



SAN DIEGO FRENCH-AMERICAN SCHOOL COVID-19 RISK MITIGATION PLAN 2021-2022

Version: AUGUST 25, 2021

Satisfying requirements updated on July 12, 2021 as set forth by
the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) within the
[COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2021-22 School Year](#)

Mission

San Diego French-American School offers an exceptional bilingual education within a vibrant international community, preparing students to become confident, responsible and engaged global citizens.

Core Values

Open-mindedness. Intellectual Curiosity. Integrity. Empathy. Resilience.

School Information

School Name: **San Diego French-American School (SDFAS)**

School Address: **6550 Soledad Mountain Road, La Jolla, CA 92037**

School Type: **Private School**

Name of School District, Charter School System or Private School System: **N/A**

Calendared start date for 2021-2022 school year: **Friday, August 27, 2021**

Philosophy

Take into consideration with utmost respect the perspectives and opinions of every member of our school community, and notably find middle ground between risk-aversion and risk-tolerant community members. Be adaptable and make adjustments as deemed necessary based on the evolving nature of the Covid-19 situation in our County.

Guiding Principles

- Reopen using effective risk-mitigation policies, procedures, and protocols while at the same time maintaining a steadfast commitment to our school's mission and core values
 - The health, safety, and wellbeing of students, employees, and families come first and are our top priority
 - Prefer in-person and on-campus learning when permitted by local authorities and at the same time offer, when necessary, a high-quality distance learning option.
 - Act, educate, and communicate with clarity, respect, and transparency.
 - Be flexible, creative, adaptive.
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Planning, Consultation & Advisory Groups

Purpose

- Meet regularly in-person or by Zoom
 - Conduct and share research, plan, prepare, propose and make decisions
 - Designate responsibilities and establish timelines and priorities
 - Ensure information sharing between Board, Administration, Faculty, Staff, Parents & Students
 - Provide regular updates to the community
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Senior Leadership: COVID-19 Response Team

Mark Rosenblum, Head of School

Emmanuel Poulain, Director of Finance and Operations

Marilyn Rakow RN BSN, School Nurse & Pandemic Coordinator

Kevin Saidler, Director of Communications

Sophie Ricouard, Academic Director of Pre-Elementary

Babeth Esterly, Administrative Director of Pre-Elementary

Francis Carlier, Director of Elementary

Tom Faure, Director of Middle School, English Program Coordinator PK-8

Marion Addo, MS Coordinator, French Program Coordinator PK-8, and MS French Teacher

Paula Marra, Director of Enrichment Programs

Erin Stoller, Social-Emotional Learning Advisor

Carrie Haugh, School Counselor

Board of Trustees: COVID-19 Advisory Group

Fernanda Coelho, Board Chair & SDFAS Preschool and Elementary Parent; President at Coelho Consulting, previously Chief Business Development Officer of Human Longevity,

President of SGI-DNA, and Senior VP at Synthetic Genomics
Kyndra Leach, Vice-Chair of the Board & SDFAS Elementary Parent; *Consultant at Dexcom*
Emiline Cairncross, Vice-Chair of the Board & SDFAS Preschool Parent; *Attorney*
Teresa Sekiguchi, Treasurer of the Board, Alumni Parent; *Managing Partner at Riptide Global Solutions Inc.*
Etienne Chaponnière, Secretary of the Board and SDFAS Elementary Parent; *Vice President, Technical Standards at Qualcomm*
Janice Murabayashi, Trustee; *Academic Dean at The Bishop's School*

Parents: COVID-19 Consultation Group

Francesca Torriani MD, Former Trustee & Alumni Parent; *Infectious Disease Specialist and Medical Director at UCSD, Professor of Medicine at UCSD Health specializing in Infection Prevention and Clinical Epidemiology*
Hala Madanat, MA Ph.D., Elementary Parent; *Vice President for Research & Innovation, Formerly, Director of the School of Public Health at SDSU*
Kim Goodwin MD, Middle School Parent; *Obstetrics & Gynecology, Sharp Mary Birch Hospital for Women and Newborns, West Coast OB/GYN (Private Practice)*
Michael Griesinger MD, "Maternelle" and Elementary Parent; *Emergency Physician at Kaiser Permanente*
Lisa Lowe Hiller MD MPH FACEP, Elementary and Middle School Parent; *Emergency Physician & Clinical Instructor, UCSD Health Systems, UCSD School of Medicine, and VA San Diego HealthCare*
Alexis Nahama DVM, Trustee & Elementary Parent; *SVP at Corporate Development at Sorrento Therapeutics, President, Art Animal Health*
Kurt Oreshack ESQ, Trustee & Elementary Parent; *Partner at Breakwater Law Group, LLP with expertise in life sciences, healthcare, and biotechnology, including genomics and medical devices*

Government Agencies: COVID-19 Guidelines & Regulations

CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDPH: California Department of Public Health
Cal/OSHA: California Occupational Safety and Health Agency
CDE: California Department of Education
CDSS: California Department of Social Services
HHSA: San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency
SDCOE: San Diego County Office of Education
AAP: American Academy of Pediatrics

School Networks (American & French): COVID-19 Best Practices

San Diego Independent Schools Groups: (1) Heads of School (2) School Nurses

CAIS: California Association of Independent Schools

NAIS: National Association of Independent Schools

AFSA: Association of French Schools in North America

AEFE: Agency for the Teaching of French Abroad

MLF America & MLF World: Mission Laïque Française

MEN: French National Ministry of Education

Pandemic Coordination & Response

Pandemic Coordinator

The person responsible to implement and monitor this plan is: **Marilyn Rakow, School Nurse (nurse@sdfrenchschool.org)** reachable by phone at 858-456-2807 ext 309. In her absence and in the following order: Division Directors, Director of Enrichment Programs, Front Office Manager, Head of School, and DFO.

Response Team

The School Nurse & Pandemic Coordinator (designated SDFAS Liaison with local health authorities), Head of School, Director of Finance and Operations, Division Directors, Director of Enrichment Programs, School Counselor, Social-Emotional Learning Advisor, as needed and as members of the School's COVID-19 Response Team. They are together responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns (and each authorized to act in the absence of the School Nurse & Pandemic Coordinator). As per above, staff, students, and parents will be instructed to contact them in the absence of the School Nurse and Pandemic Coordinator to consult, verify protocols and their implementation, or respond to any Covid issue that arises.

