



Fall 2020 Operations Update

October 22, 2020

Topics for Presentation and Discussion at this Meeting



- **Fall Conditioning and Season One of Athletics**
- **Challenges and Efforts to having students return to Campus (Limited Basis)**
- **Discussion and Preparation for November 12 Board Meeting**

Fall Conditioning

Scheduled started the week of September 15th (bad air quality)

Consistent Attendance procedures across the district:

- Questions and temperature screening
- Hand sanitizing
- Shared attendance documents with athletic trainer and District
- Reliable contact form filled out by every student athlete
- Every absence recorded with reason

Fall Conditioning at a Glance

Total Athletes Across the District:1162

Average 193 athletes per school

Total Coaches: 120

Average: 20 coaches per school

Aragon	Burlingame	Capuchino	Hillsdale	Mills	San Mateo
Baseball Cross Country Football Softball Boys Volleyball Girls Volleyball Girls Water Polo Boys Water Polo Track and Field	Boys Basketball Girls Basketball Football Girls Volleyball Softball Spirit Squad Boys Water polo Girls Water polo Wrestling	Baseball Boys Basketball Girls Basketball Football Spirit Squad Girls Water Polo	Baseball Cross Country Girls Basketball Boys Basketball Football Swimming Boys Water Polo Girls Water Polo Boys Volleyball Girls Volleyball Wrestling	Boys Basketball Girls Basketball Cross Country Football Spirit Squad Boys Tennis Girls Tennis	Baseball Dance Cheer Cross Country Football Boys Volleyball Girls Volleyball Girls Soccer Spirit Squad Girls Water Polo Boys Water Polo Boys Tennis

Student-Athlete Testimonials

“There has not been a lot of positive things happening in our lives, and it is really sad that we can not be in school or playing our sports right now. If we are allowed to play, I feel that this would impact so many students positively. This affects our mental and physical health and it is some students last year ever being able to play a sport “

“Please let us play. Sports is not just a fun thing for us to do. It gives us an escape from our daily lives which in High School, and especially right now, is extremely stressful. We NEED sports for our lives to be happy and fulfilled again. It's bigger than sports. If sports does not happen, our stress levels will continue to fly up, and some kids only dream or way out may be taken from them. Please consider this, and thank you for your time.”

CIF/CCS Calendar

- Still on track for a December 14th start for Season 1 sports(Cross Country, Football, Boys & Girls Volleyball, Boys & Girls Water Polo)
- CIF Commissioner in communications with the state health department on next steps
- More information should be available in November

Other Athletics/Sports Issues

- Finding coaches for this year's sports season structure will be a unique challenge compared with a typical sports calendar. Covid concerns may also have a small impact on coach staffing.
- Overlapping of sports and facilities will be a challenge.
- The possible lack of access to locker rooms and transportation will be issues that we are planning for.
- Having fans is a secondary concern compared to the primary goal of having students participating in athletics.
- All this said, our conditioning programs are some of the safest and healthiest activities around.
- Athletics could be the only true connection that students have to school this year.
- Finally, thanks to everyone who is engaged in this endeavor

Learning Opportunity Pods/Cohort

- These pods can be around athletics, extracurriculars, activities, clubs or classes
- Pods/Cohorts can be up to 14 students with two adults
- Pods must be stable - no movement of students - same stable group for three week sessions
- A student can be in only one Pod while SM County is in the red tier in terms of infections, this requirement could change if County moves to the Orange tier. Some very narrow exceptions
- If there is a Covid case, all pod participants must be quarantined for 14 days, then resume
- Outside of athletics, it has been hard to have student commitments to pods

Covid Testing

- District has utilized Stanford Teen Health Van for students who have no insurance or are underinsured. The health van has been willing to test staff if there's the possibility of infection. We test 30-50 students and 1-2 positive
- District has outside vendor to service employees if needed
- District has signed service agreement with Curative through the SMCOE, as have many other districts in the County. This will be brought to the Board for final approval in November. One day turnaround to staff and school. Staff testing can be billed through CARES Act
- District cannot require students/families to take Covid test. This cost for underinsured would be need to be budgeted by the district

Recent District COVID Cases in Last Two Weeks

- Testing has led to identification of cases and prevents spread
- One positive student case at PHS
- CHS staff members were exposed to fellow employee who tested positive. All are in quarantine now
- No cases where District operations contributed to COVID spread

Challenges to Potentially Bringing Back Students

K-8 schools and small high schools are opening now or soon. Few if any Bay Area high school examples of reopening. None in our county.

Secondary schools are not constructed to support stable cohorts throughout a school day

Pods/Cohort Model expectations, class changes/lunch, physical movement, and size are different than other schools now opening

Significant challenges to reshuffling classes to account for students/families who would prefer Distance Learning. Schedules and students' teachers would need to be changed for the Spring semester.

Current County Tier Status Updated 10/19

County risk level Substantial The county has been in Substantial (Red) Tier for four weeks. Schools may now reopen for in-person instruction or learning opportunities after submitting Reopening Plans to Office of Education and San Mateo County Health. Cases are gradually declining, but cold weather may increase cases, if San Mateo follows national trends

Questions, Feedback and Next Meeting's Direction

At the November 12 Board meeting, a decision needs to be made about how to start the second semester. What information does the Board need from staff to make that decision? Unless conditions change staff plans to recommend the following:

Potential November 12 Recommendations

- Establish a Task Force made up of teachers, admin, district office, and medical professionals to explore ways to enhance students' experiences, including bringing students on campus for curricular and extracurricular activities
 - The task force will evaluate the benefits and challenges of bringing students back
- Continue consideration of ways to provide in person experiences for students with IEPs or other needs in a safe and educationally sound manner
- Study other districts for how they are progressing in bringing students back, particularly elementary districts in our community

Potential November 12 Recommendations (Continued)

- Support equity initiatives while realizing that distance learning magnifies inequality and remediation/learning loss will have to be a higher priority
- Support students with IEPs who have services that can really only be done in person
- Stay in distance learning for almost all classes for at least the first six weeks of second semester