

# COVID-19

## San Marino Unified School District's Plans for Responding to this Crisis

March 10, 2019



# Latest News - 3.9.2020

**Q: Have any school children in California been diagnosed with the coronavirus (known as COVID-19)?**

**A:** Yes, a student at Maeola R. Beitzel Elementary School in the Elk Grove Unified School District has tested positive for the virus. Three of the student's siblings did not test positive. The district closed all schools for classes and other activities March 7-13. It's the first district in the state to close.

<https://edsource.org/2020/coronavirus-qa-what-california-parents-and-students-should-know-about-covid-19/624413>

THE SACRAMENTO BEE

HEALTH & MEDICINE

### 'Pushed the panic button': Families demand answers to Elk Grove district coronavirus closure

BY VINCENT MOLESKI AND TONY BIZJAK  
MARCH 08, 2020 04:01 PM

Twitter Facebook Email Share



Sheldon High parents express frustration over cancellation of playoff basketball game.

NEKETIA HENRY  
Sheldon High School parent

0:02/2:47

Parents pack a press conference Sunday, March 8, 2020 to express frustration over the sudden shutdown of school and activities, including the Sheldon High playoff basketball game, in the Elk Grove Unified School District over COVID-19 fears.

BY JASON PIERCE

The New York Times

The Coronavirus Outbreak **LIVE** Latest Updates Maps How to Prepare Market Updates Newsletter

## Forfeited Games and Virtual Learning: Coronavirus Shuts Down Schools

As the virus continues to spread across the country, schools are closing their doors in an effort to protect their students.



# School Closures – March 9, 2020

School Name	School Type	District	County	Dates Closed
Murietta Valley High	Public	Murietta Valley USD	Riverside	Closed beginning March 9
All district schools	Public	Elk Grove Unified	Sacramento	March 7-13
Aspire Monarch Academy	Charter	n/a	Alameda	March 5-6
Lowell High	Public	San Francisco Unified	San Francisco	March 5-6
Black Pine Circle	Private K-8	n/a	Alameda	March 5-6
Menlo School	Private 6-12	n/a	San Mateo	March 3-5
Presidio Hill School	Private K-8	n/a	San Francisco	March 5
Healdsburg School	Private K-8	n/a	Sonoma	March 2

# State Recommendations



**Q: What is the state recommending schools should do in response to the virus?**

A: On Saturday, Gov. Newsom said “It’s a question of when – not if – some California public schools will face closure because of COVID-19. **School districts must prepare for these scenarios** so that parents and children can plan for what would happen if their local school faced closure.”

**Q: As a parent, to what extent should I be concerned about the coronavirus at my child’s school?**

A: Health **risk from the coronavirus remains low** at this time (3/9/20) according to the California Department of Public Health. However, the California Department of Education is urging **districts to prepare for the possible spread of the virus by identifying plans and protocols** for communicating with families and plan for educating students while at home if schools are closed.

# Primary Objective

*To continue to provide a high quality education to every student in a safe and healthy environment for both students & staff.*

# Considerations

- Student & Staff Safety
- Custodial & Physical Plant
- Information Updates to Staff, Families & Community
- Interagency Support
- Attendance Issues & ADA
- Preparing for “Teleschool”
- Community Gatherings

# Student & Staff Safety



Fever



Cough



Difficulty Breathing

## What can I do to protect myself and others from respiratory infections like novel coronavirus?

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Limit close contact with people who are sick.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve (not your hands).
- Use facemasks only if you are sick or have been instructed to do so by your health care provider.
- Get a flu shot to prevent influenza if you have not done so this season.



## Prevention & Treatment

[中文](#) | [Español](#)

### Prevention

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
  - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
  - Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for [health workers](#) and [people who are taking care of someone in close settings](#) (at home or in a health care facility).
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

# Custodial & Physical Plant

# General Cleaning Guidance for Respiratory Illness in Group Settings



- **Clean all frequently touched items**
- **Hard services**
- **Carpets, Couches, and other porous surfaces**
- **Trash disposal**
- **Other general guidance**

# Updates to Staff/Community

# Updates



### Flu and Coronavirus Information & Updates

#### Flu and Coronavirus Information & Updates

SMUSD Coronavirus Update 8 (3/4/2020)

