



ROMOLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION FAQs

WHAT IS A STABLE GROUP AND WHY ARE THEY USED?

A stable group is a group of students with fixed membership that stays together for all courses and activities (e.g., breaks) and avoids contact with other persons or groups while on campus. This reduces the exposure potential if a case is detected and enables better continuity of education and school services, and stable grouping is only effective if it is fully observed and supported by school procedures.

DO STAFF NEED TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS?

Yes, and staff are provided with a face covering at the worksite if they are in need of one. All staff must use face coverings in accordance with CDPH guidelines. For staff who come into routine contact with others, CDPH recommends the use of 3-ply surgical masks, which are more effective than cloth face coverings. In limited situations where a face covering cannot be used for pedagogical or developmental reasons, (e.g., communicating or assisting young children or those with special needs) a face shield with a drape (per CDPH guidelines) can be used instead of a 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. (Per RUHS-PH guidance)

DO STUDENTS NEED TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS?

CDPH guidance requires that all students in grades TK-12 wear masks and face coverings regardless of social distancing unless they are exempt. The covering may be temporarily removed for eating snacks and drinking water during outdoor break time. Parents/guardians are encouraged to provide a reusable mask for their students, but schools are prepared to provide face coverings to students to ensure safety and continuity of education.

WHAT IF A PERSON CANNOT WEAR A FACE COVERING?

Employees and students who cannot wear face coverings due to a medical or mental health condition or disability, or who are hearing-impaired or communicating with a hearing-impaired person will have alternatives considered on a case-by-case basis. Medical note required. Face shield with cloth draping to be considered as an alternative to face covering. (Per RUHS-PH guidance)

WHAT IF A STUDENT REFUSES TO WEAR A FACE COVERING?

A student in grades TK-12 who refuses to wear a face covering cannot remain on campus and will be provided an alternative educational opportunity.

HOW OFTEN SHOULD STUDENTS WASH THEIR HANDS WHILE AT SCHOOL?

Frequent handwashing is recommended, such as at the start of the school day, before and after break time, after using the restroom, after sneezing or blowing nose, and after touching one's face.

WHAT IS RECOMMENDED FOR CLASSROOMS WITH NO ACCESS TO WATER?

If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

DO WE NEED TO PROVIDE HANDWASHING STATIONS OUTSIDE DURING BREAK TIME?

No, this is not a requirement, but frequent hand washing or hand sanitizing should be done when returning to class after break time.

HOW DO WE HANDLE SHARED CLASSROOM ITEMS?

Students should have their own supplies. Items that can be cleaned between uses can be used if cleaned.

WILL STUDENTS BE ABLE TO CHECK OUT BOOKS FROM THE SCHOOL LIBRARY?

Students will be able to check out books from the library. When students return books to the library, the books are to stay in a return box for at least 24 hours before re-shelving them.

HOW OFTEN SHOULD WE DISINFECT SURFACES?

Each school site has a schedule and protocol for the daily disinfecting of the school site environment.

DO BATHROOMS NEED TO BE CLEANED AFTER EVERY USE?

No. At a minimum, bathrooms are cleaned and disinfected daily. (Per CDPH guidance)

WILL THERE BE DISINFECTANT WIPES OR SPRAY IN COMMON AREAS?

Yes, the District provides classrooms and common areas with disinfectant wipes and/or spray.

HOW WILL AIR BE FILTERED AND CIRCULATED IN INDOOR SPACES AT SCHOOLS?

All District HVAC systems are equipped with MERV 13 filters as recommended by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning (ASHRAE) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to reduce the transmission of the COVID-19 virus. Fresh air is pulled in from the HVAC systems and circulates through the interior of buildings from 6:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Even if the HVAC system is not in "cooling" or "heating" mode, the fan is still circulating fresh air throughout the day (6:00 AM to 4:30 PM) as required by law.

WILL STAFF BE NOTIFIED IF A STUDENT HAS COVID-19?

Staff will be notified if there has been a person on campus who tested positive for COVID. Individual notifications will occur for staff and students that were in close contact with the infected person. Student and staff privacy will be maintained.

WHAT COUNTS AS CLOSE CONTACT?

A close contact is defined as a person who is within 6 feet of a case for a cumulative 15 minutes or more, within a 24-hour period. However, repeated brief contacts or extended contacts even if a facial covering is worn can still be considered significant in certain cases. In some school situations, it may be difficult to determine whether individuals have met this criterion and an entire cohort or stable group (class) may need to be considered exposed, particularly if people have spent time together indoors.

WHEN CAN I (STUDENTS OR STAFF) BE AROUND OTHERS AFTER HAVING COVID-19?

A case of COVID-19 can be with others after:

- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication and
- Symptoms have improved without medications and
- At least 10 days have passed since your last positive COVID-19 test.

If you tested positive for COVID-19 but had no symptoms, you can be with others after 10 days have passed since your last positive COVID-19 test, assuming you have no symptoms in the meantime. This is true for students and staff.