Responsibilities

- Document and track potential exposures and positive cases
 - Conduct on-campus contact tracing
 - Notify local health officials and provide them with the requested information, including lists of names, contact information, school functions for staff as needed
 - Notify parents when merited via school email communication as detailed further below
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Updated Policies, Protocols & Procedures for 2021/22

1. Covid Response and Communication Protocol

1A. Symptomatic Student

One way the School can reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 is by screening for signs or symptoms of illness. Parents will be asked to help screen their students prior to leaving home in the morning. Throughout the day students will be expected, if old enough, to self-monitor for signs of illness. Teachers and other SDFAS staff will also be closely monitoring students throughout the day for signs of illness.

The following plan has been adopted from the [San Diego Office of Education COVID Decision Tree](#).

Regardless of vaccination status, students exhibiting symptoms of COVID are not able to come on campus until cleared to do so by the school nurse. If already at school, they will be isolated (with supervision) until parents are able to come and pick them up.

Clearance following symptoms requires the following:

1. A negative PCR COVID test result (regardless of vaccination status)
2. The student has been fever-free for 24hrs without medication that lower a fever
3. The student's symptoms must be improving
4. The student has been at home for 24hrs

Symptoms of COVID include:

Fever (temperature >100.0F), cough, shortness of breath, nasal congestion, runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, new loss of taste/smell, new and unexplained headache, muscle or body aches, poor feeding or poor appetite.

If symptoms manifest at home:

If your child is experiencing symptoms of COVID at home (regardless of vaccination status), please keep your child at home and email the school nurse, your student's teacher, and division director.

If symptoms are observed on campus:

If a student is observed to have a symptom of COVID on campus, they will be isolated immediately in the infirmary. Parents (and, if unreachable, one of the student's emergency contacts) will be called and expected to make arrangements to come and pick up the student as soon as possible (within an hour to the extent possible). The student will remain isolated and under supervision of the school nurse (or if unavailable, by a designated administrator or staff member). Further instructions will be provided to the parents over the phone and in writing, including instructions on how to get their student tested at no cost to the parents.

If an employee manifests symptoms on campus:

Employees who are isolated will be asked to return home by their own means if they are well enough to do so. If this is not the case, the school will make an alternative arrangement to assist the employee in returning home or to get medical attention.

Serious injury or illness:

For serious injury or illness, the nurse, an administrator, or anybody else on the scene will know to call 9-1-1 without delay. Medical attention will be immediately sought if COVID-19 symptoms become severe, including persistent pain or pressure in the chest, confusion, or bluish lips or face. The SDFAS school nurse will regularly consult the [CDC's webpage](#) for updates and further details.

1B. Protocol for Positive Covid-19 Cases on Campus

Isolation (10d), campus return (with a PCR negative), and exemption from testing (90d)

Any student/staff diagnosed with COVID by a positive PCR test or by their doctor must remain in isolation for 10 full days. They may return to school after 10 full days of quarantine if they have been fever-free for the last 24hrs without fever-reducing medications, and their symptoms are improving. Students/staff who test positive for COVID are exempt from screening/testing for 90 days following their positive test, as they are presumed immune and may continue to test positive for those first 90 days.

Physician's note to return to Physical Education or Sports League (once authorized)

All COVID-positive students must have a letter from their doctor officially clearing them to resume physical activity and Physical Education class. This is because there have been cases of cardiac events after students have been diagnosed with COVID due to vascular inflammation.

Siblings who are immediate household members of any COVID positive individual

The COVID-positive student's siblings (or parents especially if SDFAS staff) may also be required to quarantine for up to 24 days depending on the age of the positive case, age of the sibling, the layout of the home, and ability of the COVID-positive student to fully isolate from the rest of the family.

1C. Communication Protocol: Positive Covid Cases & Close Contacts

The below communications will be sent as soon as is feasibly possible, and in the following chronological order, dependent on the responsiveness of parents, contact tracing, and available information.

1. **Notification.** Communication from the School to the positive COVID case and their parents/guardians as per below:
 1. If you receive a positive COVID test result for your child, please call the school immediately at 858-456-2807.
 2. If a positive case is discovered through pooled surveillance testing on campus, the school nurse or headmaster will contact parents.
2. **Containment.** Parents of the COVID positive student will be asked to keep the student at home or to be picked up immediately if on campus (ASAP).
3. **Contact Tracing.** Contact tracing will be conducted on an ongoing basis with the COVID positive student and their parents to determine the extent of any exposure (ASAP, close contacts will be contacted as they are discovered through contact tracing).
4. **Notification to Cohort.** Communication via phone and email will be sent out to the cohort with the COVID positive student or staff member. (Within an hour to the best of our abilities subject to circumstances surrounding the case). If contact tracing, protocol, or if specifically directed by the Epidemiology Branch of HHSA, parents will be instructed to pick up their students (and siblings if applicable) as soon as possible.
5. **Courtesy Communication #1 - Siblings in other cohorts:** A courtesy communication will be emailed to any cohort with siblings of students in the affected cohort(s).
6. **Courtesy communication #2: All SDFAS Faculty and Staff**
7. **Courtesy communication #3: All SDFAS Community**
8. **Reporting:** County of San Diego Department of Public Health Services (if PK, also to CDSS community care licensing) will be contacted by the School Nurse & Pandemic Coordinator in her role as Country liaison.

1D. Close Contacts

A "close contact" is a person who is determined to likely to have been in proximity to a COVID-19 positive individual occurred anytime between 48 hours before the COVID-19 positive individual's symptoms began (or, for asymptomatic Covid positive individuals, 48 hours prior to test specimen collection), or any time that the COVID-19 positive individual is required to be isolated, and the contact:

1. Were within 6 feet of a COVID-19 positive individual for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period; or
2. Had unprotected contact with the body fluids and/or secretions (including, but not limited to, being coughed on or sneezed on, sharing utensils, or drinking out of the same container) of a COVID-19 positive individual.

