



County of San Diego Elementary School Waiver

Application for a Waiver to Re-open In-Person Instruction for TK-6 Elementary Education.

Please submit one application for each local educational agency or equivalent. If applying on behalf of a school district, please submit one application for the elementary schools in the district that are seeking to reopen for in-person instruction. If applying for an independent, private, faith-based, or charter school, please submit an application for each school.

If all documentation is not included application can not be processed.

Once the waiver is approved, your information will be posted on the County of San Diego website, <http://Coronavirus-sd.com/K12Schools>

School Name

Escondido Christian School

District name

N/A

District School(s) Name**Contact Name**

Matthew Conway

Contact Email

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Address

923 Idaho Ave.

City

Escondido

Zip Code

92025

Type

Private School

Grades to be Reopened

1
2
3
4
5
6
K

Number of Students in Reopening Grades

182

Number of Staff at Reopening Sites

35

Proposed Reopening Date

09/08/20

Labor Organization

No labor organization represents staff at the school. A survey was sent to all staff members employed at our school on Tuesday, August 4, 2020. The response was 100% in favor of returning to in-class instruction with a 95% participation rate.

Parent Organization

A survey conducted with our parents/families enrolled in our school on Tuesday, August 4, 2020. The response was 87% in favor of returning to in-class instruction with a 93% participation rate.

Community Organization

Letters of support for reopening were received from the Mayor of Escondido and Escondido Christian Church.

1. Published on Webpage

www.ecslions.org

1.A) Webpage Section/Page

Page 2

1.B) Webpage Language

1) Published on Webpage- The school(s) Coronavirus Disease 2019 Prevention / Reopening Plan(s) are published at web address listed below.

The following guidance for reopening Escondido Christian School is consistent with the California Department of Public Health and the

local health department. This information can be found at www.ecslions.org.

2. Distance Learning

YES

2.A) Distance Learning Section/Page

Page 2

2.B) Distance Learning Language

2) Distance Learning: School plan(s) should describe how school will offer distance learning based on the unique circumstances of each student who would be put at-risk by an in-person instructional model.

To serve each family, we will provide a distance learning solution during the time of the pandemic. This will be different from the full remote learning conducted at the conclusion of last year but it will provide any student or family access to the daily in-person instruction.

3. Physical Distancing

YES

3. A) Physical Distance Section/Page

Page 3

3. B) Physical Distancing Language

3) Physical Distancing: How space and routines will be arranged to allow for physical distancing of students and staff.

New class and recess schedules have been developed to limit students coming into close contact with each other and using common areas at the same time. According to the CDC and CDPH close contact is defined as contact within 6 feet for greater than 15 minutes.

In-Class: In order to maintain distance within the classroom we have reduced the number of enrolled students in each grade level and distanced students' desks from each other and the teacher's area. Doors and windows to the outside will remain open to allow for air flow and ventilation as the weather permits. At times, some classes may meet in non-traditional spaces on campus to ensure distancing.

Recess and Lunch: Recess and lunch will be staggered in schedule and each class will have their own location to eat. Outdoor lunch tables are spaced throughout the campus. An area of the campus outdoor fields or playground will be assigned to each class each day in order to keep cohorts separate. The aide or teacher from their room will monitor them.

Restroom Use: Restroom usage times will be scheduled for each class with a disinfecting wipe down when each class is finished.

Unscheduled restroom visits will be accompanied by the classroom aide and surface disinfected after use.

4. Stable Cohorts

YES

4. A) Stable Section/Page

Page 3

4. B) Stable Cohorts Language

4) Stable Cohorts: How students will be kept in small, stable, groups with fixed membership that stay together for all activities (e.g., instruction, lunch, recess) and minimize/avoid contact with other groups or individuals who are not part of the cohort.

Students will be in their own classrooms with the same teacher and aide daily. For recess, we have a track field, a soccer field, a middle field with an area for grass play activities, a full sized outdoor basketball court, volleyball court, large swing set area and full-covered playground with a large climbing structure.

We have several acres to distance classes for recess. Lunch will be outside in static groups. Staggered scheduling will allow for disinfecting of any used tables and equipment in between lunch schedules.

