



BUCKEYE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT



# Silva Valley Elementary Site Reopening Plan

Home of the Golden Eagles

Approved by School Site Council(SSC)  
on 9/3/2020 and reviewed on 3/11/2021

Updated: 9/21/2020, 10/7/2020 (per County Public Health Officer), 3/8/2021, and  
4/12/2021

## Re-Opening Overview

It is the goal of the Buckeye Union School District to reopen and remain open in a manner that adheres to State mandates and guidelines for preventing the spread of COVID19. The wellbeing of our students, employees, and families is of paramount importance as we meet the challenges of the pandemic.

The plans/protocols contained within this document have been developed in accordance with the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) [COVID19 Industry Guidance: Schools and Schools Based Programs](#).

This plan will be updated should new guidance be provided by the California Department of Public Health in the future.

## General Measures

The Buckeye Union School District has established and will continue communication with the El Dorado Public Health Department regarding disease levels and control measures in the communities of the Buckeye Union School District. We are also monitoring communications from the California State Department of Public Health and the California Department of Education. The District will continue to collaborate with the El Dorado County Office of Education and neighboring Districts regarding the operations of programs during this pandemic.

The principal of each school site has been designated to ensure implementation of the guidelines.

- In the event of an outbreak among students or employees, communication with the El Dorado County Public Health Department will be coordinated with the District Office.
- This plan will be reviewed and made available to all employees.
- The plan will be amended if deficiencies are identified.
- In the event COVID19 illness emerges, efforts will be made to determine if any work-related factors could have contributed to risk of infection and the plan will be updated as needed to prevent further cases.
- The site will implement the recommendations of the El Dorado County Department of Public Health should the site have an outbreak. The community can anticipate that the response would be similar to that recommended by the [California Department of Public Health](#) (p.34).
- The site will identify individuals who have been in close contact (within six feet for 15 minutes or more) of an infected person and take steps to isolate COVID19 positive person(s) and quarantine close contacts.
- Adhering to these guidelines will be essential in order to prevent illnesses that may cause classrooms or the entire school to be temporarily closed or limited.
- Community use of the school site facility will be limited to the El Dorado County Charter Extended Day Program and they will adhere to the measures outlined in this plan.
- In the event that closures of classes, groups or entire facilities when persons associated with the facility or in the community become ill with COVID19 occurs, the affected groups will move to distance learning.
- District Nurses will continually review health concerns for students and create student health plans to identify and support students who may need additional accommodations or classroom and non-classroom preparation as needed. Site health clerks will support the nurses with review of emergency cards and medical concerns that could require additional interventions and communicate concerns to the District Nurse. The District Nurse will communicate with district families

regarding health concerns that may require accommodations or a new health plan from the District Nurse. Families are encouraged to contact the health office with additional medical information about their child that may not be known. Additional information from a treating physician may be beneficial to address specific concerns for a student. If your child has been identified as a close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19, you may also be contacted by a El Dorado County Public Health staff member to share more information with you and to get information about your child's health. Groups who might be at increased risk of becoming infected or having unrecognized illness include the following:

- A. Individuals who have limited mobility or require prolonged and close contact with others, such as direct support providers and family members;
- B. Individuals who have trouble understanding information or practicing preventive measures, such as hand washing and physical distancing; and
- C. Individuals who may not be able to communicate symptoms of illness.
- D. Individuals who have a chronic illness or other underlying health concern that has been identified by a medical provider as being at greater risk.

## Promote Healthy Hygiene Practices

Teach and reinforce washing hands, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes among students and staff.

- A. Foam sanitizer will be available in all offices, classrooms, lunch areas, and near play structures.
- B. Teachers, School Nurses, and Health Clerks shall provide developmentally appropriate instruction to students regarding the hygiene practices necessary to stem the spread of the virus.
- C. Teachers shall ensure all students wash their hands using hand sanitizer or soap and water, for 20 seconds, whenever entering and leaving the room.
- D. Students shall be taught and prompted to wash their hands using sanitizer or soap and water prior to eating, after coughing or sneezing, and before and after using the restroom.
- E. All service providers will model healthy hygiene practices for students including washing hands when entering the classroom.
- F. District nurses will communicate to families that it is strongly recommended that all students and staff be immunized each autumn against influenza unless contraindicated by personal medical conditions, to help:
  - Protect the school community
  - Reduce demands on health care facilities
  - Decrease illnesses that cannot be readily distinguished from COVID19 and would therefore trigger extensive measures from the school and public health authorities.
  - Reduce worries about the unknown potential effects of potential co-infection with COVID19 and influenza.

