

Pasadena Unified School District

Return to Campus

Frequently Asked Questions



(following Town Hall on March 30, 2021)

See the English & Spanish recording of the Town Hall and the slide presentation at gopusd.com/townhall

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General Questions

Why are kids going back to school now when the kids will soon be out of school within a month for summer vacation?

We are offering in-person learning as an option for all students so families can determine which setting is most beneficial for their student. We have worked closely with the Pasadena Department of Public Health and follow the safety guidelines provided by them, CPHD and CDC.

Academics

Does the district have any plans for assessments and/or additional support or summer school offerings to address learning loss from the past year?

We are using assessment results from our District interim assessments (iReady, HMRI) to inform our understanding of students' academic needs. Plans for an expanded summer program to include all grade levels are in progress. Additionally, longitudinal planning for the next few years will take into account learning acceleration for gaps that occurred in the past.

Will there be any SBAC testing for the 2020-21 year?

State testing will be required in the 2020-21, per the California Department of Education (CDE). However, CDE is awaiting confirmation from the US Department of Education on flexibility in the assessment and testing window. Once confirmed, this will be communicated to all involved.

After School Care

What are the options for after school care for elementary and middle school students?

LEARNs after school programs will be offered at the elementary and middle schools. For information about after school programs, visit pusd.us/learns or contact the LEARNs coordinator at your school about space/availability.

Attendance

Child care and transportation are still issues for many families. With some parents returning to work, we have chosen for our child to return to in-person learning. If for some reason I am unable to get my child to school, will they be able to sign in and do at home learning for that day to receive credit for attendance?

Such circumstances may arise and are understandable. Please be sure to communicate with the classroom teacher(s) so your child may be marked appropriately for the purpose of attendance.

If I choose to have my child school in person, and then (due to travel) they have to quarantine for 10-days, will they be marked 'absent' and not allowed on campus after the 10-days?

Please communicate with your school site principal so students may continue with classwork via distance learning. Students then would be marked present for the purpose of attendance. During the 10 days of quarantine, the student would need to remain at home.

Classroom Environment

My son started middle school this year. He says sometimes there's 50+ kids in his virtual class. How many kids will there be per class when in person school starts, and how does that work for safety?

Indoor class sizes are limited to ensure physical distancing of 6 feet. The majority of classrooms will hold 14 students and up to 2 adults.

Will PUSD be adopting the latest CDC guidelines of 3 ft distance between students so more students can be part of each cohort?

Our MOU with our labor partners is based on a 6-foot guideline, so we will honor this planning for the remaining months of school.

Cohorts

Are siblings automatically placed into the same 2-day schedule?

If both siblings are in a two day cohort, then they will both attend on the same two days.

If students choose to return to campus, will they be able to choose the cohort they are in?

Schools carefully considered families' needs as cohorts were assigned with input from teachers and staff.

Will the students be choosing their designated days of in class instruction? Or will the administration select which days of the week?

Site administration will be determining the cohorts based on survey results and rosters at the high school level. In elementary, site administration is doing their best to accommodate.

Does my child have to attend in-person or can they continue with online instruction? Can I change my mind?

Parents/guardians select their preference for their student for in-person or distance learning on the Return to Campus survey. Although we do not encourage schedule changes because of the careful coordination involved, students who chose to attend school on-campus will be allowed to return to distance learning, if needed. Families who opted for distance learning may switch their student to in-person only if space is available.

Are middle and high schools interested in keeping students who were in a study pod during the last year in the same cohort? Also, are schools interested in keeping students who carpool together in the same cohort? Can we share this information with school administrators?

The sites may not have all of this information, so please contact the site to inform them. Please note that we cannot guarantee that we can honor these requests.

How many students will be in a cohort in high school?

Indoor class sizes are limited to ensure physical distancing of 6 ft. The majority of classrooms will hold 14 students and up to 2 adults.

Can students at any day participate in-person or online class?

