schools for the following main categories:

- ✓ Local Conditions to Guide Reopening Decisions
- ✓ Plan to Address Positive COVID-19 Cases or Community Surges
- ✓ Injury and Illness Prevention Plan
- ✓ Campus Access
- ✓ Hygiene
- ✓ Protective Equipment
- ✓ Physical Distancing
- ✓ Cleaning/Disinfecting
- ✓ Employee Issues
- ✓ Communication with Students, Parents, Employees, Public Health Officials, and the Community

## **Section 1: Expectations of Students, Staff and Visitors**

Pierce Joint Unified will be following state and local guidance to the extent practicable for the safety of all as we reopen school. These practices include:

- Self-screening daily. Monitor your health and be alert of symptoms prior to coming to school. Do not come to the school campus if you are sick. Staff will complete a self-screening form before coming to campus.
- Students having their temperature taken when getting on the bus and at the classroom door at the beginning of each day by the teacher
- Covering your mouth and nose with a face covering. Students refusing to use a mask will be placed in the Distance Learning program. Exemptions to wearing masks may apply in unique instances for special needs students. Masks will need to be worn if a student joins their general education class.
- Maintaining 6' of physical distance between yourself and others to the extent possible.
- Utilizing hand sanitizer upon entering the office or classrooms.
- Washing your hands with soap and water regularly
- Covering your mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing.
- Training will be provided to employees as listed in site specific plans which can be accessed in link below

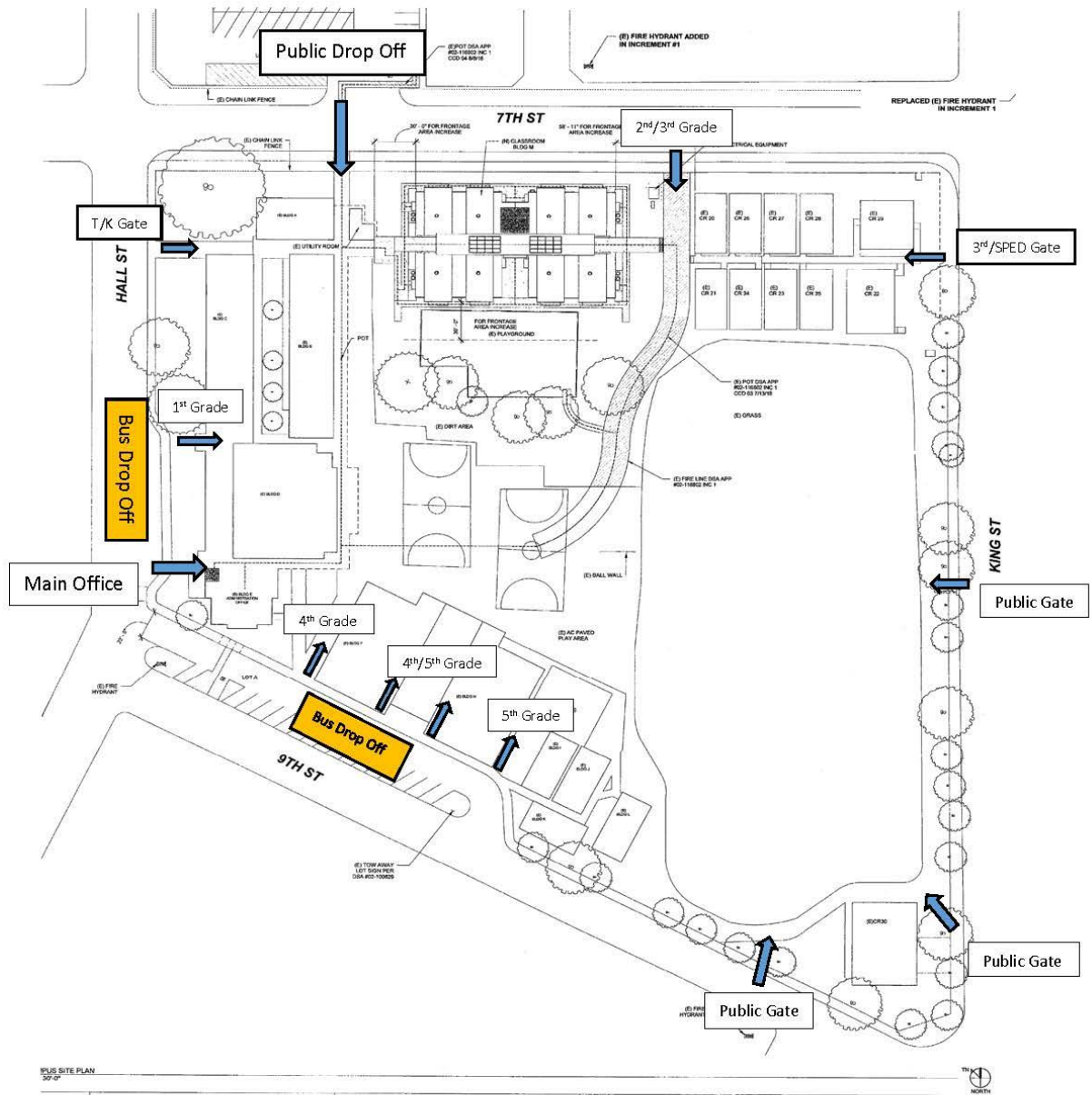
[https://www.pierce.k12.ca.us/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_91750/File/Melanie%20Documents/Pierce%20JUSD%20District%20Wide%20COVID%20Site%20Plans.pdf](https://www.pierce.k12.ca.us/UserFiles/Servers/Server_91750/File/Melanie%20Documents/Pierce%20JUSD%20District%20Wide%20COVID%20Site%20Plans.pdf)