## FACE COVERINGS

Face coverings must be worn on District sites unless an individual has obtained a site or District approved exemption.

- All members of the public are required to wear a face covering when on any District site. Face coverings must cover both the nose and mouth.
- All employees must wear face coverings.
- Students in all grade levels TK-8 are required to wear face coverings at all times, while at school, unless exempted.
- Requests for exemptions must be submitted to the school site principal for review and approval.
- Teachers will teach and reinforce use of face coverings, or in limited instances, face shields.
- Students and staff should be frequently reminded not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands frequently.
- Cloth face coverings will be provided to all employees upon request. Non-surgical masks will be available in front offices.
- All students must wear a face covering unless otherwise exempted by a health professional. Face coverings are available in the front office and in classrooms.
- Students and staff who are exempted from wearing a face covering should be encouraged to wear a plastic face shield. These will be provided by the District.
- Persons younger than two years old, anyone who has trouble breathing, anyone who is unconscious or incapacitated, and anyone

who is otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance are exempt from wearing a face covering.

- A cloth face covering or face shield may be removed for meals, snacks, naptime, or outdoor recreation, or when it needs to be replaced, when physically distanced. When a cloth face covering is temporarily removed, it may be placed in a clean paper bag (marked with the student's name and date) or hung on a lanyard until it needs to be put on again.
- In order to comply with this guidance, schools must exclude students from campus if they are not exempt from wearing a face covering under CDPH guidelines and refuse to wear one provided by the school. Schools will provide a face covering to students who inadvertently fail to bring a face covering to school to prevent unnecessary exclusions. The District will offer alternative educational opportunities for students who are excluded from campus to the extent practicable.
- In limited situations where a face covering cannot be used for pedagogical or developmental reasons, (i.e. teaching phonics or to those who receive direct ELD support) a face shield, with drape, can be used instead of a cloth face covering while in the classroom as long as the wearer maintains physical distance from others. Staff must return to wearing a face covering outside of the classroom.

## **ENSURE EMPLOYEE SAFETY**

- Ensuring staff maintain physical distancing from each other is critical to reducing transmission between adults.
- Ensure that all staff use face coverings in accordance with CDPH guidelines and Cal/OSHA standards.

- Conduct all staff meetings, professional development training and education, and other activities involving staff with physical distancing measures in place, or virtually, where physical distancing is a challenge.
- Minimize the use of and congregation of adults in staff rooms, break rooms, and other settings.
- Employees will complete a daily symptom screener.

## **Intensify Cleaning, Disinfection, and Ventilation**

- A. School facilities and buses will be disinfected each day using electrostatic emitters with FDA approved cleaning solutions.
- B. All drinking fountains will be turned off, and students will be encouraged to bring a water bottle that can be filled at a classroom sink. The office will provide students with a water bottle if they forget their water bottle at home.
- C. Parents may supply their children with EPA approved cleaning wipes of their choice. The District is prohibited from providing cleaning wipes to students.
- D. HVAC systems will be set to maximize circulation of air from outside buildings.
- E. MERV13 air filters and bipolar ionization devices have been installed in all HVAC systems.
- F. Attempts will be made to limit use of shared objects/materials, when practical. Handwashing will be required prior to and after use of playground equipment.

## **Implementing Distancing Inside and**

## Outside the Classroom

- Bus Drivers will maximize space between students and the driver on school buses and open windows to the greatest extent practicable. At least two windows will be lowered when the bus is transporting students.
- Buses will be equipped with extra unused face coverings on school buses for students who may have inadvertently failed to bring one.
- Volunteers will not be permitted on the school site.
- Contact at school between students, staff, families and the community will be minimized at the beginning of and end of the school day. Contact between adults will be minimized at all times.
- Arrival and drop off-times and locations will be staggered as consistently as practicable as to minimize scheduling challenges for families.
- Designated routes for entry and exit have been established. Protocols to limit direct contact with others as much as practicable have been implemented. Routes will be designated and marked for student movement to lunch area and playground area.
- Health screenings of students and staff will occur upon arrival at school.
- To reduce possibilities for infection, students must remain in the same space and in cohorts as small and consistent as practicable, including recess and lunch. Grade level cohorts are permitted to mix during recess.
- The use and maximization of outdoor space for activities will be prioritized where practicable.
- Teacher desks are at least six feet away from student desks.
- Classrooms - Classrooms will implement strategies to separate students such as, six feet between desks, where practicable and no less than four feet from the midpoint on the back of one chair to the