Restroom usage times will be scheduled for each class with a disinfecting wipe down when each class is finished. Unscheduled restroom visits will be accompanied by the classroom aide and surface disinfected after use.

5. Face Coverings

YES

5.A)Face Covering Section/Page

Page 4

5.B) Face Covering Language

5) Face Coverings and Other Essential Protective Gear: How CDPH's face covering requirements will be satisfied and enforced.

Following guidelines from the California Department of Public Health Industry Guidance for Schools and School Based programs, all students in

grades 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th will be required to wear a face covering throughout the duration of the day, except during meal times and when outdoors if physical distancing can be maintained. Grades K, 1st and 2nd are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering. Face coverings must cover the nose and mouth. The school will exempt students from wearing a face covering if they fall within the CDPH guidelines for individuals exempt. Individuals who refuse to wear a face covering but who are not exempt will not be permitted to remain on campus and will be given the option of distance learning.

At check-in students will be reminded to wear their face covering, avoid touching their face covering and to wash their hands frequently. Staff will be trained before the start of school on their requirements to wear a face covering and will remind students throughout the day on proper usage.

6. Cleaning and Disinfection

YES

6. A) Cleaning and Disinfecting Section/Page

Page 4

6. B) Cleaning and Disinfecting Language

6) Cleaning and Disinfection: How shared surfaces will be regularly cleaned and disinfected and how use of shared items will be minimized.

As a matter of utmost importance, Escondido Christian School has engaged City Wide Cleaning Services, a high quality, reputable cleaning company to provide deep, thorough, comprehensive, cleaning of the school immediately prior to the first day of school, and to thereafter nightly clean and sanitize the school to mitigate the possibility of transmission infection on school surfaces.

A regular nightly cleaning schedule as well as wiping down high touch surfaces, including light switches and door knobs/handles, during the day will be used throughout the school year. Maximum efforts will be made to reduce the need to touch objects/doors (no-touch waste containers, prop doors open), and teachers and staff will regularly reinforce no sharing of food, water bottles or cutlery policies. To the greatest extent possible, classroom materials and equipment will be made of materials that can be cleaned and disinfected if not personalized for each child's use.

7. Entrance, Egress and Movement

YES

7. A) Entrance/Movement Section/Page

Page 5

7. B) Entrance/Movement Language

7) Entrance, Egress, and Movement Within the School: How movement of students, staff, and parents will be managed to avoid close contact and/or mixing of cohorts.

Our school layout has the ability to receive students at three different drop off and pick up locations. Kindergarten, 1st grade and 2nd grade will use the main front entrance. Kindergarten will enter their rooms directly from the circle drop off, which will limit a student's potential for crossing another's path on their way to the classroom. 1st grade and 2nd grade go in different directions and will enter through their front doors. 3rd grade, 4th grade and 5th grade will use the soft ball/track entrance. 3rd and 4th grades will

enter their classrooms through their back doors which face that field. 5th Grade will enter their front doors. 6th grade will drop off and enter in the upper parking lot then walk across the soccer field to their respective back doors.

When dropping students off, parents will remain in their cars and staff will check temperatures of students entering the school at their respective drop off locations.

8. Health Screenings

YES

8. A) Health Screening Section/Page

Page 5

8. B) Health Screening Language

8) Health Screenings for Students and Staff: How students and staff will be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 and how ill students or staff will be separated from others and sent home immediately.

Sick students and staff are encouraged to stay home and are also encouraged to stay home if there is a member of their household who is sick.

Upon arrival, all students and staff will be screened for symptoms, we will verbally ask them if they are experiencing symptoms and will take their temperature with a no-touch thermometer. If the student or staff answers 'yes' to any symptom or has a fever of 100.0 F or higher, they will be sent home. Students who need to wait to be picked up will be required to wear a face mask and wait in the isolation room. If a student or staff becomes ill during the school day they will be separated from the class and sent home immediately. The school will recommend to any who screen with symptoms, fever, or become sick to get a COVID19 test with their healthcare provider or at a community testing site.