1E. SDFAS Protocol for Close Contacts on Campus (and their Siblings)

I am a vaccinated student or staff member:

- No quarantine is needed if you are asymptomatic
- Test day 3-5
- Requirement to follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., wearing at all times indoors and outdoors, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure
- If you develop COVID symptoms within 14 days of close contact, inform the School Nurse as you must be COVID tested immediately
- Unvaccinated siblings (of any age): same as above. Vaccinated siblings exempt from quarantine and testing

I am an unvaccinated staff member (if any):

- Quarantine for 10 days (returned on day 11)
- Test on or after day 5
- Requirement to follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., wearing at all times indoors and outdoors, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure
- If COVID symptoms occur during quarantine or 14 days following exposure, inform the School Nurse as you must be COVID tested immediately
- Staff children (of any age): same as above. Vaccinated siblings exempt from quarantine and testing

I am an unvaccinated PK student:

- Quarantine for 14 days (return on day 15). Shortening quarantine through negative Covid testing is not possible (per CDPH and County)
- Test on or after day 11 (per SDFAS)
- Requirement to follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., wearing at all times indoors and outdoors, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure
- If COVID symptoms occur during quarantine, inform the School Nurse as you must be COVID tested immediately
- Unvaccinated siblings (of any age): Quarantine for 7 days with testing on or after day 6 and return on day 8. Please note unvaccinated siblings are not defined as close by CDPH or County. As an added layer of risk mitigation, SDFAS policy requires siblings (PK and K-8) to follow this guideline. Vaccinated siblings exempt from quarantine and testing

I am an unvaccinated K-8 student or member of staff (exposure with masking):

Quarantine is NOT required. You may continue to attend SDFAS on campus if you are asymptomatic and you adhere to the below requirements:

- You wear a mask at all times indoors and outdoors
- You and your siblings undergo twice-weekly COVID testing for 10-days
- You will not be able to attend extracurricular activities at school (study hall, extended

- care, after school activities, clubs, etc.) for 10 days
- Requirement to follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., wearing at all times indoors and outdoors, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure
- If COVID symptoms occur during quarantine or 14 days following exposure, inform the School Nurse as you must be COVID tested immediately

I am an unvaccinated K-8 student (exposure with either or both parties unmasked):

- Quarantine for 7 days before returning to SDFAS on day 8.
- Test on or after day 6
- Requirement to follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., wearing at all times indoors and outdoors, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure
- If COVID symptoms occur during quarantine or 14 days following exposure, inform the School Nurse as you must be COVID tested immediately
- Unvaccinated siblings (of any age): same as above. Vaccinated siblings exempt from quarantine and testing

1F. Access to Plan and Training

Access to the updated Covid-19 Risk Mitigation Plan

SDFAS will provide access to the School's updated COVID-19 Risk Mitigation and Response Plan for 2021/22 (to the public and entire SDFAS community via the dedicated COVID-19 webpage accessible on the School's website through a button visible on the website's home page).

Training prior to commencement of the school year and ongoing thereafter

Faculty, staff, and parents will be trained prior to the commencement of the school year, and throughout the school year, on COVID prevention and risk mitigation policies, protocols and procedure, as well as how to effectively teach and train students in age appropriate ways that account for their differing levels of maturity and development.

1G. Information Sharing and Confidentiality

Overview

Communication of information, reminders, and any important plan updates and reminders related to COVID-19 matters or the SDFAS Plan will occur through a variety of digital written or live virtual means. These methods will also be used to share information with, educate or inform all or certain groups from among our school community of stakeholders (as is appropriate given the nature of the information being shared or discussed). This will be done on a regular basis, and more specifically through the means of emails (and text messages for truly urgent alerts) to faculty, staff and parents, posting of information on our website and/or within the online Parent Portal accessible to parents, occasional sharing of videos with faculty and staff and/or parents,

as well as by written communication and document sharing designed to inform and educate.

Confidentiality

SDFAS will maintain communication systems that allow staff and families to self-report symptoms and receive prompt notifications of exposures and closures, while maintaining confidentiality, as required by our state's constitutional clauses on privacy, HIPPA (if applicable), FERPA (if applicable) and any other related and applicable state or federal laws related to the privacy of student health and medical information and educational records.

CMIA authorization form

Each student and staff member is required to sign a form authorizing the sharing to SDFAS of personal COVID related health information including testing and vaccination status.

Point persons for self-reporting:

Pandemic Coordinator

The SDFAS school nurse will be the main point person to whom students, parents and employees will be encouraged by the school to self-report. In the nurse's absence, the director of each division takes on this role.

Magnus Health platform:

The SDFAS School Nurse (designated COVID-19 Liaison) will maintain health information and health records, including any information related to COVID-19 on campus using the school's newly acquired student and employee health management platform called *Magnus Health*. This multi-functional digital space links with our student information system FACTS which facilitates communication by email and/or text message to individual parents or employees or groups. At the same time, *Magnus Health* is designed to safeguard health data as required by FERPA and state law related to privacy of educational records.

1H. SDFAS Plan Compliance

For compliance, time during division level faculty meetings as well as during administrative meetings will be dedicated to sharing observations about what is working well, not working as effectively as it might, and what needs improvement as concerns both students and faculty/staff and the degree of their compliance with protocols and procedures. Anecdotal information shared by students and employees as well as anonymous surveys may also be considered as a means to gather data. Information of this nature will inform the school's comfort level and degree of confidence with respect to the school's enactment of the SDFAS Plan at any given moment in time and, as deemed appropriate or necessary, make changes to it and/or further enhance the community's efforts. In addition, we will survey parents from time to time to gather their observations. During the initial phases of implementation, these will be used to understand any factors preventing or reducing compliance and help the school to have the data it will need to make any necessary changes after discussion about feedback received on both an

administrative level and with faculty and staff.

1I. COVID-19 Workplace Investigations

SDFAS will investigate any COVID-19 illness and determine if any work-related factors could have contributed to risk of infection. Investigations will be coordinated by the school's designated COVID-19 Liaison (SDFAS School Nurse) and overseen by the Head of School. Should it be determined that any work-related factors contributed to the risk of infection, protocols will be updated and faculty, staff and parents will be trained again, as necessary.

1J. Managing Outbreaks

Overview

The school will Implement necessary processes and protocols for responding to outbreaks or suspected outbreaks in accordance with CDPH guidelines.

In the case of an outbreak or suspected outbreak the school has designated a COVID-19 coordinator (SDFAS School Nurse) who will serve as liaison between the school and the local health authorities. She will be assisted as needed by the Head of School (headmaster@sdfrenchschool.org) and/or Director of Finance and Operations (dfo@sdfrenchschool.org) or in their absence by another senior administrator.

The SDFAS COVID-19 Liaison (or, if unavailable, the Head of School or his designee or any other member of the administrative team) will report information on any and all reported positive cases, in as timely a fashion as possible, to the County of San Diego Department of Public Health Service.

Reporting to government and health agencies

The school will also contact the local health department(s) in any jurisdiction(s) where a COVID-19 positive individual(s) reside(s) and inform them about the outbreak or suspected outbreak. If ever it were to be necessary, the school will report to the Cal/OSHA District Office serious injury, illness, or death, including hospitalization and death from COVID-19, even if school- or work-relatedness is uncertain.