Students will be assigned to a cohort for in-person instruction. This may mean attending in-person on Tuesday/Wednesday only, or Thursday/Friday only. They will access classes online/virtually on the remaining days

General School Questions

Will there be adult supervision during breaks/recess to ensure students keep their masks on while visiting with their friends?

Yes, noon aides will support our students

Will backpacks be required or only devices?

PUSD-issued Chromebooks will be needed for in person and remote learning. Backpacks are encouraged since lockers will be unavailable.

Will the students have their teachers or substitutes?

We are making every effort to keep students rostered with their teachers.

If we choose to remain remote for the rest of this school year, will there be another survey for preference for the fall? Will there even be a remote/hybrid option in the fall?

At this time, there are no surveys scheduled for 2021-22. We will keep our PUSD community informed about our plans once they are available.

What will sports, art, music, dance, etc., be like for students in all grade levels?

There are modifications this year. Please be sure to connect with your school and participate in the orientation presentation in which these answers are provided.

Can students who have signed up to return to school return to distance learning for the remainder of the year or for some days if previously scheduled doctor appointments or conflict of schedule occur?

We will do our best to accommodate requests. Please just be sure to communicate any changes with your school.

If we choose the "return to school" option and, after a couple of weeks, it appears it is not a good fit for our student, can she return to remote learning for the remainder of the semester?

Yes. Please be sure to communicate any changes with your school.

Are siblings at different schools placed on the same schedule?

Please be sure to discuss with your site administrators

Elementary School Questions

Will elementary school schedules change?

The daily schedule will remain the same as it has been this year. See the sample schedule. On Mondays, all students will be in distance learning. Tuesdays - Fridays: schools will be in hybrid simultaneous learning, with student cohorts on campus on their designated days and student cohorts in distance learning.

Will the district or school plan any in-person, outdoor promotion ceremonies for 5th graders?

That is in the works. More to be announced soon as PDPH provides us guidance.

Can you give an example of what the outside play might look like?

Students will play in their cohort, keep social distance, and play with individually assigned materials or play contactless games.

Secondary School Questions

Will the remote daily schedule be notably different than it is now?

We have a new schedule for middle and high school. Students who chose to return to campus will be in cohorts on campus for two days per week. See the sample schedule. Please check with your school for specifics and participate in your school's orientation meetings. Recordings will also be available.

Will middle and high school schedules change?

Will the schedule for distance learners change?

Does the daily schedule allow time for students to get home before the asynchronous time in the afternoon?

Middle and High school schedules have been adjusted to allow for all classes to be conducted before lunchtime. Students will be in live learning each morning whether they are on campus or in distance learning at home. At

Elementary Schedules

Pasadena Unified School District

Grades TK-5	
 MONDAYS	 TUESDAYS-FRIDAYS
8:00 A.M.-9:00 A.M. All: Live Learning at Home	8:00 A.M.-12:55 P.M. Live Learning at Home or in Person
9:00A.M.-12:15P.M. All: Asynchronous Learning at Home	12:55 P.M. - 1:25 P.M. Grab & Go Lunch
	1:25 P.M.- 2:25 P.M. All: Office Hours from Home

Secondary Schedules

Pasadena Unified School District

Grades 6-8		Grades 9-12	
 MONDAYS	 TUESDAYS-FRIDAYS	 MONDAYS	 TUESDAYS-FRIDAYS
8:15A.M.-10:15 A.M. All: Live Learning at Home	8:15A.M.-12:10P.M. Live Learning at Home or in Person	8:30A.M.-10:30A.M. All: Live Learning at Home	8:30A.M.-12:25P.M. Live Learning at Home or in Person
10:15A.M.-12:15P.M. All: Asynchronous Learning at Home	12:10P.M.-12:40P.M. Grab & Go Lunch	10:30A.M.-12:30P.M. All: Asynchronous Learning at Home	12:25P.M.-12:55P.M. Grab & Go Lunch
	12:40P.M.-1:55P.M. All: Small-group or Asynchronous Learning at Home		12:55P.M.-2:10P.M. All: Small-group or Asynchronous Learning at Home

*Times are approximate and may vary slightly by school.

lunchtime, on-campus students will get Grab & Go meals and go home for asynchronous learning time in the afternoon. Asynchronous learning blocks after lunch may not include every student, every day. Teachers will communicate with students about which small groups they may need to attend online after lunch. Schools will send students their specific schedules.