midpoint on the back of the next chair. As practicable as possible, students will be encouraged to stay in the same area within the classroom. Staff will minimize the movement of students and teachers or staff as much as practicable. Activities, furniture, and play spaces will be redesigned for smaller groups, to the extent practicable. Classrooms will implement strategies to separate students such as, six feet between desks, where practicable and no less than four feet from the midpoint on the back of one chair to the midpoint on the back of the next chair. Parents are requested to make contact with the staff member by phone or email, rather than in person. Teachers will implement procedures to minimize student interaction when turning in assignments. Staff will provide instructions for maximizing spacing and ways to minimize movement in both indoor and outdoor spaces that are easy for students to understand and are developmentally appropriate.

- Arrival of students - Parents who drop their students off by vehicle may enter the drop off area in front of the school to drop off students. Parents will need to stay in their vehicle, drop off their student, and then depart. Parents who walk with their students to school will need to stop at the school marquee or the sidewalk area by the yellow gate and allow their student to walk on to campus. Arrival of students will be allowed fifteen minutes before school begins. Students will be directed to the blacktop to line up on their designated class lines which are painted on the blacktop. Teachers will meet their class at the blacktop when school begins. Parents are encouraged to socially distance themselves when they are on or near campus. Parents of kindergarten students will be allowed to walk their students to the kindergarten area for drop off while practicing social distancing of six feet from other children and parents.
- Dismissal of Students - Parents of kindergarten students will be allowed to meet their students in the kindergarten area. Parents who wish to pick up their students by vehicle at the end of the school day will need to proceed into the parking lot pick up area in front of the

school. Parents will need to stay in their vehicle during pick up time. Students who walk and ride their bikes home will be dismissed from school as usual. Parents who want to meet their students at the end of the day will need to stay off campus. We request parents meet their students in the grass area by the school marquee and walk home from that location. Again, we encourage and promote social distancing.

- Front Office - Visitors entering the front office must maintain six feet of social distance. All parents, visitors, and members of the public will be required to wear masks in the office; the office will provide masks for parents and visitors, if needed. Parents are encouraged to call the office in advance if signing students out in order to limit the amount of time that the parent or student is in the office. Signage will be posted outside of the office to remind parents, students, and staff to socially distance. The number of people in the office will be limited. The office will be able to accommodate one visitor at a time. Students and parents will be asked to socially distance in designated spots in front of the office before being asked to come into the office. All deliveries of lunches or student materials should be left in the office. No parent deliveries will be allowed to the classroom. Students will not be allowed to use the telephone in the office to make calls after school. The school secretaries will use their phone to make the call for the student. Seating in the office for parents and students will be reduced to accommodate 6 feet distancing. No students should be sent to the office to finish school work or for a classroom timeout unless a referral for the principal.
- Library - The library will reopen upon return to the full cohort model. The library schedule will be coordinated so there will be time for the librarian to disinfect after a class comes to the library. The library will have a sanitation station located in front of the library for students and staff to sanitize their hands as they enter the library. The students will be encouraged to use the Google Form for selection of library books and the librarian will select books for students. Tables have been

removed from the library and chairs have been separated by four feet. Classes will be split so half the class will be seated and the second half will be allowed to check out reading books.

- Computer Lab - Closed.
- Health Office - Students may come up to the health office to take medications as done in the past. Surfaces will be wiped down after each student's visit. The health office has been reconfigured to promote greater social distancing for students who are ill. The school nurse/health clerk's office has been relocated to an adjacent office.
- Lunch Area / MPR / Recess - Recess cohorts will be grade level. The play structures will be open for use during recess time. The play structure on the blacktop has been fenced off to channel students into a designated entrance/exit. Hand sanitizers have been placed at this location. Recess equipment will be provided to each recess cohort to avoid sharing of equipment. Staff will encourage and promote social distancing practices during recess time. Students will be directed to wash hands or use hand sanitizer before going to recess and upon return from recess. Portable hand sanitizers will be available for use on the playground. At lunch students will be assigned to designated spots at classroom lunch tables and will be separated by at least four feet. The lunch line in the MPR has been redesigned to promote social distancing. Students will enter from one entrance, move through the MPR along markers on the floor six feet apart until arrival at the cafeteria window, and depart a second entrance in the MPR. During Rainy Day Lunch, classes will be split in half with half of the students staying in the classroom and the other half going to the MPR or an adjacent open classroom.
- Instrumental band may be conducted, physically distanced, with instrument masks affixed to wind/brass instruments. Practice should be conducted outdoors to the extent possible.
- Any activities that involve singing must take place outdoors.
- Clear screens have been provided in TK-3 classrooms to increase and enforce separation between staff and students.