Notification to the school community

The school will notify the school community (families and employees, as soon as is practicable, by email(s) and/or text message(s), and then regularly communicate with the school community (families and employees) important information and urgent updates on the status of the outbreak and potential class or school closure(s). This school follows the same process as concerns all instances of cases and exposures at the school. The school will also notify any visitors to campus and any temporary, contract, or other vendors or agencies that had employees on campus during the period of the outbreak. All information communicated to school families, staff, public health officials, or to the broader community or media outlets, will be done in a manner that maintains confidentiality to the degree feasible, as required by FERPA (if

applicable), HIPAA (if applicable), the state constitution, and state laws related to the privacy of individuals and the privacy of educational records.

Collaboration with County health authorities

If there is a known or suspected outbreak in the school or if there are multiple laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 in multiple classes, grade levels or cohorts at the school, the school will work in coordination with County of San Diego local health authorities to plan and coordinate a situation-specific response to the outbreak that meets the needs of the school to the extent practicable while at the same time following specific instructions and/or requests for information issued by local health authorities in San Diego. SDFAS will conduct campus contract tracing and provide all relevant resulting information to local health authorities if and as requested.

1K. Preparation for Repeated Closures (Triggers and Protocols)

Overview

SDFAS is prepared for the possibility of repeated closures of classes, groups, sections of the campus or the entire campus when persons associated with the schools, on campus or in the community become ill with COVID-19. The school has established triggers and protocols for responding if and when scenarios of this nature occur.

Our school intends to work with County of San Diego public health officials to determine triggers for switching to distance learning and will be following the recommended measures provided by the County of San Diego Epidemiology.

Partial campus closure

Certain classes/cohorts or sections of the campus may close if there are positive case(s) on campus in one or more class(es) or grade(s) or cases involving one or more teachers/staff members.

Total campus closure

The entire campus may need to close following CDPH guidelines if there are multiple cases in multiple classes/cohorts, or if 5% or the total number of teachers/students/staff are COVID-19 positive cases within a 14 day period, or by order of the San Diego County Health Officer resulting from a public health investigation or other local epidemiological data warranting closure. The school will temporarily close off the primary classroom(s) or office(s) where the COVID-19 positive person was located and will not allow usage of these areas until after cleaning and disinfecting. The school will do the same as determined necessary for any additional areas of the school visited other than relatively briefly or in passing by the COVID-19 positive person. The school will typically wait 24 hours before deep cleaning and disinfecting by the school's third party contractor Pacific Building Maintenance. In addition to spray misting and

wiping and atomized fogging, electrostatic spraying is another option available to SDFAS upon request in such situations where merited as one part of the deep cleaning and disinfecting process. If it is not possible or feasible to wait 24 hours for deep cleaning and disinfection of a space (certain bathroom spaces for example) the school will wait as long as logically practicable prior to having the space worked on for deep cleaning and disinfection.

1L. External organizations and volunteers on campus

All adults approved to be on campus (volunteers and individuals from external organizations) who provide services to SDFAS are subject to the vaccine mandate and must comply with SDFAS COVID masking policy. There is no testing requirement for approved volunteers and individuals from external organizations.

1M. Parents / Visitors on Campus

Overview

No parents on campus until further notice, except for PK parents at drop off and pick up.
Exception: meetings with administrators, with masking, and with *virtual* always offered as an option if preferred by parents.

Approved visitors on campus regardless of vaccination status will be required to wear masks at all times indoors and outdoors. There is no vaccine requirement or COVID testing requirement for visitors.

Parent events by cohort on and off campus

An anticipated and hoped-for approval for a limited number of school-structured events and Community Association gatherings, with risk mitigation protocols in place and including with parents outside, masked and grouped together respecting the same cohort groupings as those of students (PK0, PK1, PK2, Kindergarten, 1st grade, 2nd grade, grades 3-5, and 6-8 are each a separate cohort.)

1N. Volunteers

Vaccination

All volunteers coming to the SDFAS campus MUST either have submitted in advance their vaccination card to prove fully vaccinated status; or, if arriving to volunteer for the first time, show the School Nurse their vaccination card, ID and provide contact details *upon arrival* in order for this information to be kept on file at SDFAS.

Background Check (AliveScan clearance)

Additionally, all volunteers who will be working on campus more than 16 hours/week must undergo a fingerprint scan through AliveScan. Please contact the school nurse to obtain the form (and instructions) before making an appointment with AliveScan.

Checklist of requirements

Please find attached a comprehensive [checklist](#) of what you need to provide in order to volunteer at SDFAS. Enclosed [here](#) is the required "Declination of Influenza Vaccination" form for volunteers.

Required CMIA form authorization to share personal Covid-19 related health information

NOTE: A CONFIDENTIALITY OF MEDICAL INFORMATION ACT ("CMIA"), must be signed [before](#) a person shows a school employee their vaccination card or shares any other private/personal Covid-19 related health information. This form is available [here](#). (All parents must complete this form by August 25 regardless).

2. Asymptomatic Surveillance COVID Testing

Overview

- All students and staff will be PCR pool tested two days prior to everyone's return to campus for the first day of school.
- Once the school year has begun, there will be mandatory weekly "pooled" PCR testing (with 24/48 hour turn-around) for all students and staff. Swabs will be done on campus in classrooms by the school nurse or other trained staff member and at no additional cost to families.
- We plan to test every student and every staff member weekly, usually on Mondays.
- **If your student is new**, please complete the consent form ASAP by clicking [here](#) and using the access code **OPU617** to enroll your child(ren) in the pooled testing program.
- Mandatory All-School Covid Testing schedule for Wednesday, August 25 in the PK parking lot.

2A. Pooled Testing

San Diego French-American School has partnered with [Concentric by Ginkgo](#) to provide asymptomatic surveillance PCR COVID testing for staff and students.

Classroom pooling is a method of surveillance testing for COVID that allows the school to easily test many people at once, providing a group result for a whole classroom. Samples are collected from multiple people in the same classroom and mixed together or "pooled", then run as a single test in the lab.

If a test is negative, we know that the whole classroom is negative. If a test is positive, the class would be quarantined per school protocol and students would be tested individually through the off campus.

Pooled testing provides the following benefits to the school:

- Permits the school to test students frequently

- Allows for the swabbing of each classroom in a short amount of time through an “easy to do” shallow nasal swab, requiring only four circles in each nostril.
- Consistent turnaround time: typically within 24hrs but guaranteed within 48hrs
- Reduces the logistical burden of collecting samples, dramatically lowering the cost of testing

The testing frequency will be determined by many factors, including but not limited to current guidance and recommendations from CDC/CDPH/San Diego County Office of Education, and the current COVID case numbers in the county and our community.

As of the start of school, all students and staff members regardless of vaccine status will be tested weekly.

