



Ravenswood City
School District

School Improvement Working Group & Back to Campus Update

January 12, 2021

Agenda

- **Context**
- **COVID Testing**
- **Bringing back urgent learners**



We have three major challenges to tackle at the same time

**Strengthen
Distance Learning**

**More Students on
Campus Safely**

**Long-term
Learning
Acceleration**

Tonight's focus: How to bring more students back on campus safely



Agenda

- Context
- COVID Testing
- Bringing back urgent learners

Weekly COVID testing is now required for Ravenswood staff who come on campus

Ravenswood staff

- RCSD offers free PCR (mouth swab) testing to staff; results come back in ~2-4 days
- Starting in January, weekly testing is now mandatory for all RCSD staff who come on campus

Learning hub staff

- We currently can't offer testing to learning hub staff (our contract through the county only allows us to test our own employees)
- BUT, learning hub staff (and any community members) can get tested on Tuesdays & Wednesdays at CCRMS through our partnership with the city of EPA. We are working on a similar partnership with Menlo Park



Update on our testing provider, Curative

- Curative is company that is providing COVID testing to most districts in the county and many in the Bay Area
- Last week, the FDA raised questions about Curative's accuracy
- County supports continued use of Curative
 - After researching the issue, the County still recommends that districts stick with Curative for testing
 - Curative is submitting updated data to the FDA that is expected to show better accuracy than their initial filings
- We will monitor the situation, and rely on the advice of the scientists at the County Dept of Health



We plan to offer COVID testing to all on-campus students, so we can catch cases before they spread

- We plan to offer testing to any Ravenswood students who are on campus (either with their teacher or in a learning hub)
- Families would sign a waiver so test results can go directly to the families and the district... that way, we could act on any positive cases immediately
- We are developing protocols now, and expect to roll out student testing by February



We are exploring a pilot program to offer rapid (15 min) COVID testing


- The County has offered Ravenswood and 2 other districts the chance to join a free, 8 week rapid antigen testing pilot
- Fast results: in ~15 minutes
- First priority: RCSD and learning hub staff, then all students
- Possible start date: late January / early February
- Still working out logistics to implement



Agenda

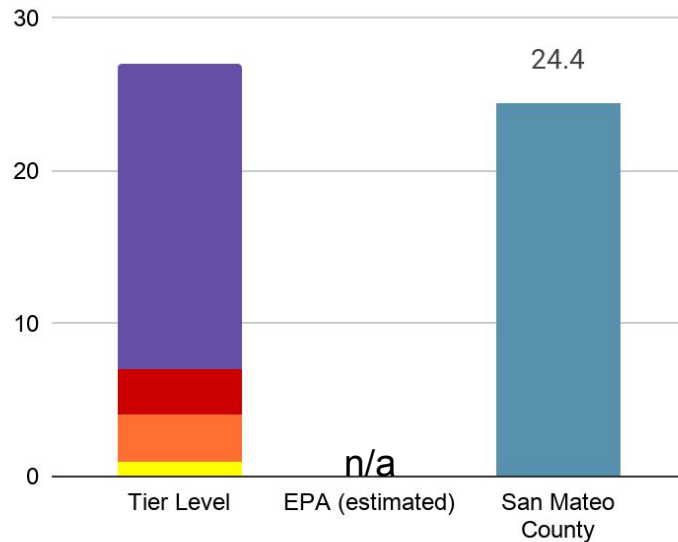
- Context
- COVID Testing
- Bringing back urgent learners

Our county is currently in the most restrictive tier due to the current COVID surge

