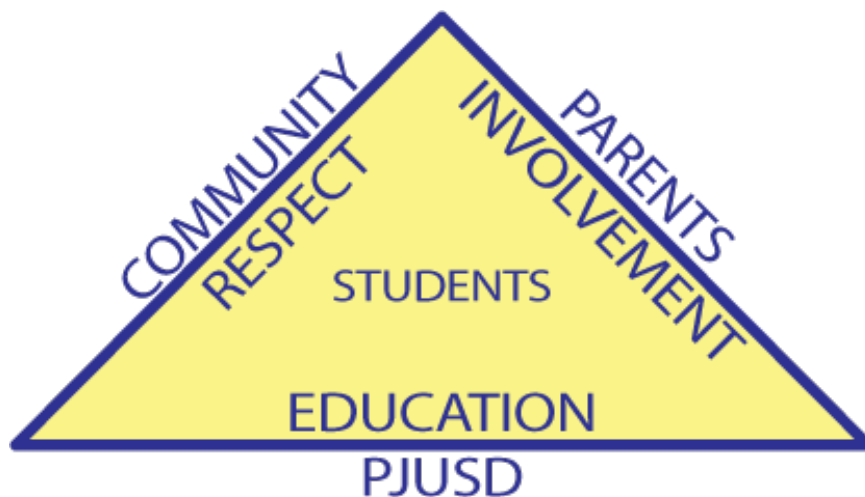


Pierce Joint Unified School District



Cal/OSHA

COVID-19 Safety/Prevention Procedures

January 28, 2021; Revised July 15, 2021; Revised December 9, 2021; Revised February 17, 2022;
Revised April 21, 2022; Revised October 20, 2022, Revised April 20, 2023,
Reviewed October 19, 2023 (no change); **Revised April 18, 2024**

This COVID-19 Prevention Procedures (CPP) is designed to control employees' exposures to the SARS-CoV-2 virus (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2) that causes COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019) that may occur in our workplace.

Date: April 18, 2024

Authority and Responsibility

The Superintendent has overall authority and responsibility for implementing the provisions of this CPP in our workplace. In addition, all administrators and supervisors are responsible for implementing and maintaining the CPP in their assigned work areas and for ensuring employees receive answers to questions about the program in a language they understand.

All employees are responsible for using safe work practices, following all directives, policies and procedures, and assisting in maintaining a safe work environment.

Application of the Pierce Joint Unified School District COVID-19 Prevention Procedures (CPP) and Injury & Illness Prevention Program (IIPP)

COVID-19 is a recognized hazard in our workplace that is addressed through this document, an extension of our IIPP, which will be effectively implemented and maintained to ensure the following:

1. When determining measures to prevent COVID-19 transmission and identifying and correcting COVID-19 hazards in our workplace:
 - a. All persons in our workplace are treated as potentially infectious, regardless of symptoms, vaccination status, or negative COVID-19 test results.
 - b. COVID-19 is treated as an airborne infectious disease. Applicable State of California and Colusa County Health Department orders and guidance will be reviewed when determining measures to prevent transmission and identifying and correcting COVID-19 hazards. COVID-19 prevention controls include:
 - i. Remote work.
 - ii. Physical distancing.
 - iii. Reducing population density indoors.
 - iv. Moving indoor tasks outside.
 - v. Implementing separate shifts and/or break times.
 - vi. Restricting access to work areas.
2. Training and instruction on COVID-19 prevention is provided:
 - a. When this CPP was first established.
 - b. To new employees.
 - c. To employees given a new job assignment involving COVID-19 hazards and they have not been previously trained.
 - d. Whenever new COVID-19 hazards are introduced.
 - e. When we are made aware of new or previously unrecognized COVID-19 hazards.
 - f. For supervisors to familiarize themselves with the COVID-19 hazards to which employees under their immediate direction and control may be exposed.

Appendix B COVID-19 Training Roster may be used to document training along with training records on our TCSIG Publicworks portal and other digital documentation platforms.