3. Vaccination Policy

3A. Students - Vaccination Strongly Encouraged

The COVID vaccines approved for emergency use by the FDA will not be required for students. However, for the health and safety of our community, such vaccines are strongly recommended for those who are eligible to receive them. If you have questions regarding vaccine safety, please contact the school nurse to discuss the risks and benefits for your student. SDFAS reserves the right to revisit or change this policy at its sole discretion at any time.

Please note: If your student has been vaccinated over the summer please send the school nurse a photograph of their completed Covid vaccine card.

3B. Staff - Mandated Vaccination

The COVID vaccine is mandated for all staff subject to legally required exemptions. This is monitored and enforced by the school nurse. At the time of writing (8/25/2021), barring the arrival of any new employees qualifying for a legally permitted exemption, we are pleased to report that **100%** of our direct student contact instructional staff is vaccinated (including newly arriving staff). Any staff member qualifying for a legally permitted exemption is required by the State and the County to PCR test twice weekly and will wear an N95 mask at all times indoors and outside when on campus.

3C. CMIA Authorization

For all staff and students, the school requires an authorization form (CMIA) for the release to SDFAS of personal COVID related health information including as regards test results and vaccination status.

4. Off Campus COVID-19 Testing

4A. Pediatrician/PCP office

Pediatrician's offices and primary care physician offices often offer COVID testing, however may be subject to insurance copays. Please check with your doctor's office and/or insurance provider.

4B. San Diego County Sites

San Diego County offers [free PCR COVID testing](#) at many locations. These locations will test all ages whether a person presents with symptoms or not, and free regardless of insurance status.

4C. SDFAS Partnership with UCSD CALM Program

SDFAS has partnered with the UCSD CALM program to offer PCR COVID testing that results within 48hrs at no cost to SDFAS students and staff. Please contact the school nurse for scheduling instructions.

5. Protocols for Individual Responsibility on Campus

This policy may be modified when there are changes to the CDC, CDE, state, and/or local guidance regarding physical distancing protocols in schools. This policy will be in effect until local and state health officials provide guidance that such measures are no longer necessary.

5A. Preschool Classroom Structure

The same teachers and staff will be with the same group of children each day to the greatest extent possible, and consistent with CDSS and local adult/child staffing ratios for preschool programs. It will not be practicable for the school to guarantee a designated substitute teacher / assistant teacher permanently and exclusively assigned to each one of the school's Preschool class groups. When they are needed, substitute teachers or assistant teachers will never operate within more than one class group during the same day, except in the event of an unavoidable staffing or health emergency. Substitute teachers or assistant teachers will be permitted to substitute in different groups on different days.

5B. Cohorts

Overview

Students will be grouped into stable cohorts which are groups of students that stay together throughout the day. These cohorts will be grouped together each day that they are at school to minimize the mixing of student groups during the school day. The cohorts are structured taking into account the inclusion of activities to promote socialization and development, in addition to the reliability of age groups regarding contact tracing.

Groupings

The school will be divided into the following stable cohorts: one for each Preschool grade (PK0, PK1, and PK2), one for Kindergarten, one for Grade 1, one for Grade 2, one for Upper Elementary (Grade 3-5) and one for Middle School (Grade 6-8). Each class has its own

designated classroom with its own designated French teacher and an English teacher who in Kindergarten and Elementary School, to the degree feasible, is typically the only other adult who operates in an alternating fashion between the two classes in any given grade.

Physical Education, Library & Lunch

Physical Education classes are held outside with our P.E. teacher engaging them primarily with physically distanced fitness and movement activities. Library time is reduced and, when it occurs, held with our librarian in designated outdoor spaces and on a carefully designed schedule. Lunch is eaten either in the classroom or in outdoor spaces on a scheduled rotation.

Recess & Breaks

Recess and breaks are staggered and in a manner such that when cohorts are simultaneously at recess or on break at the same time, they are assigned to separate designated spaces.

Summary of essential cohort design points for 2021/22

- The cohorts are slightly larger than last year: in PK and K, each grade is a cohort and students don't mix across grades. Thus, all classes within the same grade level are within the same Covid cohort. Elsewhere in the School, cohorts are within groupings of classes and at times grouping together multiple grades, as follows: Grade 1 cohort, Grade 2 cohort, Grade 3-5 cohort and Grade 6-8 cohort. Parents are strongly encouraged to the degree feasible to respect the same cohort groupings off-campus when socially mixing (a.k.a. playdates, etc.).
- In PK, English instruction time and Spanish instruction time will resume in person within each classroom (curriculum delivery is thankfully no longer via instruction needing to be Zoomed into classrooms).
- Specialty teachers will once again teach in person within all classrooms PK0-8 (for example, coding and robotics instruction, cross-grade or cross-curricular co-teaching or curricular projects, art/music/ceramics programming, approved outside visiting or guest educators, history-geography or science teachers in upper elementary, etc.).
- The Art Room, Library, Innovation Lab and Auditorium will again welcome students PK0-8 at scheduled times.

5C. Physical Distancing, Classroom Set-Up & Specialty Spaces

Overview

Recent evidence indicates that in-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking) are implemented. This is consistent with [CDC K-12 School Guidance](#) and [CDPH K-12 School Guidance](#). Students will be encouraged to physically distance to the degree feasible and reasonable (not necessarily 6ft), especially when eating, and when lining up for any reason and including the lunch line.

Covid Approach to Space Usage on Campus

SDFAS will utilize outdoor classroom space for instruction, weather permitting. The following

areas of the School have been designated as outdoor classroom spaces or modified-use indoor spaces:

- Additional outdoor spaces within the newly acquired and renovated campus zone that sit adjacent to our existing main campus and track & field. These six additional newly acquired outdoor spaces consist in four courtyard spaces to be used by upper elementary students as outdoor classrooms and lunch areas, one large sand play area to be used for outdoor recreation by lower elementary students, and a very large new field space being created at significant financial expense to the school that is large enough to accommodate multiples classes of students outside for instruction, lunch in open air, or recess time.
- Designation of certain zones on our very large track and field, as well certain grassy spaces surrounding it, to be used for recess zones, outdoor lunch zones, physical education spaces and/or trial implementation of some marked off “mask break zones” for students to request to use (one at a time) to get a few minutes of relief from mask wearing during recess.
- Outdoor “courtyard deck” of the Middle School campus zone designated and equipped as a zone capable of hosting outdoor classrooms and also for use as outdoor lunch areas.
- Renovation of a formerly unused space behind the existing Middle School campus zone and a portion of the large newly acquired campus zone (upper elementary students) to create a new space dedicated for outdoor socially distanced stretch breaks, physically distanced socializing, and as a lunch area with staggered use by upper elementary and middle school students
- Double size classrooms in all K, 2, and 3 classes are maintained.
- In Grade 1, a third-class section had been opened to keep class sizes small for this critical reading and writing year. Even if not all of the first-grade classrooms remain double size, there is ample space in each of these rooms given the reduced size of each class section.
- The Science Lab remains double-sized.
- The Innovation Lab will no longer be used as a Middle School classroom.
- The Auditorium will no longer be used as the Faculty Lounge/surplus furniture storage zone.

