



# 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**

Alpine Union School District

**District name**

Alpine Union Elementary

**Contact Name**

Rich Newman

**Contact Email**

rnewman@alpineschools.net

**Address**

2001 Tavern Road

**City**

Alpine

**Zip Code**

91901

**Type**

District School

**Grades to be Reopened**

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- K
- TK

**Number of Students in Reopening Grades**

1288

**Number of Staff at Reopening Sites**

100

**Proposed Reopening Date**

09/08/20

**Labor Organization**

CSEA letter of support

Dr. Rich Newman, Superintendent  
Alpine Union School District  
2001 Tavern Road  
Alpine, CA 91901

Re: Request for Necessary and Relevant Information – Reopening In-Person Learning Elementary Education Waiver Request

Dear Dr. Newman:

CSEA is receipt of the Request for Necessary and Relevant Information regarding Reopening In-Person Learning Elementary Education Waiver Request. CSEA and its Alpine Chapter 607 can support the District to request a waiver of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) framework which requires schools located in a local health jurisdiction that has been on the monitoring list with the last 14 days to conduct distance only learning, until the local health jurisdiction has been off of the monitoring list for at least 14 days. For elementary schools to open for in-person instruction under specified conditions, the school or school district must satisfy certain waiver requirements in order to be granted a waiver. Again, CSEA and its Alpine Chapter 607 can support the District in the waiver request.

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions or concerns, 858-202-2611.

Sincerely,  
CALIFORNIA SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

Joni Collins  
Labor Relations Representative  
c: Matt Busacco, Chapter President, Alpine Chapter 607  
Kasey Oliver, CSEA Field Director

ATA letter of consult

Review of Submission of Waiver for Reopening of Alpine Union School District

DATE: August 11, 2020

ATTENDEES:

[REDACTED]

On Friday, August 7, 2020, the San Diego County Department of Public Health (SCDPH) posted the reopening waiver application for K-6 in-class learning based on the State of California Department of Health guidelines. In compliance with the San Diego County Department of Health (SDCPH), Alpine Union School District (AUSD) Superintendent Dr. Newman met with the above-referenced representatives of the Alpine Teachers Association, who serve as the Executive Leadership team representing the Teachers Association. The meetings took place as part of formal negotiation sessions. Dr. Newman reviewed the District's intent to submit a waiver for reopening of in-class learning for K-6 students in AUSD. Dr. Newman reviewed the AUSD Reopening Plan outlining procedures that have been developed to meet the requirements and guidelines as outlined by the SDCPH, the body responsible for approval of the reopening of K-6 schools within San Diego County. In addition, Dr. Newman discussed the priority areas for reopening schools and the classes which will be the first to open up on campus.

In anticipation of San Diego County meeting thresholds to allow waivers, guidelines and procedures have been reviewed and updated for the opening of in-class learning. The AUSD guidelines and procedures are in compliance with each of the Site-Based Reopening Checklist as detailed in the waiver application. I affirm that the foregoing is a true representation of the meeting held with Alpine community representatives on attesting to their support of the Alpine Union School District submission of a waiver to reopen in-class learning of K-6 students.

8-20-2020  
Dr. Rich Newman, Alpine Union School District

#### **Parent Organization**

Town Hall meeting held with all parents and the Alpine Community - July 21, 2020

[https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded\\_file/878505/Town](https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/878505/Town)

Each school hosted a Town Hall meeting with their respective

community  
Presentations located at  
<https://www.alpineschools.net/o/ausd/page/coronavirus-updates-15>

### **Community Organization**

Presentation shared and discussed at Board Meeting on Aug 12, 2020  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sMHz5j50PsUKxCaJQBsrZXt42-0BB7ZY/view?usp=sharing>

### **1. Published on Webpage**

<https://www.alpineschools.net/o/ausd/page/coronavirus-updates-15>

#### **1.A) Webpage Section/Page**

page 4

#### **1.B) Webpage Language**

This plan is available at the COVID-19 School Communications page on the district website. Supplementary resources like Reopening Guidebook and Reopening Presentations and Videos can also be found on this page.