3. Procedures to investigate COVID-19 illnesses at the workplace include:
 - a. Determining the day and time a COVID-19 case was last present; the date of the positive COVID-19 tests or diagnosis; and the date the COVID-19 case first had one or more COVID-19 symptoms. Appendix A Investigating COVID-19 Cases will be used to document this information.
 - b. Effectively identifying and responding to persons with COVID-19 symptoms at the workplace.
 - c. Encouraging employees to report COVID-19 symptoms and to stay home when ill. Employees should report COVID-19 symptoms and possible hazards to their immediate supervisor via phone, text, or email.
4. Effective procedures for responding to COVID-19 cases at the workplace include:
 - a. "Infectious period" for the purpose of cases is now defined as:
 - i. For COVID-19 cases with symptoms, it is a minimum of 24 hours from the day of symptom onset. COVID-19 cases may return if 24 hours have passed with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications and their symptoms are mild and improving.
 - ii. For COVID-19 cases with no symptoms, there is no infectious period for the purpose of isolation or exclusion. If symptoms develop, the criteria above will apply.
 - iii. COVID-19 cases who return to work must wear a face covering indoors for 10 days from the start of symptoms or if the person did not have COVID-19 symptoms, 10 days from the date of their first positive COVID-19 test.
 - b. Reviewing current [California Department of Public Health \(CDPH\)](#) guidance for persons who had close contacts, including any guidance regarding quarantine or other measures to reduce transmission.
 - c. The following effective policies will be developed, implemented, and maintained to prevent transmission of COVID-19 by persons who had close contacts.
 - i. Notification will be given to close contacts.
 - ii. If symptoms develop, close contacts should follow guidance in (4.a.) above.
 - d. If an order to isolate, quarantine, or exclude an employee is issued by a local or state health official, the employee will not return to work until the period of isolation or quarantine is completed or the order is lifted.
 - e. If removal of an employee would create undue risk to a community's health, Pierce Joint Unified School District may submit a request for a waiver to Cal/OSHA in writing to rs@dir.ca.gov to allow employees to return to work if it does not violate local or state health official orders for isolation, quarantine, or exclusion. Necessary safety precautions will be maintained.
 - f. Upon excluding an employee from the workplace based on COVID-19 or a close contact, Pierce Joint Unified School District will provide excluded employees information regarding COVID-19-related benefits to which the employee may be entitled under applicable federal, state, or local laws. This includes any benefits available under legally mandated sick leave, workers' compensation law, local governmental requirements, and Pierce Joint Unified School District leave policies and leave guaranteed by contract. The employee will be notified of their available leaves.

Testing of Close Contacts

COVID-19 tests are available at no cost, during paid time, to all of our employees who had a close contact in the workplace with a person during their COVID-19 “infectious period” except for recently recovered employee COVID-19 cases without symptoms. These employees will be provided with the information outlined in paragraph (4)(f), above.

Notice of COVID-19 cases

Employees and independent contractors who had a close contact, as well as any employer with an employee who had a close contact, will be notified as soon as possible, and in no case longer than the time required to ensure that the exclusion requirements of paragraph (4)(a) above, are met.

When Labor Code section 6409.6 or any successor law is in effect, Pierce Joint Unified School District will:

- Provide notice of a COVID-19 case, in a form readily understandable to employees. The notice will be given to all employees, employers, and independent contractors at the worksite.
- Provide the notice to the authorized representative, if any of:
 - The COVID-19 case and of any employee who had a close contact.
 - All employees on the premises at the same worksite as the COVID-19 case within the infectious period.

We will investigate the COVID-19 case by using the **Appendix A: Investigating COVID-19 Cases** form.

Employees who had potential COVID-19 exposure in our workplace will receive a notice letter explaining the following:

- No cost COVID-19 testing during their working hours and testing locations.
- COVID-19 related benefits and leaves.

Face Coverings

Employees will be provided face coverings and required to wear them when required by a CDPH regulation or order. This includes spaces within vehicles when a CDPH regulation or order requires face coverings indoors. Face coverings will be clean, undamaged, and worn over the nose and mouth.