5D. Recess and Lunch Periods

Overview

Recess and lunch periods will be staggered by cohorts, using a scheduling concept represented by the following model (subject to adjustment at any time as needed in order to maximize efficiency and effectiveness once in action). Students will either eat inside the classroom with their teachers with all doors and windows open; or, as often as feasible, will eat lunch outdoors. Students will be encouraged to maintain 6ft distance while eating.

Students will be encouraged to maintain physical distance to a stated expectation of 6 feet to the degree feasible, and especially when eating or lining up outdoors.

5E. Playgrounds, Outdoor Play Activities & Athletics (Sports League)

Overview

Outdoor physical education or play activities will be staggered for different cohorts. Student cohorts will be assigned to a designated area of the campus during outdoor physical education or play activities, and will not be permitted to leave their designated area or mix with other cohorts.

Sports league activities (inter-school) suspended until conditions improve

Until further notice inter-school sports league competitions will not take place. This policy will be reviewed regularly and decisions aligned with the evolving conditions, current realities and most recent guidelines and requirements as concerns the COVID-19 pandemic.

5F. Restrooms

Different classes will visit the restrooms by class on a staggered schedule that occurs during staggered recess, lunch and breaks, and with a limited number of students allowed in the restroom at any given time. Custodial staff will conduct regular and frequent cleanings of restrooms.

PK classrooms each have their own dedicated restroom and the same is true for classrooms within the Oceanview campus zone.

5G. Access to the Campus: Entrance and Egress

The School will have multiple entry and exit points to promote physical distancing while mitigating traffic flow issues. Students will be assigned to enter and exit at specific entry each school day and at staggered times.

SDFAS requests that families designate one parent, guardian or caregiver to drop off and pick up their children each school day.

Student drop off will take place outside the facility (upper lot drop off zone) for grades K-8. For PK, one parent is allowed to accompany their student to their classroom during DROP-OFF only (at PICK-UP students will be accompanied to their parents at the PK rear parking lot). PK parents on campus must be masked at all times, even outdoors and including in the PK parking lot.

5H. Handwashing & Hygiene

On the SDFAS campus, teachers and staff will build and reinforce routines for washing and sanitizing of hands before and after recess and lunchtime and anytime they use the restroom. Staff will model proper handwashing techniques, teach in age appropriate ways about how to do it and the reasons for doing it, and reinforce handwashing throughout the day. Teachers and staff will also explain, teach about, model and frequently reinforce other essential healthy

hygiene practices, and will implement cleaning and disinfecting practices for frequently used or touched surfaces, spaces, or items (such toys or other school materials that are difficult to prevent multiple individuals from using or touching).

Handwashing - Faculty & Staff

SDFAS employees are expected and directed to regularly wash their hands with soap and water (rubbing thoroughly after application and for a minimum of 20 seconds) or use hand sanitizer when a sink is not available and notably after any of the following activities: when before leaving home and immediately before or upon entering the SDFAS campus and when leaving school, using the restroom, sneezing, touching the face, blowing the nose, cleaning, sweeping, mopping, smoking (never allowed at all on or around or near campus), eating, drinking, entering or leaving the facility or classroom, going on break, and before and after their work shift.

Handwashing - Students

Students will be required to wash their hands with soap and water in a thorough manner for 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available, before leaving home and immediately before or upon entering the SDFAS campus or their classrooms, when leaving school, before and after meals, after outside play, after using the restroom, if having had close contact with others, if having shared surfaces and tools, and after blowing nose, coughing, and sneezing.

Hand Sanitizer & Need for Parents to Reinforce Hand Hygiene Practices

Hand sanitizer will be provided in all classrooms that do not have sinks with soap and water. Students using hand sanitizer should rub it into their hands until it is completely dry. Students using soap and water must follow CDC guidance on proper handwashing techniques, including washing their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application, and using paper towels to dry hands thoroughly. Parents should teach students proper handwashing techniques according to the CDC guidance (available at <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/index.html>), and staff will reinforce these techniques. Students will also be reminded not to touch their faces, and to use a tissue to wipe their nose and to cough and sneeze inside the tissue. The School encourages parents to also remind students to follow these practices.

Outdoor sink installations

An outdoor bank of six sinks for handwashing on the track & field in the center of campus. Another outdoor bank of six sinks for handwashing have been added in the Middle School campus area.

5I. Masks

Parents should also discuss [proper use of masks](#) with their children, and have children practice wearing masks prior to returning to campus. The School will have disposable masks available to students who fail to bring one or whose mask becomes soiled or damaged while at school.

Masks that no longer cover the nose and mouth, do not stay on the face, are soiled, or have holes or tears are not acceptable and must be discarded. Students will be provided a mask if they do not possess a replacement mask brought from home.

Masks for students (required indoors and outdoors)

All students. All students aged 2 years and older must wear a mask indoors and outdoors regardless of vaccination status, except while eating or drinking. Students are encouraged to bring their own mask from home, but the school will have disposable masks available to students who fail to do so or whose mask becomes damaged or soiled while at school. Masks with air filters are not permitted.

Preschool students in particular. In PK, staff will reinforce the rule in age-appropriate ways, assist students in-age appropriate ways, train students in age-appropriate ways, and collaborate closely with parents, all while keeping in mind CDSS guidelines as concerns the protection and safety of young children.

Masks for staff (required indoors and outdoors)

All staff regardless of vaccination status are required to wear masks indoors and outdoors, except while eating or drinking.

Employees are welcome to use their own masks from home, as long as they are workplace appropriate. The School has reusable cloth and disposable masks available for employees who fail to bring one or whose mask becomes damaged or soiled while at school. Employees with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from being able to wear a mask will be provided with accommodations made on a case-by-case basis consistent with the school's policy on reasonable accommodation of employees available for consultation with the school's Employee Handbook and Operations and/or COVID-19 addendum to that document.

Please note: Unvaccinated staff members, if ever there are any, are required to wear an N95 mask indoors and outdoors, provided regularly by the school. N95s are also available for all staff members and are recommended for staff who are at higher risk of severe illness or who cannot safely distance from household contacts at higher risk.

Face coverings for students with medical conditions or disabilities

Students with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from being able to wear a mask will be provided with accommodations, which may include wearing a face shield with a cloth drape attached across the bottom and tucked into a shirt; this determination will be made on a case-by-case basis consistent with the School's policy on reasonable accommodation of students.