What is the reason that middle and high school cannot have a full day of school on campus? According to the current plan, they are leaving before lunch and logging back in at home.

This is to allow for all PUSD students and staff to have a safe lunch and prepare for an afternoon of learning.

Will middle schools go back four days a week? Does this depend on how many families decide to go back in person?

Site administration will be determining the cohorts based on [Return to Campus Survey](#) results and rosters.

Will middle and high school students be able to change classes and meet their teachers, or will they be doing online school in a classroom with their stable cohort?

Secondary school students will be rotating through their class schedule, not remaining a single classroom.

At the middle and high school level, will all teachers be teaching on campus during synchronous learning time or will some of them continue to teach remotely? If so, how will in-person students be managed? What happens if a teacher needs to quarantine or gets COVID?

Yes, teachers will be teaching from campus to model our hybrid simultaneous opportunities for all students no matter the situation. We want to keep learning at a premium with minimal interruptions.

When can remote students get items out of their lockers from last year?

Please connect with your school to coordinate a plan to pick up items.

When will a decision be made about graduation ceremonies? Can they be held outside in a socially distanced way?

We are in the planning stages for graduation ceremonies and working in partnership with Pasadena Public Health.

Have there been any changes to the graduation requirements? Will there be any considerations for the Class of '22 as there were for the previous classes and if so, what are they? If not, will there be modifications?

At this time the only change is about the Senior Defense requirement for the graduating Class of 2021. We recognize and congratulate the many students who participated in the senior defense this year. We also acknowledge the fact that some students may choose to opt into this event for the Class of 2021 per the Board of Education's recommendation. All other classes must continue working towards fulfilling their requirements and connect with their Site Coordinator to ensure their success.

If our high school student remains in remote learning, how will reopening campus impact her learning time, schedule, and homework load? When will a bell schedule be given to all students?

Please be sure to tune into your school's orientation meeting. All of these questions will be addressed.

How will reopening campus impact AP testing? Will there still be a virtual option for those students who remain remote?

Please be sure to tune into your school site's orientation meeting. All of these questions will be addressed.

Will on campus clubs and ASB activities resume in high school and if so will there be opportunity for remote students to join them on campus or remotely?

Please be sure to tune into your school site's orientation meeting. All of these questions will be addressed.

Will the remote learning days continue with the same schedule of synchronous/asynchronous times students in a particular class have had all year, or will they now follow the schedule of in-person learning days? In other words, will the remote daily schedule be notably different than it is now?

We do have a new secondary schedule for Hybrid Simultaneous. Please connect with your site and participate in the orientation meeting. Recordings will also be available.

What is the reason that secondary and high school can not have a full day of school on campus? According to the current plan, they are leaving before lunch and logging back in at home.

This is to allow for all PUSD students and staff to have a safe lunch and prepare for an afternoon of learning.

Can you please again go through the 6-12 post lunch break/ log back in timing. Seems there isn't enough time factored in for commuting from school site to residence.

Passing period is included prior to the afternoon time. However, the post-lunch Personalized Learning Time blocks may not include every student, every day. Your students' teachers will communicate with your students on which small groups they may need to be online to attend.

Will secondary students be able to change classes and meet their teachers, or will they be doing online school in a classroom with their stable cohort?

Secondary students will be rotating through their class schedule, not remaining a single classroom.

School Schedules

If my students are in the X group, and go to school on Tuesday and Wednesday, what happens on Thursday and Friday for them?

On days that a student is not attending in-person, they will log in remotely and join the class from home to continue learning.

Is it two days in-person school and the rest is in distance learning?