The following exceptions apply:

1. When an employee is alone in a room or vehicle.
2. While eating or drinking at the workplace, provided employees are at least six feet apart and, if indoors, the supply of outside or filtered air has been maximized to the extent feasible.
3. While employees are wearing respirators required by the employer and used in compliance with CCR, Title 8 section 5144.
4. Employees 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. Such employees shall wear an effective non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom, if the condition or disability permits it.
5. During specific tasks which cannot feasibly be performed with a face covering. This exception is limited to the time period in which such tasks are actually being performed.

If an employee is not wearing a face covering due to exceptions (4) and (5), above, the COVID-19 hazards will be assessed, and action taken as necessary.

Employees will not be prevented from wearing a face covering, including a respirator, when not required by this section, unless it creates a safety hazard.

Respirators

Respirators will be provided for voluntary use to employees who request them and who are working indoors or in vehicles with more than one person. Employees who request respirators for voluntary use will be:

- Encouraged to use them.
- Provided with a respirator of the correct size.
- Trained on:
 - How to properly wear the respirator provided.
 - How to perform a user seal check according to the manufacturer's instructions each time a respirator is worn.
 - The fact that facial hair interferes with a seal.

The requirements of CCR, Title 8 section 5144(c)(2) will be complied with according to the type of respirator (disposable filtering face piece or elastomeric re-usable) provided to employees.

Ventilation

For indoor locations, we maximize, to the extent feasible, the quantity of outside air for our buildings with mechanical or natural ventilation systems by:

- Ventilation systems have air economizers that bring in 20% outside air at all times, in the event of poor air quality, outside air may be turned off.
- Ventilation systems are maintained quarterly and filters are replaced quarterly, or more often if needed.
- Buildings or structures with mechanical ventilation will have recirculated air filtered with Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV)-13 or higher efficiency filters, if compatible with the ventilation system. If MERV-13 or higher filters are not compatible with the ventilation system, filters with the highest compatible filtering efficiency will be used. High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) air filtration units will be used in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations in indoor areas occupied by employees for extended periods, where ventilation is inadequate to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

In vehicles, we will maximize the supply of outside air to the extent feasible, except when doing so would cause a hazard to employees or expose them to inclement weather.

Reporting and Recordkeeping

Appendix A Investigating COVID-19 Cases will be used to keep a record of and track all COVID-19 cases. These records will be kept by Daena Meras, Chief Business Official and retained for two years beyond the period in which it is necessary to meet the requirements of CCR, Title 8, sections 3205, 3205.1, 3205.2, and 3205.3.

The notices required by subsection 3205(e) will be kept in accordance with Labor Code section 6409.6 or any successor law.

COVID-19 Outbreaks

This section will stay in effect until there are one or fewer new COVID-19 cases detected in the exposed group for a 14-day period.

COVID-19 testing

We immediately provide COVID-19 testing available at no cost to our employees within the exposed group, regardless of vaccination status, during employees' paid time, except for returned cases and employees who were not present at the workplace during the relevant 14-day period(s).

Additional testing is made available on a weekly basis to all employees in the exposed group who remain at the workplace.

Face Coverings

Employees in the exposed group, regardless of vaccination status, will wear face coverings when indoors, or when outdoors and less than six feet from another person, unless one of the exceptions in our CPP applies.

Respirators

Employees will be notified of their right to request and receive a respirator for voluntary use, as stipulated in our CPP.

COVID-19 investigation, review, and hazard correction

Pierce Joint Unified School District will perform a review of potentially relevant COVID-19 policies, procedures and controls, and implement changes as needed to prevent further spread of COVID-19 when this addendum initially applies and periodically thereafter. The investigation, review, and changes will be documented and include:

- Investigation of new or unabated COVID-19 hazards including:
 - Our leave policies and practices and whether employees are discouraged from remaining home when sick.
 - Our COVID-19 testing policies.
 - Insufficient supply of outdoor air to indoor workplaces.
 - Insufficient air filtration.
 - Insufficient physical distancing.
- Review updated every 30 days that CCR, Title 8 section 3205.1 continues to apply:
 - In response to new information or to new or previously unrecognized COVID-19 hazards.
 - When otherwise necessary.
- Any changes implemented to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 based on the investigation and review, which may include:
 - Moving indoor tasks outdoors or having them performed remotely.
 - Increasing the outdoor air supply when work is done indoors.
 - Improving air filtration.
 - Increasing physical distancing to the extent feasible.
 - Requiring respiratory protection in compliance with CCR, Title 8 section 5144.
 - Other applicable controls.