Safety monitoring of masking

SDFAS employees are directed to monitor the use of masking for students who are 8 years of age or younger to ensure that they are able to breathe without choking or suffocating.

5J. Field Trips and School Assemblies

At the present time, all field trips and school assemblies SDFAS will be conducted virtually.

5K. SDFAS School Bus Transportation

Students will be required to wear masks at all times while on the bus regardless of vaccination status. Seating will be assigned and windows kept open. There will be no "occasional" or "single-ticket" riders until further notice. SDFAS morning pick-up times for students at each of our two bus stop locations in Carmel Valley and in Encinitas are anticipated to need to be adjusted so as to accommodate for the school's staggered schedule. This may well mean a much earlier bus stop arrival time for families than has been the case in past years. Likewise, in the afternoon, drop off times at both bus stop locations are anticipated to need adjustment with respect to prior years.

5L. Posting and Distribution

The School will have signs posted at conspicuous places at all SDFAS campus entrances that instruct students, parents, and other visitors not to enter if they are experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19 (e.g., cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, and/or more of the following: fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or any other symptom associated with COVID-19 identified by the CDC.

5M. Campus Cleaning and Disinfecting

The School and each of its employees serve a critical role in promoting the safest, healthiest, risk-mitigated school and workplace that the school is able to achieve. To that end, SDFAS will make safe and appropriate cleaning and disinfectant products available to employees, train employees on the correct use of cleaning and disinfectant products, and provide appropriate PPE to employees. The same is true for contracted third party custodial staff provided by Pacific Building Maintenance (PBM) in charge of training its custodial workers in safety requirements and best practices for all manner of approved cleaning and disinfecting products and services. The school's Facility Director is responsible for overseeing third party custodial workers on campus and for communicating regularly with PBM management to report problems and develop cleaning and disinfecting tasks and routines that are best suited for our school and include establishing times for other types of recurring or occasionally needed custodial work or special-situation cleaning and disinfecting work.

To carry out the school's cleaning and disinfecting protocols, the school will use, and will provide for the use of soap and water and cleaning and disinfectant products approved for use against COVID-19 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s "List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2" and labeled to be effective against emerging viral pathogens. The school will make efforts to the extent practicable to select and make available cleaning and disinfectant products on EPA-List "N" that use asthma-safe ingredients.

When choosing disinfecting products, the school's employees and its third party custodial staff

will only use cleaning and disinfecting products approved for use against COVID-19 on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved “N” list and follow product instructions. To reduce the risk of asthma and other health effects related to disinfecting, SDFAS staff and the school’s third party contractor for custodial workers, will be directed to select disinfectant products on list “N” and with asthma-safer ingredients to the extent practicable and as recommended by the US EPA Design for Environment program. The school and its third party custodial staff will avoid products that contain peroxyacetic (peracetic) acid, sodium hypochlorite (bleach) or quaternary ammonium compounds, which can cause asthma. SDFAS employees and third party custodial staff will follow label directions for appropriate dilution rates and contact times.

Teachers will clean and disinfect frequently and to the degree feasible touched surfaces and objects between uses by different individuals or groups (examples: desks, doorknobs, light switches etc.); for example, during recess and lunch breaks. A full disinfection protocol will take place once all students have gone home at the end of the day.

All school employees and contracted third party custodial workers doing cleaning and disinfecting will be trained as needed and directed to adhere to the requirements when using cleaning and disinfectant products. All contracted third party custodial workers, as well as SDFAS faculty and staff tasked with cleaning and disinfecting to some extent or another (meaning virtually everyone on campus), will be directed to:

- Follow all label directions including appropriate dilution rates, application methods, and contact times.
- Utilize safe and correct application methods for cleaning and disinfectant products. Never mix bleach and other cleaning and disinfection products together, as this can cause fumes that may be dangerous when inhaled.
- Keep all cleaning products and disinfectants out of the reach of children and stored securely
Properly ventilate the space while cleaning and disinfecting and introduce fresh outdoor air as much as possible, for example, by opening windows and doors where practicable. Only engage in more thorough processes for cleaning and disinfecting when children are not present and air out the space before children arrive by opening windows, by using an air conditioner setting that brings in fresh air, or by using a well-suited HVAC system.
- SDFAS has communicated to its third party contractor (PBM), responsible for providing custodial workers to clean and disinfect the campus, about the school’s expectations regarding the use of personal protective equipment (“PPE”), cleaning and disinfecting tasks and schedules, and other expectations related to cleaning and disinfecting the campus.
- Regularly throughout the school day and workday, SDFAS staff or a third party custodial staff person will clean and disinfect with an appropriate “N” list disinfectant frequently touched hard and non-porous surfaces or objects, such as glass, metal, or plastic, within the school’s buildings, facilities, grounds, and vehicles. Frequently touched surfaces throughout the SDFAS campus and on school buses will be cleaned and disinfected daily and regularly throughout each day as practicable and using only products from the Environmental Protection Agency’s list “N” Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19).

SDFAS will close off any areas or spaces used by any individual infected with the virus that

causes COVID-19 and will not reopen for use before cleaning and disinfection. To reduce risk of exposure, when feasible and in spaces where it is feasible, SDFAS will wait 24 hours before engaging trained employees from our third party custodial workers to do deep cleaning and disinfecting of affected areas or spaces. When it is not possible to wait 24 hours, or in spaces where waiting 24 hours is not feasible, SDFAS will wait as long as practicable. SDFAS employees and employees from its third party cleaning and disinfecting company will ensure a safe and correct application of disinfectants using personal protective equipment and ventilation recommended for cleaning. All disinfectant products will be kept away from students at all times.

School Bus

Trained SDFAS staff or third party custodial staff will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces on the school buses before and after each use. Examples of frequently-touched surfaces within school vehicles include, but are not limited to, door handles, seatbelts, seats, steering wheels, and window buttons. Effective, safe list "N" disinfectants will be used as directed and kept away from students. On each of our school buses, SDFAS will provide disposable disinfectant wipes, hand sanitizer for the driver and for students to use upon entering and leaving the bus, disposable gloves, and a no-touch trash can. For staff responsible for cleaning and disinfecting the bus, the school will train the employee(s) and provide them with appropriate PPE as set forth in the school's updated Injury and Illness Protection Program (IIPP) so that employees can safely complete these responsibilities. As concerns air quality and ventilation on the bus, outside fresh air can circulate, weather permitting, by the driver opening some or all of the windows on the bus before students board (closing and disinfecting touched surfaces after each use). Students will be instructed not to touch windows or window buttons. Students will wear masks at all times on the bus and seating will be assigned. There will be no "occasional" or "single-ticket" riders until further notice.