## **Section 2: Arrival/Dismissal Practices and Procedures**

Pierce Joint Unified will implement the following practices to minimize groupings of students and staff outside of the classroom space before and after school:

- Masks must be worn upon arrival and dismissal. Masks will be made available at a central location outside of the school for those students arriving on campus without one.
- Multiple points of entry will be available for staff and students to enter and exit the campus at the beginning and end of the school day in order to maintain physical distancing. Elementary parents will be given suggested drop off locations depending on the grade of their child and location of classroom.(see map at end of this section)
- Students will wait outside their classroom in a line spaced 6' apart from one another
- Everyone must wash or sanitize hands as they enter buildings or classrooms
- Parents/guardians will not be allowed to enter the campus to drop-off or pick-up their student. A specific plan to accommodate kindergarten and first grade students at the beginning of the year will be established in order for the student to become comfortable with the campus and routine.

# ARBUCKLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL





### Section 3: Classroom Logistics and Practices

Pierce Joint Unified is implementing the following practices in our classrooms to mitigate the spread of COVID-19:

- Student desks/tables will be arranged to allow for maximum student-to-student distancing
- All student desks/tables will be facing in the same direction
- Hand sanitizer will be in every classroom
- Students will sanitize their hands upon entering the classroom
- Computers will be individually assigned to students to avoid sharing. Lab computers will be disinfected between users.
- Classrooms will be free of additional furniture or clutter that may impede distancing and disinfecting practices
- Physical Education classes will take place outdoors to the extent possible and avoid the sharing of equipment. If equipment is shared, it will need to be disinfected between classes. Locker rooms for gym classes will be closed during the physical distancing period.
- Disinfecting wipes will be in each of the classrooms
- Teachers will receive the one-hour annual training necessary to use disinfecting wipes and sprays
- Handwashing with soap and water will be done in elementary classrooms
- Teachers at the elementary schools will teach hygiene skills for the proper way to cover a sneeze or cough and how to correctly perform handwashing
- 20% outside fresh air will be circulated throughout the classroom through the HVAC system that is equipped with a target of a MERV 13 filter, when available. In the event of poor air quality, outside fresh air may be turned off.

## **Section 4: Campus Logistics and Practices**

Pierce Joint Unified has many common areas including cafeterias, gyms, libraries, playgrounds, etc. The following practices will be implemented:

- Signs will be posted to remind about physical distancing, masks, hygiene and general safety related to the pandemic
- Traffic patterns in inside corridors will be laid out for students to follow
- Water fill stations will be available but standalone water fountains will be blocked. Students are encouraged to bring water bottles from home. Disposable cups will be available for use for those students who have forgotten their water bottles.
- Restrooms will remain stocked with proper hand washing supplies
- Handwashing stations may be installed if needed
- Verbal reminders will be given to remind students to physically distance if they are not doing so
- Tables and seating may be removed or blocked in areas including cafeterias to abide by distancing guidelines. Outdoor eating will be allowed
- School front offices will have clear shields separating staff from visitors
- Individual student lockers on school sites will not be utilized while physical distancing is required
- Outside guests will be limited to individuals or agencies providing direct services to students
- Parents and guardians will be limited to waiting areas unless they have an appointment on campus
- All guests must wear face coverings
- Playground structures will be available for use at the elementary schools. Elementary students will wash or sanitize their hands when going out to recess and returning from recess.
- Recesses at the elementary school will be limited to zones to keep classes separated from one another.