### **2. Distance Learning**

YES

#### **2.A) Distance Learning Section/Page**

page 4

#### **2.B) Distance Learning Language**

All students and families have the option of Distance Learning for the 20/21 academic year.  
Distance Learning includes:  
5 days a week virtual/live at-home instruction  
Students supplied with chromebooks and support with wifi if needed  
Personalized daily instruction

### **3. Physical Distancing**

YES

#### **3. A) Physical Distance Section/Page**

page 5

#### **3. B) Physical Distancing Language**

All sites have instituted procedures to minimize mixing, implemented 6-ft. physical distancing, and maximize space and physical barriers in the following settings:  
During staff and student arrival/symptom screening  
Before instruction begins  
Altered classroom layouts to emphasize 6-ft. physical distancing or maximum space/barriers between students

**Extended Day spaces**

Altered office, reception area, and all other common space layouts for 6-ft. physical distancing

The classroom will be expanded to use spaces on campus, where possible to extend the "four walls" of the classroom. Staff will implement plans to minimize movement in both indoor and outdoor spaces that are easy for students to understand and are developmentally appropriate.

All sites have posted signs in meeting rooms limiting the capacity and layout for 6-ft. physical distancing or maximum space/barriers between individuals

Placed signs and/or markers to assist with 6-ft. physical distancing: "Stand here" markers where students or staff are required to assemble or wait in line

"One way" markers to establish single direction flow in hallways

At restrooms to:

Limit entry to students from specific classrooms nearby

Limit the number of students using it at one time

Indicate where to wait in line

**4. Stable Cohorts**

YES

**4. A) Stable Section/Page**

pages 5-6

**4. B) Stable Cohorts Language****Minimizing Contacts**

To minimize the number of contacts and help students feel safe, as much as possible, students will work with the same group of students each day (sometimes referred to as a "stable cohort" in the literature on health and safety). This grouping of students will be purposeful in that all students will share an advisor (credentialed teacher) and not rotate unnecessarily between groups or classes.

In as much as is reasonable, students will stay in consistent and predictable groups to minimize transitions and contact.

The same group students are in the same cohort each day  
Cohort sizes will be determined by the maximum capacity for students in the cohorts learning space while meeting 6-foot physical distancing objectives

Students stay in the same cohort

Each cohort should be in a separate room and not mix with other cohorts

Teachers should remain primarily with one cohort of students, if feasible

Geographic considerations should be used to designate cohorts to support transportation needs

Service providers and other adults who typically rove from room to room, will be limited to prevent cross contamination

**Options for Higher Risk Individuals**

Consideration of options for staff at higher risk for severe illness (including older adults and people of all ages with certain underlying medical conditions) that limit their exposure risk (e.g., telework, modified job responsibilities that limit exposure risk) when possible  
Consideration of options for students at higher risk of severe illness that limit their exposure risk (e.g., virtual learning opportunities)

when possible

Considerations will be consistent with applicable law, policies to protect the privacy of people at higher risk for severe illness regarding underlying medical conditions

## 5. Face Coverings

YES

### 5.A)Face Covering Section/Page

page 6

### 5.B) Face Covering Language

All staff and students will utilize face coverings as indicated by recommendations from the Center for Disease Control , the California Department of Public Health  
Face coverings must be worn by students and staff:

- While waiting to enter the school campus
- While on school grounds (except when eating or drinking)
- While leaving school
- While on a school bus

Each site has a supply of disposable face coverings for anyone who is unable to provide their own

Responses for failing to wear a cloth face covering include:

- Providing disposable face covering
- Exclusion from campus

6

We will exempt students from wearing a face covering if they fall within the CDPH guidelines for individual exemption. Students unable to wear a cloth facial covering will be encouraged to wear a plastic face shield and drape. Those who are exempt from wearing a facial covering and who cannot or chose not to use a plastic face shield will be given the option of distance learning. 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.