Classrooms

SDFAS staff (teachers and assistant teachers as well as maintenance and facilities staff or a third party custodian as needed or directed) will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces in and around classrooms and other work spaces, including but not limited to door handles, light switches, sink handles (for classrooms that have sinks, as is the case in a number of SDFAS classrooms that will be designated for kindergarten and lower elementary students), bathroom surfaces, tables, student desks and chairs. SDFAS teachers and assistant teachers will be trained in how to effectively and safely clean and disinfect surfaces and provided with the supplies, products and PPE (notably, disposable gloves) required to do so.

Offices

As concerns cleaning and disinfecting of offices and areas in and around office spaces, administrators, staff members, and teachers/assistant teachers who use offices will be trained and directed as described above for teachers and assistant teachers. SDFAS will restrict or limit use of higher risk shared materials in and around office spaces and areas that are frequented by multiple employees, such as coffee machines normally available for communal use or other items that are more challenging to clean and disinfect. As described above for the rear auditorium photocopier, employees will be trained to pay particular attention to the cleaning and

disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces on and around the school's photocopier, doing so before and after each use. Supplies such as sanitizing wipes and a no-touch trash can will be made available.

Deep cleaning and disinfecting.

The school's contracted third party cleaning and disinfection company Pacific Building Maintenance (provider of our on-campus custodial workers) has the capacity to provide deep cleaning and disinfection services if and when needed or desirable and in short order and when requested by the school, including furnishing the equipment, disinfection supplies, required PPE and cleaning personnel trained in deep cleaning and disinfecting processes. Deep cleaning and disinfecting processes, such as atomized fogging and electrostatic spraying, go beyond spray misting and wiping in their degree of effectiveness. Availability of electrostatic spraying or atomized fogging services when appropriate.

5N. Ventilation

Overview

When tasked with cleaning and disinfecting duties SDFAS employees and contracted third party custodial workers will be trained to ensure proper ventilation during cleaning and disinfecting. The best way to accomplish this on most days of the year within the climate we enjoy here in San Diego is to introduce fresh outdoor air into spaces being cleaned or disinfected to the degree feasible; for example, by opening windows where practicable. When cleaning and disinfecting, SDFAS employees and contracted third party custodial workers will be directed to air out the spaces recently worked on before children arrive. They will also be instructed not to do thorough types of cleaning and disinfecting when children are present. In SDFAS spaces with HVAC systems that permit it or in rooms using air conditioning systems that allow for it, SDFAS employees and contracted third party custodial workers will be directed to use the setting that brings in outside air.

Baseline ventilation protocols on campus:

- Windows and doors open as much and as often as feasible.
- MERV 13 air filters or floor air-scrubbing devices (with air ionization technology and HEPA filters) are in every classroom.
- Lunch outside school-wide and daily except in the event of rain.

Upgrade of HVAC filters on campus where feasible

SDFAS will check and regularly replace air filters and filtration systems in all applicable HVAC systems so as to enhance air quality in spaces serviced by such systems. In the same HVAC systems, SDFAS will install, and replace per industry guidance during the COVID-19 health crisis, CDC-recommended Merv-13 heating and air conditioning filters. Please note that HEPA (high-efficiency particulate arrestance) filters cannot be used in these HVAC systems due to incompatibility with our HVAC system specifications.

Additional HVAC considerations surrounding air quality and purification

The school will consider other modifications or HVAC enhancements within indoor spaces as practicable in efforts to increase the quality of air, air movement, cross ventilation, and the maximization of fresh outdoor air circulation into classrooms, offices, and other spaces.

6. Students or Employees with Special Needs

Overview

The school has developed a plan to further support students or employees with access and functional needs who may be at increased risk of becoming infected or having unrecognized illness due to COVID-19. Students with health-related modification needs have been or will be identified. Division Directors, School Nurse, Office Manager, and Teachers all regularly invite parents to remain in ongoing contact. Parents and students regularly avail themselves of these opportunities within our tight-knit school community allowing for a high degree of individualized communication, collaboration, and personalized attention for students and their families. When we don't hear from families having students identified as having special needs or attention, the school is proactive and makes efforts to reach out to them. Students in these situations will be accommodated and supported to the greatest degree possible through adaptations and adjustments put in place for them by the teachers or administrators who work most directly with them and know them the best.

Groups who might be at increased risk of becoming infected or having unrecognized illness include the following:

6A. Limited mobility or prolonged close contact

Individuals who have limited mobility or require prolonged and close contact with others, such as direct support providers and family members. For such individuals, a school administrator, teacher, assistant teacher or class "buddy" will provide support.

6B. Trouble understanding or enacting

Individuals who have trouble understanding information or practicing preventive measures, such as hand washing and physical distancing. For all students, essential information and training (verbal and written) will include explanations in both English and French to ensure comprehension by all students, parents and employees within our bilingual school community. One-one-one modeling and the repeated use of visual and auditory materials will also be used to communicate and reinforce essential information about these topics.

6C. Unable to communicate

Individuals who may not be able to communicate symptoms of illness. While in our bilingual community there are certain students, parents and employees who speak in either English or French at varying levels of proficiency, communication is not an issue given the very large majority of students, faculty and staff who are more than functionality proficient in both languages. If a student does not communicate in advance of our concern that the student may not be feeling well during routine health checks or at another other point during the school day,

the student will be asked to see the nurse and if warranted the school will then immediately contact parents/guardians.

7. SDFAS Travel Policy

7A. CDC travel recommendation

Current CDC travel recommendations are for unvaccinated persons to quarantine for seven days after they return following non-local travel. Non-local travel is >120 miles from your residence. The school strongly recommends this post-travel quarantine for unvaccinated persons, but will no longer be enforcing it. Fully vaccinated students (14 days since the last vaccine dose) are exempt from post-travel quarantine.

7B. Travel during the school year

- Students and staff are encouraged to contact the school nurse regarding any future travel plans, who will create a return to campus plan for your situation.
- All students and staff regardless of vaccination status must have a Covid-19 test obtained (PCR) after they return to San Diego. They must have proof of this negative Covid-19 test result (PCR) prior to returning to campus.

7C. Return from vacation breaks

We will conduct all-campus PCR testing the first day back on campus following all scheduled breaks during the school year. The school will not close the campus on the day of testing or while we await the return of results (24-48 hours after swabs are taken). Students do not need to miss days of school this year following breaks. The school is currently exploring the feasibility of implementing the additional layer of protection of a required at-home antigen test the evening prior to the first day of return to campus.