

McKittrick Elementary School Reopening Plan

Name of Organization (s) and Date(s) Consulted:

McKittrick Elementary School has no labor unions or organizations.

McKittrick School Teachers & Staff

Meeting Dates: July 8, 2020, July 14, 2020, July 28, 2020, August 4, 2020, August 11, 2020, September 8, 2020 and September 10, 2020

McKittrick School Staff was consulted regarding their interest and willingness to conduct in-person instruction and continue to provide services to those who opted for Distance Learning. McKittrick Staff believes in-person instruction can be conducted in a safe manner.

Name of Organization (s) and Date(s) Consulted:

McKittrick Elementary School Parents, Board Members, and Community Members

Meeting Dates: July 8, 2020, July 14, 2020, July 28, 2020, August 4, 2020, August 11, 2020, September 8, 2020

McKittrick School parents and community members were present at the above listed public board meetings. Open discussions were held and parents were encouraged to voice their concerns regarding reopening. Parents also have contacted the office through phone calls and emails. Several parent surveys have been conducted regarding the school closure and possible reopening. The majority of parents want to return to in-person instruction. The parents requesting distance learning will be accommodated using a hybrid of written instruction, Class Dojo, recorded video, and Zoom meetings.

Elementary School Reopening Plans

☐ **Facility Sanitization:**

- Our expanded daily cleaning protocols are double that of the industry standard of 15 min per room. All desks and touched surfaces are cleaned and disinfected daily. Each room has alcohol based foaming hand sanitizer by each door. Water based sanitizer is also in gel form in each room. Cafeteria is cleaned and disinfected on a daily basis. Bathroom touched areas are wiped down with disinfectant daily and deep clean three days a week. All areas with carpet are vacuumed daily. The facility ac/heaters air filters are all replaced every other month. We have installed air purifiers into all classrooms as an added line of protection to airborne viruses. Along with that, we will introduce a second layer of cleaning that involves a portable fogger/mister system. This is an added layer of disinfectant both to our facility and the transportation vehicles.

☐ **Cleaning and Disinfection:**

- Teachers will keep each child's belongings separated and in an individually labeled storage container, cubby or other area.
- Custodial staff will sanitize all classroom work surfaces, chairs, manipulatives, and other frequently touched items daily, and as needed.

- High touch areas of playground structures will be sanitized at the end of each day. This will include climbing structures and outside benches. Playground balls and other portable play equipment will also be sanitized daily or as needed.
- Student/teacher restrooms will be cleaned/sanitized daily or more often, as needed.
- Should a positive case be identified the classroom and affected areas will be closed for 24 hours and disinfected. Proper PPE will be used by staff members cleaning this space.

□ **Cohorting:**

- Class sizes are kept small enough so that social distancing can be maintained in the classroom. Each child will work at a desk.
- Students will be kept in small, stable groups which will consist of their classmates only, they will stay together during instruction, lunch and recess.
- Each grade will eat lunch in their classrooms or outside if weather permits. Children will be allowed restroom use one child at a time.
- Recess times will be staggered. When multiple cohorts are outdoors at one time, they will remain in different areas.

□ **Entrance, Egress, and Movement within the School:**

- Children will enter through the main entry and go directly to their classroom. In the event that more than one child at a time will be checking in at the entrance, children will wait their turn for entry by standing six feet apart. Parents will be asked to stay in their cars during morning drop-off, and asked not to leave the parking lot until given the go-ahead indicating that their child has passed the temperature and health inspection. Parents will also be asked to stay in their cars when arriving to pick up their child.
- In the event of a failed screening, the parent/caregiver, who will be waiting in the car while the health check is conducted, will be notified, and asked to take the child home.
- Children are encouraged to work independently and keep their distance in the classroom. Occasional passing by another child's workspace may be conducted at a safe distance to pick up or drop off work.
- Transportation:
 - Buses will have hand sanitizer available for students as they get on and off the bus. All family members may sit near each other in the same seat and row. Every other seat will be left vacant and students will adhere to 6' distance protocols. Masks are required while entering and exiting the bus. Temperature checks will be done as students enter the bus. Buses will be sanitized after each run and disinfected for the next use
- Classroom dismissal will be staggered to further avoid mixing. Parents are asked to remain in their vehicles for student pick up.
- Bus students will enter the bus one at a time and take their assigned seats.

□ **Face Coverings and Other Essential Protective Gear:**

- Teachers will receive instruction on how to wear masks. They will be required to wear masks while indoors (excluding breaks and lunch). They may wear face shields, when at a distance of at least 6 feet, when delivering certain lessons or are reading to the class.
- Teachers will provide instruction to children on the proper way to don, wear, and remove their masks.
- Teachers will encourage Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade children to wear a face covering but may use a face shield in lieu of the face covering if there cannot be a perfect seal to the child's face.
- Teachers will enforce the wearing of facemasks or shields for 3rd through 6th grade children. If children are unable to wear a mask due to health reasons, it must be documented by a doctor and on file in the office. If children in this grade range refuse to wear a mask or shield (and have no underlying health reasons to prevent the wearing), their caregiver will be notified and asked to pick them up.
- Children in grades 3 and above (and lower if requested), will be provided face masks if they arrive at school without one.
- Children will be exempt from wearing face masks during outdoor play while maintaining 6' distancing during activities. Masks will be stored on wall hooks by the outdoor exit during outdoor playtime. Children will maintain 6' distance while exiting and re-entering the school.
- Sneeze guards will be in place at tables where children may be seated for short periods of time.
- There will be at least a 2-month supply of masks, shields and other PPE available for both students and staff.