- Sporting events, assemblies, dances, rallies, field trips, and other activities that require close contact or that would promote congregating are not permitted at this time. The following activities/events will be suspended until further notice: parent volunteers in the classroom, assemblies, field trips, choir, afterschool musical theater, class plays, and school sponsored after school sporting events such as cross county. The following Parent Teachers Association (PTA) sponsored activities/events have been suspended until further notice: Welcome Back Social (class reveal), Fall Harvest Festival, 5th grade basketball, Meet the Masters, Life Lab, and Fun Run fundraiser.
- Avoid equipment sharing, and if unavoidable, clean and disinfect shared equipment between use by different people to reduce the risk of COVID19 spread.
- Activities where there is increased likelihood of transmission from contaminated exhaled droplets such as band and choir practice and performances are not permitted.

## Limit Sharing

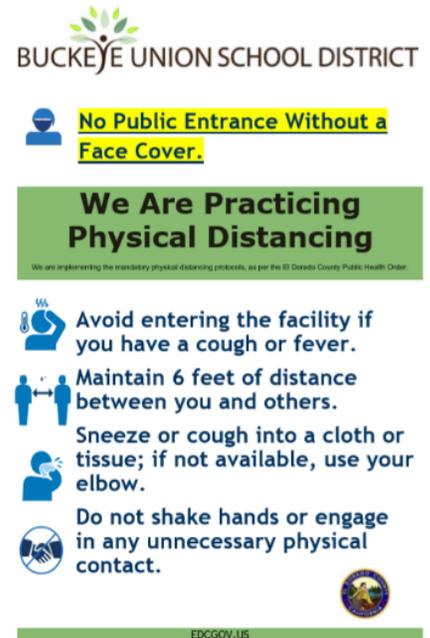
- Staff will attempt to keep each child's belongings separated and in individually labeled storage containers, cubbies or areas. Student belongings are taken home each day to be cleaned.
- Staff will limit the use of classroom items that necessitate sharing or touching of items. These include, but are not limited to, teaching manipulatives, chromebooks, pencils, pens, calculators, art supplies, etc. Students will be encouraged to use their own supplies and not to share with fellow students. Staff will attempt to minimize the sharing of high-touch materials (art supplies, equipment, etc.) to the extent practicable. Students will be assigned their own individual chromebook. Items that are shared by students will be cleaned.

## Train All Staff and Educate Families

Training and regular communications regarding the following topics will occur:

- Sanitation practices
- Physical distancing
- Face coverings
- Screening practices
- COVID19 symptom identification
- Proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings.

Signage will be posted throughout the site to remind students, employees, and the public of the practices that will minimize the possibility of COVID19 spreading on campuses.



## Check for Signs and Symptoms

- Employees will attest daily that they do not have COVID19 or COVID19 like symptoms.
- Teachers will conduct verbal and visual wellness checks of students and see that students who do not appear well receive a temperature check by the health clerk or school nurse.
- Any confirmed or suspected cases of COVID19 will be immediately reported to the El Dorado County of Public Health. This scenario response guide has been established in partnership between the El

Dorado County Office of Education and the El Dorado County Health Department: [Click Here](#)

- The District will be offering surveillance testing to all employees every two months and on-site or community based testing will be available in the event a student or employee is exhibiting COVID-like symptoms. Testing of employees is voluntary and parent consent will be necessary in order for the District to test a student.

## **Plan for When a Staff Member, Child, or Visitor Becomes Sick**

- Isolation rooms will be identified at each school site to separate anyone with symptoms of COVID19.
- Any individual that requires isolation shall wear a face covering as they await transport to home or to a hospital.
- Parents are required to immediately pick students up who are displaying COVID19 symptoms.
- Sites will coordinate with the District Office regarding the response to an individual with COVID19 or COVID19 like symptoms. The response protocol follows CDPH guidelines: [Click Here](#)

## **Considerations for Partial or Total Closure**

In the event that COVID19 is confirmed on a school site, the El Dorado County Department of Public Health will be immediately contacted by the District Superintendent or a designee for guidance regarding the need for closure.

In general, decisions regarding closure will follow [CDPH school closure guidance \(p. 37\)](#) and the guidance of the El Dorado County Public Health Officer.

In the event of a closure, teachers will be prepared to shift to providing Distance Learning that incorporates a combination of direct instruction and independent learning activities.