Yes. Hybrid Simultaneous is cohorts in-person for, in most cases, two days and the remaining three days in remote learning. Please check with your school for specific schedules. If a student chooses to remain in distance learning, then this will occur all five days.

Elementary Schedules

Pasadena Unified School District

Grades TK-5	
	
MONDAYS	TUESDAYS- FRIDAYS
8:00 A.M.-9:00 A.M. All: Live Learning at Home	8:00 A.M.-12:55 P.M. Live Learning at Home or in Person
9:00A.M.-12:15P.M. All: Asynchronous Learning at Home	12:55 P.M. - 1:25 P.M. Grab & Go Lunch
	1:25 P.M.- 2:25 P.M. All: Office Hours from Home

Will distance learners log in at specific synchronous times like they do now, or are they expected to be logged in and watching their teacher from 8-12:55 like the in person students?

They will log in at specific times that may vary based on the teacher's schedule (as schools are staggering recess and break times). The teacher will provide students with their specific log-in times.

Can you clarify the Monday schedule? Will students have a morning meeting with their teacher or will the day be completely asynchronous?

Yes, there will continue to be live (synchronous) meetings between teachers & students on Mondays, following the same time frame as distance learning (i.e. 8am-9am for elementary, 8:15-10:15am for middle, and 8:30-10:30am for high school). These will all be virtual.

Currently students log in sporadically (schedule depends on teacher) but they don't stay logged into a WebEx call for 5 hours, they do independent work in between. Will they still do this? Or will they log in to WebEx at 8 and log out at 12:55?

Students will log in at specific times that may vary based on the teacher's schedule (as schools are staggering recess and break times). The teacher will provide the students with their specific log-in times.

On our return to campus date, will all the students be going back at the same time or will the school pick specific days for us?

Students are assigned to cohorts, with specific days on campus. Your school will send you your student's cohort assignment and schedule.

Social Emotional Wellbeing

There is more to school than academics. What is the District's plan to meet the social and emotional needs of the students whether they remain virtual or choose to return to the classroom?

Trauma Informed Care efforts will continue upon return of students and staff to include a social-emotional learning curriculum for students in K-8 as part of the instructional day. Our secondary students were invited to a Virtual Emotional Well-Being Fair on March 8. Over 300 secondary students participated and were learned about a myriad of PUSD and community services in support of their social and emotional well-being. Higher levels of supports will continue through counseling referrals. Each school site has a mental health agency as a partner. Referrals will be prioritized upon students' return.

Secondary Schedules

Pasadena Unified School District

Grades 6-8		Grades 9-12	
			
MONDAYS	TUESDAYS-FRIDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS-FRIDAYS
8:15A.M.-10:15 A.M. All: Live Learning at Home	8:15A.M.-12:10P.M. Live Learning at Home or in Person	8:30A.M.-10:30A.M. All: Live Learning at Home	8:30A.M.-12:25P.M. Live Learning at Home or in Person
10:15A.M.-12:15P.M. All: Asynchronous Learning at Home	12:10P.M.-12:40P.M. Grab & Go Lunch	10:30A.M.-12:30P.M. All: Asynchronous Learning at Home	12:25P.M.-12:55P.M. Grab & Go Lunch
	12:40P.M.-1:55P.M. All: Small-group or Asynchronous Learning at Home		12:55P.M.-2:10P.M. All: Small-group or Asynchronous Learning at Home

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Health & Safety

Why are schools asking for triple layer masks?

The CDC recommends people wear masks of multiple layers or wear more than one mask. A mask with multiple layers will stop more respiratory droplets from entering or escaping from a mask.

What if a student doesn't bring a mask? If the student needs to change it during the day?

Schools will provide masks for students who need them.

Do students and staff have to wear a mask all the time they're on campus? Outside?

Masks are required throughout the school day.

If a student has difficulty breathing in their masks for long periods of time due to asthma or in PE can they choose to wear a shield in lieu of a mask?

If a student has a medical concern and is not able to wear a mask, a face shield with a drape extending under the mouth can be worn. Please see [COVID Safety Plan](#) for more details.