SMUSD Coronavirus Update 7 (3/2/2020)

SMUSD Coronavirus Update 6 (2/26/2020)

SMUSD Coronavirus Update 5 (2/24/2020)

SMUSD Coronavirus Update 4 (2/19/2020)

SMUSD Coronavirus Update 3 (2/10/2020)

SMUSD Coronavirus Update 2 (2/3/2020)

SMUSD Coronavirus Update (1/27/2020)

Health Guidelines For All

Guidelines & Protocol for Health Office Staff

LA County Public Health Resources

San Marino Unified School District is closely monitoring the novel coronavirus to provide you updates with the latest information. We are still advising parents, as we always do, **do not send your child to school if they may be sick**. Keeping your sick child home will be a great benefit for the health and wellness of our students and staff. If children are sent to school sick, they can be removed from class and school as deemed appropriate by our staff and nurses. If you, your child, or family recently traveled to or from China, we also ask that you take extra precautions and seek a medical evaluation from your doctor before returning to school.

## NOVEL CORONAVIRUS What You Need to Know

Coronavirus is a type of virus that causes diseases of varying severities, ranging from the common cold to more serious respiratory disease. A novel (new) coronavirus is a new strain of coronavirus that hasn't been identified before in humans.

### How is it spread?



Through coughing and sneezing



Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands



Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands



Because novel coronavirus is new, we are learning more each day about the transmission patterns and incubation periods



People who have traveled to or from Wuhan, China since December 1, 2019, could have been exposed to the virus.

Seek medical care if you traveled to Wuhan and develop a fever and cough or respiratory symptoms within 14 days of your return.

### What are the symptoms?



Fever



Cough



Difficulty Breathing



Severe Illness

### How can I protect myself when I travel?

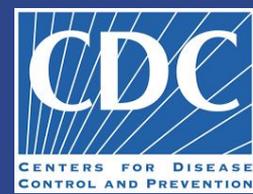
#### Travelers going outside the US

- Avoid animals (alive or dead), animal markets, and products that come from animals (such as uncooked meat).
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

#### If you traveled to Wuhan and feel sick

- Stay home and avoid contact with others.
- Seek medical care right away. Before you go to a doctor's office or emergency room, call ahead and tell them about your recent travel and your symptoms.
- Don't travel while sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing. Throw the tissue in the trash.

# Interagency Support



# Continued Collaboration

- Internal Team Discussions
  - Daily input from our District Nurse, Maintenance and Operations, Principals, and Exec Team
- City of San Marino
  - Daily communication with Fire Chief Rueda on the City's actions and updates to ensure continuity in plans and communications
- LA County Office of Education:
  - We have worked closely with the LA County Office of Education, its nurse and leadership teams to receive updates and guidance
- School Districts Locally and Statewide
- We also continue to follow guidance received from:
  - California Department of Education
  - California Department of Public Health
  - Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  - World Health Organization

# Attendance Issues & ADA

## Attendance and Lost ADA 19-20 compared to 18-19

as of March 9, 2020

<b>SMUSD District 18-19</b>		Total Absences	Avg Daily Absences
		9645	74.8
<b>SMUSD District 19-20</b>		Total Absences	Avg Daily Absences
		10673	83.4

**One Year Increase in Absences**

1028

8.6

**2019-20 Approximate Lost ADA**

\$82,240

# Voluntarily Withholding Your Student From School

## If I decide not to send my student to school, will absences be excused?

We understand community concern about student health and safety. Some families have asked about keeping their own child home based on the fear of contracting COVID-19 at school.

- There is **no recommendation from our expert health agencies to alter** daily activities or keep healthy students from attending school.
- According to all health agencies, the **risk remains “low”** in L.A. County. The California Department of Public Health and the **California Department of Education currently ranks L.A. County at risk Level 1** of 4 Levels, with 1 being the lowest risk and 4 being the highest.
- Per Education Code **at this time, schools are unable to mark an absence excused** for this reason.
- Until the State notifies us otherwise, **standard absence protocol remains** in place. If a student is out for an extended period of time, a doctor’s note may be required.
- Any **absence due to quarantine or illness will be excused.**

# Possible School Closure

LEAs that close schools or remain open but have a material decrease in attendance due to an epidemic or pandemic are eligible to seek emergency average daily attendance (ADA) credit through the CDE Form J-13A waiver process.