Ventilation

Buildings or structures with mechanical ventilation will have recirculated air filtered with Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV)-13 or higher efficiency filters, if compatible with the ventilation system. If MERV-13 or higher filters are not compatible with the ventilation system, filters with the highest compatible filtering efficiency will be used. High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) air filtration units will be used in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations in indoor areas occupied by employees for extended periods, where ventilation is inadequate to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

These ventilation requirements will continue to be implemented after the outbreak has passed and CCR, Title 8 section 3205.1 is no longer applicable.

Major Outbreaks

The following will be done while CCR, Title 8 section 3205.1 applies if 20 or more employee COVID-19 cases in an exposed group visited the worksite during their infectious period within a 30-day period:

- Exclude COVID-19 cases as well as employees in the exposed group who do not take a COVID-

19 test.

- Immediately ensure that all employees in the exposed group who remain at work are tested for COVID-19 at least twice weekly until there are one or fewer new COVID-19 cases detected in the exposed group for a 14-day period. Employees in the exposed group that do not take the COVID-19 test will be excluded until our return to work criteria have been met.
- Report the outbreak to Cal/OSHA.
- Provide respirators for voluntary use to employees in the exposed group, encourage their use, and train employees according to CCR, Title 8 section 5144(c)(2) requirements.
- Any employees in the exposed group who are not wearing respirators as required will be separated from other persons by at least six feet, except where it can be demonstrated that at least six feet of separation is not feasible, and except for momentary exposure while persons are in movement. Methods of physical distancing include:
 - Telework or other remote work arrangements.
 - Reducing the number of persons in an area at one time, including visitors.
 - Visual cues such as signs and floor markings to indicate where employees and others should be located or their direction and path of travel
 - Staggered arrival, departure, work, and break times.
 - Adjusted work processes or procedures, such as reducing production speed, to allow greater distance between employees.

When it is not feasible to maintain a distance of at least six feet, individuals will be as far apart as feasible.

Safety and Continuity of Services

We will ensure continuity of services with student academic needs and the social, emotional, and mental health needs of its students and staff. This could include having the ability to immediately transition to providing all services virtually in case of school closures.

Carol Geyer
Superintendent
Pierce Joint Unified School District

Appendix A: Investigating COVID-19 Cases

All personal identifying information of COVID-19 cases or persons with COVID-19 symptoms, and any employee required medical records will be kept confidential unless disclosure is required or permitted by law. Un-redacted information on COVID-19 cases will be provided to the local health department, CDPH, Cal/OSHA, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) immediately upon request, and when required by law.

Date COVID-19 case (suspect or confirmed) became known: _____

Name of person(s) conducting the investigation: _____ Date initiated: _____

COVID-19 Case Summary

Name	Contact Info	Occupation	Location	Last day and time present	Date of positive test and/or diagnosis	Date of first symptoms

Summary of employees, independent contractors, and employees of other employers that came in close contact

Name	Contact Info	Date notified	Date offered COVID-19 testing (employees only)

Summary notice of a COVID-19 case (employees, employers, independent contractors) – during the infectious period and regardless of a close contact occurring.

Name(s)	Date notified

Summary notice of a COVID-19 case (authorized representative of the COVID-19 case and employee who had close contact).

Name	Date notified

What were the workplace conditions that could have contributed to the risk of COVID-19 exposure?

What could be done to reduce exposure to COVID-19? _____

Was local health department notified? Yes or No Date? _____

Appendix B: COVID-19 Training Roster

Date: _____ COVID-19 Training Topic: _____

Person that conducted the training: _____

Employee Name	Signature