

Expanding In-Person Instruction for PreK-6 Schools



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Purpose of Presentation

- ▶ To provide the Board of Trustees with information regarding the planning and implementation of increased Elementary in-person instruction days on school campuses.



District Goal Alignment

- ▶ Goal 1: Increase academic achievement and ensure equitable access to enable all students to attain college and career readiness.
 - ▶ *1.1 Ensure Great Instruction First Time (GIFT)*
- ▶ Goal 3: Provide a safe, welcoming, and respectful learning environment for every member of the school community while ensuring effective district-wide communication for students, staff, families, and community partners.



Public Health Guidance

- ▶ The **MCS PreK-6 COVID Safety Plan** meets all of the State and Local COVID health & safety protocol parameters.
- ▶ Reopening Plan was **approved** by Public Health in late October and PreK-6 schools reopened in a hybrid schedule with Cohorts A & B on **November 12, 2020**.
- ▶ **Updated COVID Safety Plan** was completed on **February 1, 2021** to reflect most recent Public Health guidelines issued on January 14, 2021. Approved by State and Local Public Health.



Updated Public Health Guidance

- ▶ The Center for Disease Control (CDC) issued health and safety recommendations on February 12, 2021.
- ▶ These recommendations do not replace or supercede the existing guidelines from the California Department of Public Health or local health officials.
- ▶ We are required to take direction from the CDPH and/or County Public Health Officials and to follow their requirements. Not all CDC recommendations apply.



Expanding K-6 In-Person Instruction

- ▶ Stanislaus County Public Health experts recently provided updated guidance to allow for combining of current cohorts.
- ▶ Current daily cohort attendance...
- ▶ To combine the cohort classes, school sites must maintain desk / physical distancing of a **minimum of 4 feet** as well as other COVID health & safety protocols. (NOTE: The recommended spacing is 6 feet, but 4 feet is the minimum per the updated guidelines.)



Merging of Cohorts A & B

- ▶ Planning to potentially increase in-person learning options for PreK-6 students to 4 or 5 days per week.
- ▶ Each school is evaluating the daily “in-person” capacity of each grade-level classroom.



Family Commitments: Decision Making Time

- ▶ Elementary schools will be contacting families this week...
- ▶ Families must commit to either of these options (through May 27, 2021):
 - Returning to in-person learning (potentially 4 or 5 days per week)
 - OR*
 - 100% Distance learning with concurrent instruction for families who are not comfortable with their student returning in-person.
- ▶ *This commitment is necessary in order for each school to maximize the in-person learning opportunities for each student.*



If Requests Exceed Capacity

- ▶ If a classroom receives more commitments for in-person instruction than can be accommodated, adjustments will be made to maximize learning days.
- ▶ Researching best practices from other Districts and working with Public Health.
More to come...



Next Steps

- ▶ School sites contacting families the week of February 22 to obtain their commitment to either in-person attendance or 100% distance learning.
 - ▶ Commitment through May 27, 2021.
- ▶ Cohorts could potentially be merged to increase in-person days targeting early-to-mid-March (proposed).



Questions?