What is the vaccination rate for teachers and staff?

Thanks to a partnership with Pasadena Public Health, PUSD employees were first offered the vaccine in January. PUSD Health Programs will continue to offer vaccinations to staff and teachers, however, the vaccination status of staff is confidential.

Will PUSD be offering vaccinations, or set up sites on campuses for the Pasadena Health Department to offer vaccinations to PUSD high school students?

PUSD Health Programs Department will communicate with families when vaccine eligibility opens up for students and school families.

Will HS students 16+ be offered Pfizer vaccine?

Currently, PUSD is only able to offer the Moderna vaccine.

Given that kids will not be vaccinated for some time, is there a testing strategy in place for students?

Yes. Weekly asymptomatic testing will be conducted at school sites during the month of April. Symptomatic and asymptomatic testing is also available daily at our PUSD Primary Clinic. Regular voluntary testing will be offered to staff and students.

Do students or staff have to have symptoms for free testing on campus?

Asymptomatic testing will be offered at school sites. Symptomatic testing is offered at the PUSD Primary Clinic.

Will COVID-19 tests for students be a mouth or nasal swab? What if my child can't use the nasal swab because of a medical concern?

The test is a self administered nasal swab that enters the nostril no more than 1.5 cm. There are other testing options offered to students and staff when a medical concern exists.

How will the schools deal with a COVID-19 exposure or illness whether it's a student or teacher?

Please see the Exposure Management Plan contained in our [COVID Safety Plan](#)

How will we be notified if there is a COVID-19 exposure?

PUSD will conduct contact tracing and notify you with an Exposure Notification Letter. Cases are also reported on the [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) that is updated twice each week.

What will trigger the closure of a class/school?

Please see the Exposure Management Plan contained in our [COVID Safety Plan](#) which defines an outbreak and situations that would cause a class or school to close. PUSD will consult with the Pasadena Public Health Department to determine appropriate safety actions.

Can students participate in more than one cohort? Multiple sports and clubs?

PUSD will follow current Public Health guidelines regarding stable group participation. Restrictions will decrease as COVID-19 transmission rates decline.

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Will playground equipment be open?

Safe and healthy playground activities will be organized by the school staff. Students will be given time to wash their hands before and after recess to reduce transmission during recess activities.

Will there be a clinic for parents who want to get vaccinated? My only hesitation in sending my daughter back is that she might bring covid home. PUSD Health Programs Department will communicate with families when vaccine eligibility opens up for school families.

If the child travels out of California, does the child need to be tested before they can go back to school or quarantine for 0 days before returning in-person?

PUSD will follow current Public Health Travel Advisory rules which will determine who is required to quarantine and the length of time.

Will PUSD close the school if student(s) test positive?

School will not be closed for one confirmed case. Please see the Exposure Management Plan contained in our [COVID Safety Plan](#) for more details.

For COVID-19 testing, will you do weekly random tests for staff & students too (besides volunteered testing)? Regular voluntary testing will be offered to staff and students.

Facilities and Ventilation

How is cleaning upgraded?

We have a strict schedule for ongoing decontamination and sanitization of classrooms and offices, with daily disinfecting logs in classrooms, restrooms and offices. High touch surfaces are cleaned multiple times each day and classrooms are fogged with disinfectant each evening.

Soap and paper towels in restrooms, classrooms and shared areas are maintained on a daily on-going basis.

Is air filtration upgraded?

Yes. Classrooms and learning spaces have been equipped with new hospital-grade air purifiers (bipolar ionizer) with two HEPA filters that capture 99.97% of all airborne contaminants, including airborne viruses. In addition, all air conditioning filters have been upgraded from MERV 6 to MERV 10 (rated for hospital and laboratory use) to ensure that outside air is circulated efficiently.

Does every school site have an HVAC system that works?

