



Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District
Superintendent Dr. Alex Cherniss

"Putting Kids First"

March 11, 2020

Dear PVPUSD School Community,

In response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19), the district continues to take its guidance from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the California Department of Education along with the Los Angeles County Public Health and Education Departments. **As of today, PVPUSD has no confirmed or reported cases of COVID-19.**

On March 7, 2020 the California Department of Public Health issued a ["School Guidance on Novel Coronavirus or COVID -19"](#) memo. This document listed four scenarios for which school districts should be operating under, detailing a range of actions to be taken based on the number of community transmissions of COVID-19.

Scenario II is triggered by two or more community transmission cases of COVID-19. Community transmission cases are defined as those COVID-19 cases identified in the entire county. While we are being told by local agencies that there is only one reported case of community transmission in LA County, out of an abundance of caution, **PVPUSD will begin operating under Scenario II, effective immediately.** The following guidance from CDPH on Scenario II is as follows:

Scenario II: Measures to be taken if there are two or more community transmission cases of COVID-19, but no individuals within the school test positive.

If the local public health department has confirmed two or more community transmission cases, but no individuals (staff or students) at the school have tested positive for COVID-19, in addition to the items outlined in Phase I, CDPH recommends school administrators implement the following steps:

- Teachers and staff with any fever and/or respiratory infection symptoms should not come to work. Teachers and staff should self- screen (i.e., check themselves for subjective fever and/or respiratory symptoms such as cough) for respiratory infection symptoms each morning before interacting with students.
 - Ensure sick leave policies to allow teachers and staff to stay home if they have symptoms of respiratory infection.
- Limit visitors to the school by not allowing those with symptoms of fever and/or respiratory infection or who have a travel history over the course of the last 14 days to an area identified by the CDC as Level 3 Travel Health Notice. **Per this guidance, PVPUSD is not allowing parent/adult classroom volunteers until further notice.**

- Consider alternates to congregate or group programming within the school including any large or communal activities such as assemblies. Alternate approaches which limit close contact may include conducting assemblies via webcasts or intercom announcements.
- Consider implementing staggered recess times to limit the number of students who are together; and if possible, group recess by classrooms.
- Consider relaxing requirements for a doctor's note for the child to return to school after illness.

As parents and community members, you will be receiving guidance from your children's principals as to the policies and procedures at each school site in an effort to adhere to this guidance under Scenario II. Additionally, information on all scenarios as well as other pertinent information and FAQ's continue to be posted to our websites at <http://www.pvpusd.net/virus/> and on each individual website. We will continue to update you and provide information as the situation develops.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Cherniss". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alex Cherniss, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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To respond to this message, please email: chernissa@pvpusd.net