8. C) Language for Symptomatic Students or Staff

Symptoms that may require school absence:

Fever above 100.0 F or chills

Persistent cough

Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Fatigue

Muscle or body aches

Headaches

Loss of taste or smell

Sore throat

Congestion or runny nose

Nausea or vomiting

Diarrhea

Bloodshot Eyes

Exposure to a confirmed positive COVID-19 individual in the last 14 days

Accommodations for distance learning will be made for children requiring an absence from school.

Prior to students coming on campus for the first day of school, parents will need to sign a Parent Agreement assuring the school of their commitment to keep children home when they exhibit certain identified symptoms as mentioned above.

Any student or employee who does not pass a temperature screening test must stay home until symptom free for 3 days. It is up to the discretion of school staff to decide during the school day when children are displaying a compelling combination of the symptoms, or simply a fever above 100.0 F, in order to be sent home. They will be asked to remain in an area separate from other students while they wait for a parent/family member to pick them up.

Students and employees who develop symptoms while on campus will wait in an isolated area until they can be transported home or to a healthcare facility, as soon as possible. A COVID-19 test will be recommended. Areas of campus used by any sick person will be closed off and not used before cleaning and disinfection.

Anyone who tests negative for COVID-19 may return to campus 3 days after symptoms resolve.

Anyone who has had close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case needs to remain in quarantine for 14 days from last exposure. A COVID-19 test is recommended.

If there is a confirmed COVID-19 case the school will notify the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency to ensure appropriate action. The individual will be isolated and excluded from school for 10 days from symptom onset or test date. The school will identify contacts, quarantine and exclude exposed contacts for 14 days after the last date the positive case was on campus. COVID-19 testing will be recommended for those contacts. Deep cleaning and disinfection of classroom and spaces will take place where a positive case spent significant time. In addition, the school community will be notified if there is a confirmed case.

A COVID-19 outbreak is defined as multiple individuals in different classes confirmed to have COVID-19 or at least 5% of the total number of people on campus are positive within a 14 day period. Should an outbreak occur on campus, the school will continue to work in compliance with the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency to determine the best course of action for resuming in-person learning. This may result in a transition to remote learning for an extended period of time.

9. Healthy Hygiene Practices

YES

9. A) Healthy Hygiene Section/Page

Page 7

9. B) Healthy Hygiene Language

9) Healthy Hygiene Practices: The availability of handwashing stations and hand sanitizer, and how their use will be promoted and incorporated into routines.

Many classrooms have a sink for handwashing and all have hand sanitizer readily available. Handwashing or hand sanitizer will be required as students arrive for the day in their classroom. Handwashing or hand sanitizer will be required when using the restroom, before lunch and after recesses. Clear and concise signage is located throughout the campus that emphasize and teach proper hygiene.

All drinking fountains will be closed. Students must bring their own water bottle to campus. Extra bottles will be available for students if necessary.

New filters will be installed for better classroom and workroom air filtration.

Prior to the school year, faculty and staff will be trained on the proper use of face coverings and how to promote healthy hygiene practices. Continued training will take place throughout the school year.

10. Identification and Tracing of Contacts

YES

10. A) Identification and Tracing Section/Page

Page 8

10. B) Identification and Tracing Language

10) Identification and Tracing of Contacts: Actions that staff will take when there is a confirmed case. Confirm that the school(s) have designated staff persons to support contact tracing, such as creation and submission of lists of exposed students and staff to the local health department and notification of exposed persons. Each school must designate a person for the local health department to contact about COVID-19.

The procedure for actions taken when there is a confirmed case are described in the "Health Screenings for Students and Staff" section of this reopening plan. Staff and families will be able to self-report symptoms to the school through the school's Student Services Coordinator. In addition they will receive prompt notifications of exposures and closures, while maintaining confidentiality, as required by FERPA and state law related to privacy of educational records and other privacy laws. The local health department should contact the principal about COVID-19.

11. Staff Training and Family Education

YES

11. A) Staff Training and Family Edu. Section/Page

Page 8

11. B) Staff Training and Family Edu. Language

11) Staff Training and Family Education: How staff will be trained and families will be educated on the application and enforcement of the plan.