All school sites have mechanical systems. Most of the sites have a hydronic piping system which works with chillers and boilers. Some school sites have just standard electrical AC and/or independent HVAC systems. The District has contracted with outside HVAC experts to conduct both mechanical and airflow inspections of every HVAC unit in the district. The District is following all recommendations and completing all repairs outlined as a result of the inspections. All air filters have been upgraded to the highest level possible and air purifiers have been placed in each classroom.

Some sites have old HVAC systems (like Altadena). How can we be assured those systems work effectively?

Yes, all mechanical (HVAC) systems are working effectively. An extensive mechanical survey was recently completed for all our school sites. At Altadena, a new hydronic piping system was installed in 2001. Also, in 2018, an additional chiller was installed, including the kitchen and the foyer. The District has contracted with outside HVAC experts to conduct both mechanical and airflow inspections of every HVAC unit in the district. The District is following all recommendations and completing all repairs outlined as a result of the inspections.

Are any sites getting new HVAC systems or upgrades to the HVAC systems beyond filter replacement?

Currently, Pasadena High School is undergoing a new chiller plant replacement with an upgraded system. Within the last ten years Norma Coombs, Longfellow, McKinley, Sierra Madre Elementary, Sierra Madre Middle, and Marshall High School, received new upgrades or replacements of the HVAC units.

Has the air mixture for the HVAC systems been adjusted so air isn't recirculated? Is that possible with the HVAC systems on all sites?

Yes, the air circulation is part of the HVAC system including approximately 5% of fresh air intake. Throughout the district mechanical systems and all other systems comply with applicable code. The percentage of the fresh air into the system is mandated by code (California Energy Code (CEC) requirements) /California Title 24 (T-24) and it is about 5% fresh air intake at any time. The District is following all recommendations mandated under COVID-19 reopening guidelines. Airflow inspections have been completed in every classroom. Airflow has been maximized

through the HVAC system. In cases where increased airflow was not possible through the HVAC system then windows and doors will remain open during class sessions.

How often are the filters replaced?

Standard practice is to replace air filters every six months. As a result of COVID, the District changed the preventive maintenance program to every three (3) months. Upon completion of air filter replacement, email notifications are sent to the site principal and office managers of the recent status.

Will every classroom as well as other interior spaces have portable air filtration systems?

Yes, the District has purchased professional grade air purifier units for every classroom and they have been delivered to all school sites. Each air purifier contains three filters. They have an active carbon filter, which absorbs volatile organic compounds. They also have two "true" HEPA filters, which capture 99.97% of airborne particles including the COVID-19 virus.

Are these portable air filters noisy?

No. The air purifiers are very quiet and they will not disrupt classroom activities or instructional lessons/time.

What is the MERV rating for the portable air filters?

The air purifiers contain HEPA filters which filter 99.97% of all particles in the air. They are rated to remove the COVID-19 particulates. However, they do not have the same MERV rating as an air conditioner filter, but would be consistent with MERV 13 or higher if you are comparing the two types of filters.

Why are so many windows sealed shut?

Per California Energy Code (CEC) / California Title 24/code / BP 3511 states for the Energy Management System to work efficiently, windows must remain closed. As new window replacement projects began, windows were designed and installed for a closed system. Since the creation of the Green Code operable windows for natural ventilation have become required in some conditions and jurisdictions. As per new DSA regulations, in new construction, districts may have to adopt a portion of the high-performance building strategies of 2018 International Green Construction Code (IgCC), ASHRAE 189.1's technical requirements. California last code change was in 2019 and implementation started on 01/01/2021; this code change (T24MA) was mandated by the National Energy Management Institute Committee (NEMIC). The new regulations will be included in future projects. In cases where the site HVAC system inspections have called for additional outside air that cannot be accommodated through system upgrades at this time, windows will be made operable in the classrooms. This will be a short term fix until systems can be upgraded to meet both Title 24 and COVID-19 requirements.

Will the windows be repaired/modified so they can open?

In cases where the HVAC inspections have recommended that windows and doors remain open in order to maximize outside air flow, the windows will be repaired so that they will open.

Do all the bathrooms have exhaust fans that are in working condition? Are they needed to reduce COVID transmission?