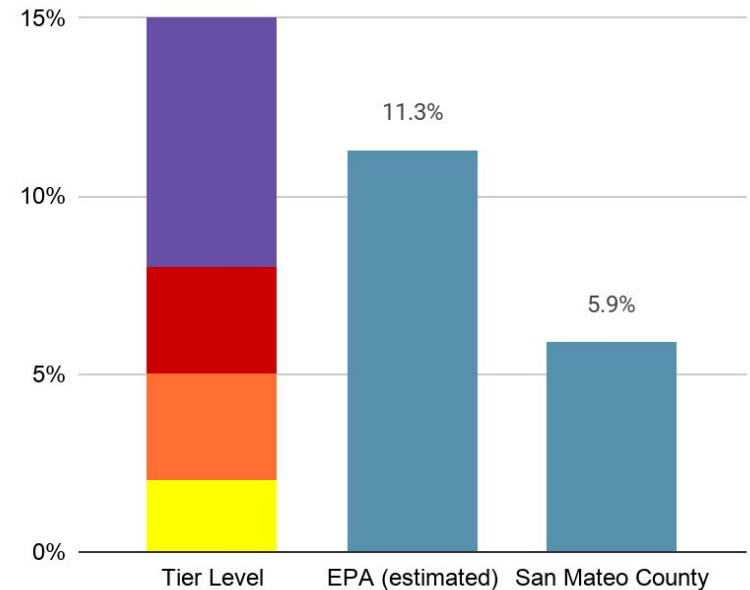
| | New Cases | Positive Tests | |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Purple Tier <i>Need waiver if County is purple</i> | More than 7 daily new cases (per 100k) | More than 8% positive tests |  <p>San Mateo County & EPA are in the purple tier</p> |
| Red Tier <i>No waiver needed</i> | 4 - 7 daily new cases (per 100k) | 5 - 8% positive tests | |
| Orange Tier <i>No waiver needed</i> | 1 - 3.9 daily new cases (per 100k) | 2 - 4.9% positive tests | |
| Yellow Tier <i>No waiver needed</i> | Less than 1 daily new cases (per 100k) | Less than 2% positive tests | |

Unfortunately, our community is being hit even harder than the rest of the area

Daily New Cases (Per 100,000) as of 1/5/2021



COVID Positivity Rate (1/5/21)



Source: San Mateo County New cases, positivity rate, and health equity quartile test positivity: [CA Open Data Portal, Blueprint Data Chart as of 1/5/2021](#)

EPA COVID positivity rate estimate is based on SMC Health Equity Quartile

Source for EPA new cases: Calculations based on [San Mateo County Cases by City](#) (will update once we have historical data to calculate new cases per week)



Our School Improvement Working Group recommends bringing urgent learners back under these conditions:

| If EPA city data would be in this tier... | Which urgent learners could return? | How would we phase them in? |
|---|--|---|
| Purple Tier <i>Need waiver if County is purple</i> | Only TK & Unique Learners (mod / severe special needs) | Very limited, phased return. 1 TK class. Unique learners: 1-3 students at a time for short periods (start w/30-60 mins/day and build) |
| Red Tier (w/2 weeks of declining cases) <i>No waiver needed</i> | TK - 1st Graders, Newcomers Students with special needs | Slow staggered return. Ex: 1 class, grade or school site per week |
| Orange Tier <i>No waiver needed</i> | TK - 1st Graders, Newcomers Students with special needs | Quicker staggered return. Ex: 2 school sites first week, 2 school sites the second week |

Note: We propose to bring back only urgent learner students and staff who volunteer to return, and only when we are confident we can operate a class safely and effectively. All families have the option to stay with distance learning.

We propose to submit a county waiver asking to bring back a TK class and Unique learners

TK Class *at Costano*

- One class of 11 students
- Nearly all want to return, along with teacher
- Students will stay together in a learning hub class afterschool
- Finalizing details w/BCGP, teacher, principal & families

Unique Learners *(Mod/Severe Special Needs)*

- Slow return based on student needs and stamina
- 1-3 students at a time for short periods (start with 30-60 mins per week, and build from there)
- Classes of no more than 9 with teacher + paras
- 31 total possible students in 4 classes (2 in preschool, 1 for K-2nd, 1 for 3-5th)



We already follow strong safety protocols for current staff and learning hub students, and will only proceed if the county approves our waiver application

- We have ~200 students on campus through our learning hubs, and have kept students and staff safe through solid safety protocols, including:
 - *Facemasks and social distancing for all staff and students*
 - *Regular cleaning*
 - *Designated spaces & signage to keep cohorts separate*
 - *Health screening and COVID testing*
- We have updated our Recovery Plan and will submit a waiver for approval by the county office of education and department of health



We are requesting board discussion and direction on our plans to bring more students back on campus

We request board input on and support for:

- The SIWG's recommendations on conditions to bring more students back on campus (slide 13)
- Support for proceeding to bring TK and Unique Learners back on campus as early as January 25, 2021, pending county approval of our waiver application