## 6. Cleaning and Disinfection

YES

### 6. A) Cleaning and Disinfecting Section/Page

page 6

### 6. B) Cleaning and Disinfecting Language

Custodial Staff

Each site's custodial staff has the appropriate tools, equipment and training to provide enhanced disinfecting at all schools and district facilities,

Each site has Identified and stocked cleaning products using the following guidelines:

Cleaning products should be from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved list "N" approved for use against COVID-19

Following product instructions for use

Reducing the risk of asthma related to disinfecting, selecting disinfectant products on list N with asthma-safer ingredients (hydrogen peroxide, citric acid or lactic acid).

Avoiding products that mix these ingredients with peroxyacetic (peracetic) acid, sodium hypochlorite (bleach) or quaternary ammonium compounds, which can cause asthma.

Using disinfectants labeled to be effective against emerging viral pathogens, following label directions for appropriate dilution rates and contact times.

Providing employees training on manufacturer's directions, on Cal/OSHA requirements for safe use and as required by the Healthy Schools Act, as applicable.

Established a cleaning and disinfecting schedule in order to avoid both under- and over-use of cleaning products.

Custodial staff has the proper protective equipment including gloves, eye protection, respiratory protection and other appropriate protective equipment as required by the product instructions

Each site has all products kept out of children's reach and stored in a space with restricted access

Areas used by any staff or student with temperature or symptoms will be closed off areas and not used before cleaning and disinfection.

To reduce risk of exposure, custodial staff will wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting.

If it is not possible to wait 24 hours, staff will wait as long as feasible before cleaning and disinfecting

General Staff

Staff at each site will continue cleaning of high touch areas and surfaces in individuals' work areas throughout the day, including:

Tables in classrooms and other common areas

Chairs in classrooms and other common areas

Doorknobs

Teacher area/space

Chromebooks/electronic devices

Limited Sharing

To the greatest extent possible, each child's belongings will be kept separated and in individually labeled storage containers, backpacks, cubbies or areas.

Personal belongings will be taken home each day to be cleaned.

Students will be provided with adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high-touch materials (art supplies, equipment, etc.) to the greatest extent possible or limit use of supplies and equipment to one group of children at a time and clean and disinfect between uses.

Students will not share food or drink.

## **7. Entrance, Egress and Movement**

YES

### **7. A) Entrance/Movement Section/Page**

pages 7-8

### **7. B)Entrance/Movement Language**

Each site has implemented procedures to support 6-ft physical distancing for staff and student as they enter, exit and move throughout the day, including:

Altering offices, reception area, and all other common space for physical distancing.

Several entry and exit points for all staff, students and parents.

Cohorts of students will be assigned a timeframe for arrival and departure from an assigned point.

Parents are encouraged to remain in their vehicles and drop off older

children at the designated drop off zones.  
 Parents that need to escort younger children to their screening and during pickup will be required to wear a mask.  
 Posting signs in meeting rooms limiting the capacity and layout for physical distancing.  
 Passing periods and break times will be staggered to avoid congestion.  
 Placing signs and/or markers to assist with physical distancing, including:  
 "Stand here" markers where students or staff are required to assemble or wait in line  
 "One Way" markers to establish single direction flow in hallways  
 At restrooms to:  
 Limit entry to students from specific classrooms nearby  
 Limit the number of students using it at one time  
 Indicate where to wait in line

## **8. Health Screenings**

YES

### **8. A) Health Screening Section/Page**

page 8

### **8. B) Health Screening Language**

Daily symptom screening of all staff for COVID-19 symptoms including:  
 Use of touchless thermometers to take temperature when entering campus  
 Not admitting staff with temperatures >100F and logging information for COVID-19 liaison  
 Daily reporting by staff member if they have been exhibiting COVID-19 related symptoms, or have been in recent contact with anyone with COVID-19 or related symptoms.