Yes, all restrooms have exhaust fans and they are operable. Exhaust fans are only for air circulation and there is no studies/evidence relating to reducing the transmission of COVID.

Will classroom doors be kept open during instructional time to improve ventilation?

Only on a case by case basis as a result of the HVAC system inspections. Normally, we do not keep the windows

and doors open due to fire code requirements or for systems that have been upgraded recently to meet Title 24 requirements. However, where inspections have shown that additional outside air is necessary and cannot be accommodated by immediate repairs to the HVAC system, then doors and windows will be kept open in those classrooms.

During that March 1 meeting at Altadena Elementary, it was stated that the HVAC inspection reports started the weekend prior and AAM was the first site for the inspections. Do you have an expected posting date for the evaluations and timeline for any corrective actions?

The report summaries will be posted to the website [here](#) prior to school reopening based on grade span. Elementary inspections will be posted on the website on or before April 12, 2021 and Secondary inspections will be posted on or before April 19, 2021.

During the March 1 at Altadena Elementary meeting, it was also stated that the HVAC outdoor air percentage is only 5%. Could this be clarified?

Yes, the air circulation is part of the HVAC system including approximately 5% of fresh air intake. Throughout the district mechanical systems and all other systems comply with applicable code. The percentage of the fresh air into the system is mandated by code (California Energy Code (CEC) requirements) /California Title 24 (T-24) and it is about 5% fresh air intake at any time. The District is complying with the recommendations made by the CDC and ASHRAE to increase outside airflow to mitigate COVID-19 exposure. HVAC system inspections have been completed and the District is complying with recommendations made as a result of the inspections to increase outside airflow to the classrooms.

Is this calculated outdoor air by volume in the classroom? Or is this maximum outdoor air intake into the HVAC system after adjusting dampers?

The volume of the air in each classroom is by engineer design. The fresh air (outside air) is mandated by California Energy Code (CEC/T24) requirements.

Is this a physical constraint, requiring update of the HVAC equipment to increase?

No. There are no physical constraints. All HVAC equipment is factory designed equipment. Every system has a life cycle (range/capacity). With regards to replacing or updating new HVAC systems, all units have a maximum life capacity and, when they become inefficient or insufficient to perform as needed they will be replaced and/or updated.

Is the energy efficiency driven control, requiring only an override of the automated controls?

The district's Energy Management Systems (EMS) complies with mandated state regulation codes. Any mechanical systems will have a manual override built into the system for maintenance and other needed conditions.

Where our inspections have indicated that additional airflow is needed to meet COVID-19 requirements then windows and doors will be opened or repairs have been completed to increase airflow, prior to students returning for in-person instruction.

In the March 8, 2021 District Advisory Committee meeting, there was a question about the plan to address insufficient ventilation in any classroom. At that time, it sounded like the plan was to either open a classroom window or not utilize that classroom space until the ventilation was increased. Will this information be included in each school site safety plan?

Yes. This information will be contained in the inspection report, which will be located on each schools website along with their school site safety plan.

On March 10, 2021, during the Safety Committee meeting, it was noted that CO2 monitors would only be used if a classroom's ventilation might not meet requirements. Will these monitors be used in any elementary classrooms?

The district will use CO2 monitors to randomly assess classrooms for adequate outside air. While we do not feel these monitors are necessary, due to our adherence to the inspection report recommendations, they will be utilized out of an abundance of caution to monitor air flow in classrooms on a random basis.

In the March 10, 2021, during the Safety Committee meeting, it was noted in the "Reopening HVAC preparation Q&A" review that older HVAC systems, specifically at Altadena Arts Magnet included, are functional as long as the temperature does not exceed 92 degrees.

No, Altadena Arts Magnet does have a chiller that sometimes shuts off if the temperature exceeds 92 degrees. However, it just requires that the unit be restarted. This sometimes impacts the temperature of some classrooms but does not impact the ventilation of the room. Should any systems malfunction for any reason during the school day HVAC technicians will be available to address the problem immediately.