□ **Health Screenings for Students and Staff:**

- Procedures for daily self-screening for all staff before beginning work will be followed. This will include a temperature check with a no-touch thermometer, and a staff self-check for COVID-19 symptoms, before entering the campus.
- Teachers/staff will conduct a visual wellness check of all children upon arrival and take their temperature with a no-touch thermometer. A child with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will be sent home. Parents are asked not to send students to school until at least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- Teachers/staff will take temperature of every person entering the building with a no-touch thermometer. A person with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will not be allowed into the building.
- Teachers/staff will monitor themselves, each other and the children throughout the day for signs of possible illness. If a child exhibits signs of illness, the child will be isolated in a designated room that is located in the office lounge. If more than one student exhibits signs of illness, the isolation will expand to the auditorium lobby which may be used as needed. If a child is displaying a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, or any other COVID-10 related symptoms, they will be sent home. They will need a doctor's note or negative test result to return.

□ **Healthy Hygiene Practices:**

- Sinks for hand washing are located in each classroom and restroom. Hand sanitizer dispensers are located near every entrance/exit throughout the campus. Frequent hand washing and sanitizing of classroom materials have always been a strong part of McKittrick's daily routine. Normal cleaning routines will be further enhanced with children sanitizing their hands when they enter the building, and either washing or sanitizing their hands before and after meals, after returning from the playground, after using the restroom, and when otherwise deemed necessary. Teachers will create and develop scripted stories around hand washing, proper etiquette for sneezes, coughs, etc., as well as social distancing, and other health practices.

□ **Identification and Tracing of Contacts:**

The following table outlines what measures will be taken when a student, teacher or staff member has symptoms, is a contact of someone infected, or is diagnosed with COVID-19.

	Student or Staff with:	Action	Communication
1.	COVID-19 Symptoms (e.g. fever, cough, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send Home • A doctor's note or negative test result will be required to return to school and/or • Recommend testing (if positive, see #3, if negative, see #4) 	No Action Needed
2.	Case Contact (*) with a confirmed COVID-19 case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send Home • Quarantine for 14 days from last exposure • Recommend testing (but will not shorten quarantine) • School/Classroom remain open 	Consider school community notification of a known contact
3.	Confirmed COVID-19 case infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify Kern County Department of Public Health • Isolate case and exclude from school for 14 days from symptom onset, AND at least 24 hours have passed with no fever, AND other symptoms have improved • Those who never develop symptoms may return to school 14 days after the date of their first positive test • Identify contacts (*), quarantine and exclude exposed contacts (likely entire cohort(**)) for 10 days after the last date the case was present at school while infectious • Recommend testing of contacts, prioritize symptomatic contacts (but will not shorten 10 day quarantine) • Disinfection and cleaning of classroom and primary spaces where case spent significant time • School remains open 	School community notification of a known case
4.	Tests negative after symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May return to school when at least 24 hours have passed with no fever and other symptoms have improved • School/Classroom remain open 	Consider school community notification if prior awareness of testing

*A contact is defined as a person who is <6 feet from a case for >15 minutes. In some school situations it may be difficult to determine whether individuals have met this criterion and an entire cohort, classroom, or other group may need to be considered exposed, particularly if people have spent time together indoors.

**A cohort is a stable group with fixed membership that stays together for all courses and activities and avoids contact with other persons or cohorts

In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19, the Superintendent (designated reporting person), will immediately notify the Kern County Public Health Department. Contacts of that person will be identified, quarantined, and excluded from class. The school families will be notified by the Superintendent as to the confirmed case, while maintaining anonymity of the case, and the action that will be taken. Contacts will be encouraged to get tested. Depending on the sphere of exposure, the entire cohort may be quarantined. Per CDPH instructions, the Superintendent will also create and submit a list of the exposed students and staff to the Kern County Health Department for tracing purposes and notification.

□ **Physical Distancing:**

- Students will be reminded to remain 6' apart.
- Students will be encouraged to work independently at their assigned desk.
- Sidewalks will be marked in 6' increments to assist students waiting outside classrooms.
- Ensure physical distancing, as much as possible, on the playground.
- Verbal and visual cues will be used to encourage students to physically distance.

□ **Staff Training and Family Education:**

- Staff has been trained and educated on COVID-19 symptoms, disinfecting procedures, precautions, wearing of masks, etc. through public health guidance issuances, informational staff meetings and discussions on the subject.
- If staff determines a child does not feel well, they will immediately notify administration staff and the child will be isolated in a designated room that is located in the office lounge.
- Families have been kept in the loop with information on steps and precautions that we, as a school and staff, are taking, as well as what our expectations are of the parents who entrust their children to us.
- The Reopening Guide and other communiqués will be updated on a regular basis.

□ **Testing of Students and Staff:**

- Students/student families and staff will be encouraged to be tested if they have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with the virus. We will require quarantining for 14 days, regardless of whether they agree to the test. Staff will be tested at West Side Urgent Care at 100 E. North Street, Taft, California. This test will be available to all teachers and staff monthly, and more often if the teacher or staff member believes he or she has been in contact with an infected person. Further, if any costs are incurred due to Staff testing, they will be paid for by McKittrick Elementary School District.

□ **Triggers for Switching to Distance Learning:**

- The trigger for switching to distance learning could be a county or state mandate, or it could be determined based on confirmed cases of COVID-19 at the school. If 5% is the determining number of cases, McKittrick School would need only 4-5 confirmed cases within a 14 day period to require

closure and student and staff quarantine. If this is the case, teachers are prepared to return to a distancing learning mode, whether from the school or from home.

□ **Communication Plans:**

- The Superintendent will communicate with Kern County Public Health, school families, and staff when someone in the cohort tests positive via emails, texts, and/or phone calls. Postings at the entrance to school and the website could also be used.