Daily screening of all students for COVID-19 symptoms including:  
 Daily questionnaire and reporting:  
 Do you or your child live with anyone or have you or your child had close contact with anyone with a prolonged cough, fever, or flu-like symptoms? or with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last 14 days?  
 Do you or your child have a fever, cough and/or shortness of breath?  
 For children and adults, fever is 100.4 degrees or above using a forehead thermometer.  
 Do you or your child have any other signs of communicable illness such as a cold or flu?  
 Have you or your child experienced diarrhea or vomiting (within the past 24 hours)

Use of touchless thermometers to take temperature if student indicates any of the above  
 Not admitting staff with temperatures >100F and logging information for COVID-19 liaison

### **8. C) Language for Symptomatic Students or Staff**

Students who have a temperature > 100F or demonstrate symptoms will be isolated in the health office until they can be picked up by a family member.  
 Staff members who have a temperature > 100F or demonstrate symptoms will leave campus to return home



**9. Healthy Hygiene Practices**

YES

**9. A) Healthy Hygiene Section/Page**

page 9

**9. B) Healthy Hygiene Language**

Each site has implemented routines for frequent hand sanitation focusing on COVID-19 prevention measures:

After using restroom

Before and after eating

When entering a classroom or office

After taking off or putting on their cloth face covering

After prolonged exposure to high touch areas

Before and after each task when preparing food in any class

Each site is using video and print resources as instruction for students in handwashing and other hygiene practices. Examples include:

Fight Germs! Wash Your Hands! | CDC

How to Wear a Fabric Mask Safely | WHO

Wash Your Hands! | CDC

How to Wear a Fabric Mask Safely | WHO

How to Handrub | WHO

How to Handwash | WHO

**10. Identification and Tracing of Contacts**

YES

**10. A) Identification and Tracing Section/Page**

page 9

**10. B) Identification and Tracing Language**

Identification

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19:

Student/staff will be sent home if not already quarantined

Student/staff instructed to isolate for 14 days after symptom onset

OR 10 days after resolution of symptoms, whichever is longer. (If

never symptomatic, isolate for 14 days after positive test

School based close contacts identified and instructed to test and quarantine for 14 days

In stable elementary classroom cohorts: entire cohort

In other settings, use seating chart, consult with teacher/staff

School administration notified

Public Health Department notified

Tracing

Each site will designate a COVID-19 liaison, to act as the communication point for all COVID-19 concerns. This individual's responsibility include:

Managing and supporting contact tracing

Notifying exposed persons

Creating and maintaining a database of exposed students and staff

Communicating with, and submitting lists of exposed students and staff to the local health department

**11. Staff Training and Family Education**

YES

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

page 10

**11. B) Staff Training and Family Edu. Language**

District and site leadership will support staff and community in understanding the district's reopening plan  
 Staff will be trained on health and safety protocols at Site-based PD based on AUSD Reopening Guidebook, focusing on all elements of this plan, especially on:  
 Enhanced sanitation practices  
 Physical distancing guidelines and their mandatory use of face coverings  
 Screening practices  
 COVID-19 specific symptom identification  
 Families and Community will be supported through ongoing forums and webinars including:  
 BOES Reopening Forum  
 CELC School Reopening Webinar and Video

**12. Testing of Students and Staff**

YES

**12. A) Testing Section/Page**

pages 10-11

**12. B) Testing Language**

Testing of Students  
 Students who have symptoms of Coronavirus Disease 2019, or have been exposed to someone with Coronavirus Disease 2019 will be rapidly tested, even if the student is asymptomatic.  
 Student will be sent home if not already quarantined  
 Student will be directed to undergo testing through:  
 Their healthcare provider, or  
 Free COVID-19 Testing Sites in San Diego County  
 Student will be instructed to isolate for 14 days after symptom onset OR 7 days after resolution of symptoms, whichever is longer. (If never symptomatic, isolate for 14 days after a positive test.)  
 School-based close contacts (students and staff) will be identified and instructed to test and quarantine for 14 days  
 In stable elementary classroom cohorts: entire cohort  
 In other settings: use seating chart, consult with teacher/staff  
 Public Health Department will be notified