Does this mean that the air handling unit is not operational when the outdoor temp exceeds 92 degrees F, reducing fresh air flowing into the classroom?

No, fresh air intake is not related to outside air temperatures. The outside air temperature is managed by Energy Management System which is constantly adjusting the units air flow (CFM) into the building by speed of the pumps and/or compressors.

At Altadena Arts Magnet School, does this mean the chillers are not able to keep up when outdoor temperature reaches 92 degrees, resulting in warmer classrooms?

Based on inspections that have been completed, there is one chiller at Altadena Arts Magnet that will need to be replaced in the future. However, it is working sufficiently at this time to cool the classrooms. The chiller sometimes shuts off once the outside temperature reaches 92 degrees and needs to be restarted. While this sometimes leads to a delay in the classroom being cooled, it has no impact on the amount of outside air flow.

For clarity, what was updated at Altadena Arts Magnet School (perhaps via Measure Y) to install air conditioning and what updates are still needed under Measure O? Parents don't have a clear understanding of previous and future HVAC project timelines.

Altadena had a new hydronic piping system installed in 2001. Also, in 2018, an additional chiller was installed, including the kitchen and the foyer. Inspections of the mechanical/HVAC system recommended that duct repairs were needed to increase outside air flow. These repairs have been completed. The mechanical inspection also recommended that one of the chillers be replaced. This will be done using Measure O funds in the near future. The replacement of the chiller will increase cooling of classrooms but has no impact on the amount of outside air flow into the classroom.

ITS/Technology

How can children charge their Chromebooks at school when the battery is low?

Students should come to school each morning with their Chromebooks fully charged every day. Schools will have loaner devices for students if needed. Elementary schools will have carts with chargers that can be used for charging. Secondary students should bring their chargers with them only to be used if needed.

Will students who are on campus or remote still submit a ticket to the Help Desk for technical issues with their Chromebooks? Who do we contact to extend our Chromebook insurance?

Students on-campus should still submit tickets to the Helpdesk through the [ticket portal](#). Student devices will be refreshed at the beginning of the 2021-22 school year, and insurance will be covered by PUSD.

My children have been using their personal Chromebooks. Are they required to use the District Chromebooks?

All students should have been assigned a PUSD Chromebook when they enrolled. If they did not receive a Chromebook, they would need to contact their school as soon as possible to have a Chromebook checked out to them. Students will be required to use PUSD devices on campus to ensure that they will not have problems connecting to the District's network and accessing District resources.

Will there be newer ones or repaired Chromebooks available for the new school year? If not, can I purchase one for my child?

Students will be assigned new Chromebooks in the 2021-22 school year.

Planning for the Future (Summer School and Fall 2021)

Looking ahead at summer school, what will PUSD offer students who have struggled this year? Are you considering virtual, in-person, or at least the option to attend in person?

We are investigating all the possibilities to serve students both in-person and in a virtual environment.

When does school start in August and do you anticipate following this model then? Can you commit to fully reopening in the Fall?

School begins for 2021-22 on August 12. Options for 2021-22 are not yet determined, but will be based on health conditions at that time. We will communicate with the community throughout the spring and summer.

Could we choose to have remote learning for the upcoming 2021-2022 year?

Options for 2021-22 are not yet determined, but will be based on health conditions at that time. We will communicate with the community throughout the spring and summer.

Are there any plans to extend the school year?

Special Education Extended School Year programs will continue for students with disabilities. For all other students, expanded summer programs will be offered this summer.

Can PEF bring back the Summer Enrichment Program?

PUSD is partnering with PEF, LEARNs, and additional community partners to provide multiple venues for our students.

If students are returning to in-person learning this fall, will students who are not feeling well have the option to attend online?

Options for 2021-22 are not yet determined, but will be based on health conditions at that time. We will communicate with the community throughout the spring and summer.

My senior is failing two classes. Will there be make-up Summer School classes?

Yes, we will offer Credit Recovery summer school classes, and are working to provide as many seats for students as needed.