Escondido Christian School hereby states and implements a strict exclusion policy for symptomatic students and employees. Teachers and administrators will be provided with information on signs and symptoms of COVID-19 in children so that appropriate action can be taken if children develop symptoms during the day.

Our staff in-service week will be utilized to outline and walk through all protocols pertaining to health and safety requirements that are implemented into our program for safety during the COVID 19 pandemic time. Periodic training sessions will continue throughout the school year.

All of our families will receive a detailed communication covering everything from drop off to pick up of their student. We will also have a health checklist parents need to administer at home before bringing their student to school each day.

12. Testing of Students and Staff

YES

12. A) Testing Section/Page

Page 9

12. B) Testing Language

12) Testing of Students and Staff: The school(s) plans describe how school officials will ensure that students and staff who have symptoms of Coronavirus Disease 2019 or have been exposed to someone with Coronavirus Disease 2019 will be rapidly tested and what instructions they will be given while waiting for test results. Describe how staff will be tested periodically to detect asymptomatic infections. At a minimum, schools will direct staff to contact their primary care provider or community testing site for testing.

The school will ask anyone who has had close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case or exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 to be tested. While waiting for test results, students will have access to instruction at home. For more explanation about how the school will handle testing of students and staff please see the section titled "Health Screenings for Students and Staff" in this reopening plan.

Staff will be asked to contact their doctor or local testing site for testing. School employees and students who need testing would either go to their health care provider, a state-operated testing site or other community testing site. The Department of Managed Health Care has filed an emergency regulation to require health plans to pay for COVID-19 testing for all essential workers, including school staff.

In addition, tests are available at community testing sites throughout the state.

12. C) Staff Tested Periodically Language

12) Testing of Students and Staff: The school(s) plans describe how school officials will ensure that students and staff who have symptoms of Coronavirus Disease 2019 or have been exposed to someone with Coronavirus Disease 2019 will be rapidly tested and what instructions they will be given while waiting for test results. Describe how staff will be tested periodically to detect asymptomatic infections. At a minimum, schools will direct staff to contact their primary care provider or community testing site for testing.

The school will ask anyone who has had close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case or exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 to be tested. While waiting for test results, students will have access to instruction at home. For more explanation about how the school will handle testing of students and staff please see the section titled "Health Screenings for Students and Staff" in this reopening plan.

Staff will be asked to contact their doctor or local testing site for testing. School employees and students who need testing would either go to their health care provider, a state-operated testing site or other community testing site. The Department of Managed Health Care has filed an emergency regulation to require health plans to pay for COVID-19 testing for all essential workers, including school staff. In addition, tests are available at community testing sites throughout the state.

13. Triggers for Switching to Distance Learning

YES

13. A) Triggers to Dist. Learning Section/Page

Page 9

13.B) Triggers to Dist. Learning Language

13) Triggers for Switching to Distance Learning: The criteria the school will use to determine when to physically close the school and prohibit in-person instruction.

The school will use the following statement from the California Department of Public Health to help determine when it is necessary to physically close the school.

"Individual school closure is recommended based on the number of cases, the percentage of the teacher/students/staff that are positive for COVID-19, and following consultation with the Local Health Officer. Individual school closure may be appropriate when there are multiple cases in multiple cohorts at a school or when at least 5 percent of the total number of teachers/student/staff are cases within a 14-day period, depending on the size and physical layout of the school. The Local Health Officer may also determine school closure is warranted for other reasons, including results from public

health investigation or other local epidemiological data.”

14. Communication Plans

YES

14. A) Communication Plans Section/Page

Page 10

14. B) Communication Plans Language

14) Communication Plans: How will the school communicate with students, staff, and parents about cases and exposures at the school, consistent with privacy requirements such as FERPA and HIPAA.

When there have been cases and exposures at the school, the school will communicate with students, staff and families in an anonymous fashion in accordance with FERPA and HIPAA regulations.

Superintendent Name

Matthew Conway

Job Title

Principal

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