Testing of Staff  
 Staff members who have symptoms of Coronavirus Disease 2019, or have been exposed to someone with Coronavirus Disease 2019 will be rapidly tested, even if the individual is asymptomatic.  
 Staff member will be sent home if not already quarantined  
 Individual will be directed to undergo testing through:  
 Their healthcare provider, or  
 Free COVID-19 Testing Sites in San Diego County  
 Staff member will be instructed to isolate for 14 days after symptom onset OR 7 days after resolution of symptoms, whichever is longer. (If never symptomatic, isolate for 14 days after a positive test.)  
 School-based close contacts (staff and students) will be identified and instructed to test and quarantine for 14 days  
 In stable elementary classroom cohorts: entire cohort  
 In other settings: use seating chart, consult with teacher/staff  
 Public Health Department will be notified

**12. C) Staff Tested Periodically Language**

Staff members who have symptoms of Coronavirus Disease 2019, or have been exposed to someone with Coronavirus Disease 2019 will be rapidly tested, even if the individual is asymptomatic.

- Staff member will be sent home if not already quarantined
- Individual will be directed to undergo testing through:
  - Their healthcare provider, or
  - Free COVID-19 Testing Sites in San Diego County
- Staff member will be instructed to isolate for 14 days after symptom onset OR 7 days after resolution of symptoms, whichever is longer. (If never symptomatic, isolate for 14 days after a positive test.)
- School-based close contacts (staff and students) will be identified and instructed to test and quarantine for 14 days
  - In stable elementary classroom cohorts: entire cohort
  - In other settings: use seating chart, consult with teacher/staff
- Public Health Department will be notified Utilize County of San Diego testing sites to refer all school personnel. Explore frequency as guided from CDPH (50% all staff must be tested each month or 100% every two months).

**13. Triggers for Switching to Distance Learning**

YES

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

pages 11-12

**13.B) Triggers to Dist. Learning Language**

If one or more Covid-19 cases at the school site:  
 Students and staff in any affected cohort will switch to distance learning for 14 days  
 School leadership will communicate directly with affected students and staff through email or telephone  
 Possible shut down of entire school if multiple cohorts are affected, with school leadership communicating with school community through social media, prior to any closings, and with any updates prior to re-openings

If there are Covid-19 cases at multiple school sites in the district, then continuation of measures from above, plus:  
 District leadership may possibly close multiple school sites, or entire district as determined by community health needs  
 District leadership will communicate with AUSD community through social media, prior to any closings, and with any updates prior to re-openings

**14. Communication Plans**

YES

**14. A) Communication Plans Section/Page**

page 12

**14. B) Communication Plans Language**

AUSD district and site leadership will communicate with students, staff, and parents about cases and exposures at the school, consistent with privacy requirements such as FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) and HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act), by:

Documenting/tracking incidents of possible exposure and notify local health officials, staff and families immediately of any positive case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality, as required under FERPA and state law related to privacy of educational records. communicating with the parent/caregiver if a student is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, referring to the student's health history form and/or emergency card to identify if the student has a history of allergies.

Notifying local health officials, staff and all families immediately of any positive case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality as required by state and federal laws.

Instructing sick staff members and students not to return until they have met CDC criteria to discontinue home isolation, including 3 days with no fever, symptoms have improved and 10 days since symptoms first appeared.

Communication will be provided in families' home language when necessary

**Superintendent Name**

Dr. Rich Newman

**Job Title**

Superintendent

**Phone**

619-445-3236

**E-mail**

rnewman@alpineschools.net

**Attachments**

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