## **Section 5: Custodial Practices and Procedures**

Pierce Joint Unified has a dedicated custodial staff that cares for its facilities and does daily thorough cleaning. During this time of COVID-19, an additional focus will be the following:

- Hand sanitizing stations in all classrooms, gyms, cafeterias, offices, etc will be monitored to ensure they remain operational
- Disinfecting spray bottles or wipes and paper towels will be in all classrooms, gyms, shops, offices, etc for interim use by staff between custodial cleanings
- Soap and paper towel dispensers will be monitored and stocked regularly
- Continuous cleaning during the school day of high touch surface areas by custodial staff will be ongoing

## **Section 6: Food Service Practices and Procedures**

Pierce Joint Unified will continue to provide breakfast and lunch service for all students who would like to participate. The following will be implemented to provide meals in a safe environment:

- Food for each individual school site will be prepared by the staff at that site
- Students will not be asked to key in their lunch numbers on a keypad. Staff will do the necessary entering.
- Elementary students will wash or sanitize their hands prior to eating lunch
- Elementary students will eat outside if the weather permits or seated in the cafeteria at tables cohorted by teacher
- Breakfast will be served as 'grab and go'
- Food service staff will wear appropriate personal protective equipment in the preparation and serving of food
- Middle and high school students will use hand sanitizer as they enter the cafeteria prior to eating
- Middle and high school students getting a school lunch will go to the cafeteria and stand in a socially distanced line to pick up their food tray. They may sit distanced apart in the cafeteria or take their food outside to eat spaced apart from others.
- Students participating in Distance Learning may participate in the grab and go curbside pickup of meals at the elementary school in Arbuckle and Grand Island.

## **Section 7: Transportation Practices and Procedures**

Pierce Joint Unified will continue to provide bus transportation for our students. Though we are not required to provide transportation, we know that some students would not be able to attend school if we did not provide it. With the limited number of bus drivers, we do not anticipate being able to socially distance all students by 6' from one another while riding the bus. Parents who are not comfortable with their child riding the bus may transport their child to or from school. These safety measures will be implemented for safety on the bus:

- Establish protocols for bus stops, loading/unloading to minimize congregation of students
- Students will have their temperature taken when getting on the bus
- Family members will be expected to be seated by one another on the bus
- Masks will be required of all riders at all times including while waiting at the bus stop. If students refuse to wear masks, they will lose bus riding privileges
- Masks will be available from bus driver for those riders who do not have one
- Hand sanitizer will be used by students as they enter the bus
- Windows will be opened, as weather permits, to increase air flow
- Bus drivers will escort young students to their classrooms upon initial return to the campus
- Buses will be disinfected by the drivers at the end of each route

## **Section 8: Office Practices and Procedures**

Pierce Joint Unified school offices want to support students and parents. During this time though it is important to limit the number of outside visitors to our sites as much as possible. We are asking parents and guardians to assist us by:

- Utilizing the Aeries parent portal to ensure contacts are up-to-date in case of an emergency
- Using phone calls and emails for communication and attendance
- Calling ahead if picking up their child early so the student is ready and waiting for the parent. Staff will visually verify that the student was picked up by the authorized person and record time.
- Wearing a face covering
- Socially distancing by 6'
- Not coming on the school campus to drop off or pick up your child
- Waiting at front office door for staff to unlock the door for entering access

## **Section 9: General Office Protocols**

- Signs posted to remind people to follow the safety protocols
- Hand sanitizer available
- Face coverings available for those who need them
- Clear partitions for point of contact spaces in the front office

## **Section 10: Afterschool Program Practices and Procedures**

Pierce Joint Unified understands the importance of the After School Programs at the elementary and middle schools for our families in terms of academic support and childcare. Our programs will remain open when schools are in session. These programs will implement:

- Cohort groupings of students that will remain the same everyday
- All safety protocols that are established during the regular school day
- Pick up protocols established
- 

## **Section 11: Sports, Extra Curricular Activities and Clubs**

Pierce Joint Unified values the role that sports, extra-curricular activities and clubs play in the lives of students. These activities are able to take place when the following parameters can be maintained:

- Physical distancing between participants
- Safety protocols that are established during the regular school day are followed

## **Section 12: Procedures and Protocols for Individuals with Symptoms**

Pierce Joint Unified acknowledges that the COVID-19 virus is in our community and will most likely be for some time. Students, staff and parents need to be diligent in doing self-screening every morning before leaving for school. COVID-19 symptoms include: fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, fatigue, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, and new loss of taste or smell. If any of the symptoms are being exhibited, STAY HOME, and if necessary, schedule an appointment with your healthcare provider. If a student becomes sick at school, the school will do the following:

