



# Reopening Handbook

*Presentation to AoA Board*

November 19, 2020

The Academy of Alameda  
Public Schools

# Background

- As of 11/10, 82 schools and/or districts in Alameda County had reopened or had their reopening plans [on file with the county](#).
  - Virtually all (with the exception of Piedmont Unified and Pleasanton Unified) are private schools
  - Alameda, Oakland, and other nearby districts appear poised to reopen in early 2021 beginning with the youngest grades
- Virtually every study of transmission in schools--in US and abroad--suggests that schools are not super-spreaders
  - If there's COVID in the community, there will be COVID in the school
  - However, schools/children do not appear to accelerate the spread of COVID in a community (unlike virtually every other virus)
  - Thus, while health and safety protocols are very important, it's also critical to monitor local case counts and positivity rates



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# Introduction

- Handbook reflects current guidance and advice from ACDPH, CDPH, and the CDC. Handbook will be updated as new information is received.
- It's important to note that if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID, the AoA COVID response team would work very closely with ACDPH to ensure that the most up-to-date protocols are followed.



# *Sections to be Reviewed This Evening*

- Community Expectations
- Health and Safety Protocols
- Contact Tracing



# ***Community Expectations***



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# All Families/Students and Staff Are Expected To . . .

- Follow state, local, and federal orders related to COVID-19
- Notify school immediately if someone in your household tests positive
- Stay home if sick.
- Stay home if exposed.
- Avoid unnecessary travel. If traveling outside of the regional area or state, notify the school and you may be asked to stay home for 14 days.
- Participate in daily health screenings and temperature checks.
- Wear a face mask at all times.

*\*\*\*With health and safety as our top priority, we implore students, staff, and families to also minimize personal risk by avoiding high-risk activities such as attending large gatherings. Community members who do not follow this guidance and who come to the AoA campus are putting others in our community at risk.*



# ***Health and Safety Protocols: The “Safety Lasagna”***





## *Three Layers:*

- Layer 1: Prevent cases from coming into the school
- Layer 2: If a case gets in, prevent it from spreading
- Layer 3: If a case spreads in school, prevent it from causing an out-of-school outbreak



## *Layer 1: Prevent Cases From Coming Into School*

- Ongoing communication with families and staff about how one's personal choices affect the community
- Daily health screener in ParentSquare
- Staggered drop off times and locations
- Daily temperature checks for students and staff
- Weekly testing for all staff



## *Layer 2: If a case gets in, prevent it from spreading.*

- Masks worn by students and staff at all times
- Social distancing, including students sitting at least six feet apart in the classroom. Plexiglass shields where needed.
- Hand washing, hand sanitizing, hand washing, hand sanitizing. On repeat.
- Keep windows open, increase ventilation through upgraded HVAC system filters (MERV-13, highest industry standard), air purifiers in rooms and offices.



## *Layer 3: Prevent an outbreak in the community*

- Stable cohorts of no more than 15 students per group
- Comprehensive plan for communication and contact tracing



# Questions



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