

# Update on BUSD's School Reopening Plan

March 10, 2021

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Berkeley Unified School District

# This Evening's Meeting

1. Staff Vaccination and Reopening Timeline
2. Elementary Reopening
3. Middle and High School Reopening
4. COVID Safety in BUSD Schools



## Staff Vaccinations and Reopening Timeline

Through a partnership with the City of Berkeley, vaccination appointments have been offered for all BUSD employees, beginning with those currently working in our on-campus cohorts and progressing through grade levels and departments.

On Campus Phase 1 Cohorts

PK-5

Middle and High School

All District-Level Staff

## Our School Reopening Timeline is on track

March 29:

Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, and K-2

April 5-9:

Spring Recess: *We strongly advise families and staff not to travel*

April 12:

Grades 3-5; Grades 6-8; ninth grade at Berkeley High School;  
Berkeley Technology Academy, Berkeley Independent Studies

April 19: Grades 10-12 at Berkeley High School



"Phase 1"

of BUSD's Reopening Plans

## Expanded Phase 1 -- Leading the Way!



	By Next Week	
	Staff on Campus	Approximate Children on Campus
Elementary	55	400
Middle School	24	200
High School	42	400

This brief phase in our reopening plans allows all our school staff to support students with the highest level of needs, implement critical safety procedures, and gear up for our larger return to campus.

# Elementary Reopening

March 29, TK - 2  
April 12, Grades 3-5

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# In-Person Learning at BUSD's Elementary Schools

## March - June, 2021

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Arrival at about 9:00					
Afternoon	Dismissal at about 1:30					
After School Program	Until 5:30					

- Arrival and Dismissal Times will be staggered to prevent the mixing of stable groups
- Parents, guardians, and other visitors will not be permitted on campus
- Face coverings are required for all students at all times, except in cases of documented medical exemptions
- Some teachers may work in Distance Learning, and these students could be assigned to substitute teacher

Distance  
Learning  
  
Elementary  
Schools  
  
April - June,  
2021

9:00	Whole Class Distance Learning Session
10:00	Group A Distance Learning Session
11:00	Group B Distance Learning Session
1:00	Whole Class Distance Learning Session
2:00	Specialist Instruction

*\*Still being bargained*

Students in Distance Learning will be regrouped and assigned to a Distance Learning teacher. This will be a different teacher.

# Elementary Family Enrollment Form

We ask that all elementary families complete a binding enrollment form to choose in-person learning or distance learning.

The form is due back by Thursday at noon.

We acknowledge that this timing is very tight, and we appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

After four weeks, some limited number of adjustments to families' choices may be possible.

## Elementary Campus Preparation Days

During the week prior to school reopening, we will shift to several days of a Wednesday Distance Learning schedule to permit teachers and school staff to complete their final on-campus preparations for in-person learning.

### Final School Set-Up

### Room Set-Up

- Six feet of social distancing between all individuals
- Some classes may be moved to larger instructional spaces
- If needed, adjustment to no less than four feet of spacing between student chairs (per CDPH)

### Staff Trainings

- Common COVID Safety Practices (video)
- Key BUSD Safety Practices (live remote training)
- Campus Orientation (in-person)
- Q&A Follow Up Sessions with District Staff

Pre-K

TK-Grade 3

Grades 3-5

Middle  
Schools,  
BTA, BIS,  
and U9

Grades  
10-12

Wednesday DL  
Schedule

March 23-26\*

March 23-26\*

March 30 - April 2\*

TBD

TBD

*\*Tentative*

# Middle and High School Reopening

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## Middle and High Schools are Different from Elementary Schools

*Achieving a limited number of stable groups is still strongly encouraged by CDPH*

But students move from class to class every period of the day

*Maintaining 4-6 feet of social distancing is required*

But Middle and High Schools class sizes are larger than Elementary schools

Classrooms at BHS are among the smallest in the district

Hallways are very crowded

*Supporting In-Person Learning for 75% of students and Distance Learning for 25% of students is required*

But middle and high school master schedules have dozens or even hundreds possible student schedules.

We continue to look at this hybrid model for our secondary schools.

- Distance Learning in the morning
- In-Person Instruction in the afternoon
- After-School Program and Activities

Overview for Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri	
<u>AM</u> Distance Learning As Is	9:00 - 11:45 AM
Lunch, Transition to School, Screening, & Teacher Prep	11:45 - 1:15 PM
<u>PM</u> Group A or B at School	1:15 - 3:15 PM
After School Program	3:15 - 6:00 PM

*These times are approximations, and are subject to bargaining*

# COVID Safety In BUSD Schools

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## The Science

Read about the science and evidence that has informed our approach for safe and successful in-person instruction during this COVID-19 pandemic.

**View** →

Children Get COVID-19 Less Frequently and Have Less Severe Disease

Children with COVID-19 Most Often Get It from a Household Contact

Transmission Among or from Students Is Uncommon

Low Risk of Transmission in Elementary Schools

Core strategies include: masks; physical distancing; small, stable groups; hand hygiene; ventilation; screening for symptoms or close contact; and asymptomatic testing.

Testing Students and Staff with Symptoms Can Prevent Outbreaks

# Key Safety Practices

Berkeley Unified School District



Face Coverings

Social Distancing

Stable Groups

Hand Washing and Sanitizing

Cleaning

Ventilation

Vaccines for Staff

Surveillance Testing

Contact Tracing/Quarantines

We urge our families to recognize:

- All students will be expected to wear face coverings.
- Contact Tracing, Isolation and Quarantine procedures will be strictly enforced, and this could lead to disruption for individual students, classes, or even entire schools.
- All families are expected to confirm that their children are free of COVID symptoms every day.
- Students should remain at home if they are sick or have COVID symptoms.
- All visitors to school campuses and classrooms are prohibited, except for a few limited volunteer roles.
- Substitute staffing will continue be highly limited.

The pandemic is not over, and we'll need each other to stay safe!

Patience, kindness, and cooperation will be important for all of us.

## The Fall of 2021

For the Fall, all families, K-12, should expect their children to be on campus five full days per week.

Special arrangements for families who request Distance Learning will be developed.

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March 2020 -  
March 2021



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# Thank You!

Our Students, Parents, and Guardians

All Our BUSD Staff

Our Labor Partners

City of Berkeley

Nutrition Services Staff

EdHub Volunteers

Custodial, Maintenance, and Facilities

Teachers teaching from classroom and home

BACR, Kids Village, and Lawrence Hall of Science

Elementary Cohort and Athletic Condition staff

Fiscal Services, Tech Workers and all other Central Office Staff