California law authorizes the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) to provide credit for instructional time in the case of a schoolwide closure based on a declaration of an epidemic made by a local public health officer. However, closing a school simply as a precaution may result in a LEA not qualifying for a J-13A waiver and a penalty for failure to offer the statutorily required instructional days and/or minutes.

In the case of a Governor's declaration of emergency unaccompanied by a pandemic, a letter from the local public health officer is still needed to substantiate a closure and not needed to substantiate a material decrease as long as the LEA can substantiate each absence being caused by illness due to coronavirus or coronavirus symptoms [as we did with H1N1 flu](#).

# Preparing for Teleschool / Online Classes

# Preparing for TeleSchool / Online Classes

- Developing a “Preparing for Online Classes” mini-site as a resource for parents, students, and teachers - [www.smusd.us/onlineclass/](http://www.smusd.us/onlineclass/)
- Delivered training to SMUSD teachers on preparing for online class
  - Online Training - Webinar style
  - On-site Practice at ALL school sites
- Leverage existing online tools in different ways
  - PowerSchool Unified Classroom
  - Google Meet
- Piloting LiveChat support tool for real-time technical assistance for staff, students and parents

# Guidance on Community Gatherings



SONA Y. ANGELL, MD, MPH  
State Public Health Officer & Director

TO: Public Event Organizers  
FROM: California Department of Public Health  
DATE: March 7, 2020  
SUBJECT: Mass Gatherings Guidance on Novel Coronavirus or COVID-19

This guidance is based on what is currently known about the transmission and severity of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) will update this guidance as needed and as additional information becomes available.

# Large Community Gatherings

## As of March 7, 2020

### Scenario I: Current CDPH recommendations for counties without evidence of community transmission:

- CDPH does not recommend cancelation of community events if no COVID-19 cases exist within the community.
- Event organizers should create contingency plans for how to modify, cancel, or postpone large community events if a COVID-19 outbreak occurs in their community.
- Events may still need to be modified or postponed if participants are traveling from communities with COVID-19 outbreaks.
- Promote messages that discourage people who are sick from attending events.
- Provide COVID-19 prevention supplies at your events, to the extent supplies are available.
- Isolate staff or participants who become ill with COVID-19 symptoms and provide a clean disposable facemask, to the extent available

### Scenario II: CDPH recommendations for counties with evidence of community transmission:

- Anticipate that some non-essential events may need to be modified, canceled, or postponed.
- Consider canceling non-essential events primarily for or attended by older adults and people with chronic medical conditions.
- Discuss event details with local health officials and prepare to implement an emergency contingency plan
- Collaborate and coordinate with event and community partners.
- Use event messaging and communications to provide COVID-19 updates and to promote everyday preventive health messages.

# Resources for School Leaders

The CDC has provided pandemic flu checklists for K-12 school administrators, childcare program administrators, and event planners. These helpful resources can be found on the CDC's Nonpharmaceutical Interventions web page at <https://www.cdc.gov/nonpharmaceutical-interventions/tools-resources/planning-guidance-checklists.html>.

The CDC has also provided the enclosed guidance, issued April 2017 and titled Get Your School Ready for Pandemic Flu, as another preparation resource at <https://www.cdc.gov/nonpharmaceutical-interventions/pdf/gr-pan-flu-ed-set.pdf>

The CDPH Coronavirus K12 School Guidance web page is at:

[https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/Coronavirus%20K-12%20Schools%20Guidance%202\\_7\\_20%20FINAL.pdf#search=2019%20Novel%20Coronavirus%20Guidance%20for%20Schools%20and%20School%20Districts%20Page%201](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Immunization/Coronavirus%20K-12%20Schools%20Guidance%202_7_20%20FINAL.pdf#search=2019%20Novel%20Coronavirus%20Guidance%20for%20Schools%20and%20School%20Districts%20Page%201)

# Community Resources

- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/>
- California Department of Public Health <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/nCOV2019.aspx>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/novel-coronavirus-2019.html>
- World Health Organization <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>
- LA County residents can also call 2-1-1
- City of San Marino Live Updates: [https://www.cityofsanmarino.org/news\\_detail\\_T34\\_R55.php](https://www.cityofsanmarino.org/news_detail_T34_R55.php)