- Teacher or staff will notify the front office that a student is on their way to the established isolation room so that the student can be met by assigned staff
- Contact parent and hold student in isolation room until parent/guardian comes to pick up
- Ask student if they have had close physical contact with anyone
- Ask students to remain at home until test results clear them to return or confirm a



positive case of COVID-19 in which student must be kept out of school for 10 days from symptom onset or test date. Students may do Distance Learning while they are home waiting on results or for symptoms to resolve

- Disinfect isolation room along with classroom and common areas on campus immediately after identification
- Individual school closure may be appropriate when there are multiple cases in multiple cohorts at a school
- A school district should close if 25% or more of schools in a district are closed due to COVID-19. Reopening may typically occur after 14 days
- Site principals will support contact tracing and be the contact person for Colusa County Public Health regarding COVID-19
- Communication with affected staff, students, and parents will be through the school notification system or other means of rapid communication when a COVID-19 case has been confirmed and possible exposure has occurred.
- Rapid testing is not yet readily available. Those experiencing symptoms will be recommended to get tested through their health care provider. Health insurance in the state of California is required to cover the cost of the testing. If free testing becomes available to school districts, it will be made available to employees and students.



SONIA Y. ANGELL, MD, MPH  
State Public Health Officer & Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
**California Department of Public Health**



GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor

*What measures should be taken when a student, teacher or staff member has symptoms, is a contact of someone infected, or is diagnosed with COVID-19?*

	Student or Staff with:	Action	Communication
1.	COVID-19 Symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing)  Symptom Screening: Per CA <a href="#">School Sector Specific Guidelines</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send home</li> <li>Recommend testing (If positive, see #3, if negative, see #4)</li> <li>School/classroom remain open</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Action needed</li> </ul>
2.	Close contact (†) with a confirmed COVID-19 case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send home</li> <li>Quarantine for 14 days from last exposure</li> <li>Recommend testing (but will not shorten 14-day quarantine)</li> <li>School/classroom remain open</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider school community notification of a known contact</li> </ul>
3.	Confirmed COVID-19 case infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notify the local public health department</li> <li>Isolate case and exclude from school for 10 days from symptom onset or test date</li> <li>Identify contacts (†), quarantine &amp; exclude exposed contacts (likely entire cohort (††)) for 14 days after the last date the case was present at school while infectious</li> <li>Recommend testing of contacts, prioritize symptomatic contacts (but will not shorten 14-day quarantine)</li> <li>Disinfection and cleaning of classroom and primary spaces where case spent significant time</li> <li>School remains open</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School community notification of a known case</li> </ul>
4.	Tests negative after symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May return to school 3 days after symptoms resolve</li> <li>School/classroom remain open</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider school community notification if prior awareness of testing</li> </ul>

(†) A contact is defined as a person who is <6 feet from a case for >15 minutes. In some school situations, it may be difficult to determine whether individuals have met this criterion and an entire cohort, classroom, or other group may need to be considered exposed, particularly if people have spent time together indoors.

(††) A cohort is a stable group with fixed membership that stays together for all courses and activities (e.g., lunch, recess, etc.) and avoids contact with other persons or cohorts.

### **Section 13: Distance Learning**

Pierce Joint Unified believes that classroom-based instruction is the best method of instructional delivery from both an academic and social-emotional standpoint for students; however, we understand that some students may not be able to return to the physical classroom environment due to reasons regarding COVID-19. Distance Learning will be an available option for these families. Parents wanting to choose this option for their child must:

- Notify the individual school
- Understand that students will be required to attend to school work daily and have daily interaction with the instructor
- Ensure their child participates in Distance Learning. Students that fail to participate or engage for 60% of the school week will be redirected through the District's Re-engagement Strategies. Consequences of not engaging could result in removal from Distance Learning and a return to "in-person" instruction.

### **Section 14: Distance Learning for All in the Event of Future District Closure**

Pierce Joint Unified believes that in-person instruction is the best option for our students; however, there may be a time when the district again has to close schools due to the pandemic and implement District Learning for all students. The following applies:

- All students will have immediate access to a take-home computer device. Google Suite applications will be utilized (age appropriate)
- Families having no wi-fi access will be given a hotspot
- Students will have daily interaction with teacher and peers
- Attendance will be taken and engagement monitored
- Subject matter grade level content lessons will be taught and progress monitoring will take place
- Academic and other supports will be available to address the needs of students