



# Salida Union School District

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**District Superintendent**  
Twila Tosh

**Board of Trustees**  
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August 4, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

First, I would like to begin by saying that we are very excited to have our students back on campus! As we are close to the first few days of school, we wanted to send out some information to help everyone understand the current protocols and how they will be implemented at our sites.

- Face coverings are required in our classrooms or indoor spaces.
- Students will be placed in grade level cohorts.
- Social Distance requirements have been relaxed.
- Parents will continue to complete wellness checks before sending child to school.

There will be a transition for our students back to the classroom and we plan to handle that transition with kindness and respect for everyone. Some questions that we have received regarding face masks are:

- **What if my child does not bring a face covering to school?**
  - Each school site has face coverings that they can give to a student who forgets theirs.
- **Does my child have to wear a face covering all day long?**
  - They will only be required to wear a face covering while inside buildings. When they are outside during a passing period, at recess, lunch, or PE they will not need to wear a face covering.
- **What if my child wants to wear their face covering outside?**
  - They are able to wear their face covering outside if they wish. It is not required.
- **What if a staff member or administrator sees my child not wearing a face covering in the classroom?**
  - The staff member or administrator will ask the student to please wear their face covering in the classroom. This is how we handled it last year and there were very few instances where a student did not do what they were asked. Our students really are amazing!
- **What if my child is defiant and refuses to wear their face covering?**
  - As we stated above, we will expect both staff and students to be kind and respectful to each other. Staff will work with the student to help support them in following the rules using a progressive solutionary approach. If the issue progresses, a parent meeting may be scheduled to determine the best educational option for your child.

➤ **If my child is on Independent Study (IS), can they participate in sports or other extracurricular activities?**

- Yes, each site will have activities that IS students can participate in to have interaction with their peers. If they come to campus and are in a classroom or other building they will need to follow the CDPH mask guidelines like the other students.

Several parents have contacted us regarding the California Department of Public Health Guidance for Schools. I want to thank you for your questions and expressing your thoughts. I have spent this past week looking into our responsibility to follow the guidelines and if there is any latitude to lessen the restrictions. After talking with Public Health, CRSIG (our insurance group), Cal OSHA, and our attorney, I came up with the same answers over and over: As a public school system, we must follow the directives of the California Department of Public Health. There is a health order in effect and we must adhere to it. It is not in our jurisdiction as a school district to bend the rules or ignore them.

It is our charge to provide a quality education for all of our students and to keep everyone safe. We take that responsibility very seriously. We realize that some of you might not agree with the guidance, and the appropriate place for you to address your concerns is:

California Department of Public Health  
PO Box, 997377, MS 0500, Sacramento, CA 95899-7377

As soon as the restrictions can be lifted, we will immediately do so! The past 17 months have been a difficult time for everyone. I believe that we will get through this together by being kind and respectful to each other and making the best of our situation. We are so much better off than we were a year ago, and we are thankful for that!

Sincerely,



Twila Tosh  
Superintendent