

# MT. BALDY SCHOOL



## COVID-19 Amendment for the Parent-Student Handbook 2021-2022 Revised 1.14.22

*This document outlines guidelines related to the COVID-19 pandemic. We reserve the right to make additions, amendments, and deletions at any time. While it is aligned with public health guidance, this document is not intended to describe all safety protocols and procedures.*

## Return to School for 2021-22

Since the beginning of this unprecedented spread of the pandemic, Mt. Baldy School administration and faculty have been working diligently with the San Bernardino Department of Public Health (SB CDPH), and the San Bernardino County Superintendents' Office among others, to monitor and plan for a safe educational experience for both the faculty and our families. In this amendment, you will find information on what to expect when bringing your children back to school for the 2021-22 school year, what has changed, new requirements and more. The safety of our staff, faculty and your families is of the utmost importance, and will be a shared responsibility of us all to ensure that we can keep the children in school long-term, that we have little-to-no cases to report, and that we continue to provide the highest quality education to our students.

We are grateful to everyone for their continued commitment to the Mt. Baldy School Program, especially under these most unusual times.

We also acknowledge that we are still facing the challenges of a pandemic and therefore, we have made adjustments to ensure the health and safety of our entire school community. This document outlines the adjustments that we have made in alignment with public health guidelines.

### Safety Measures for Students

**Students are required to wear clean, properly fitted, masks while entering, riding in, and exiting the bus. They are also required to wear masks at all times while indoors.** CDPH is recommending the use of 3 layer disposable or M95 masks over cloth masks due to the highly infectious nature of the Omicron strain of COVID-19. Students are not required to wear masks while outdoors or eating. Distancing will be encouraged while eating snack and lunch. Other layers of disease spread mitigation that will continue to be implemented include:

- Daily health screening of students by parent/guardians before leaving home
- Washing hands before entering classroom and frequently during day, availability of hand sanitizer at all times (supervised by adult in primary grades)
- Use of central air fan, overhead fans
- Windows and doors open
- Air Purifiers
- Use of water bottles versus drinking fountain



A student who refuses to wear a mask will be moved to a space separate from other students as required by Ed Code 48213. The student will be offered a different mask, if refused, a face shield with drape. If the student is still unwilling to wear a mask, or face

shield, the student will remain separated from other students and staff, will be marked absent, and the parent/guardians will be contacted to take the student home. If a student is unwilling to wear a face covering for three separate days, the parent guardians will be notified that they may opt to enroll their child in San Bernardino County Schools Independent Learning Academy until such time that the student will abide by the CDPH requirements, or the requirements change to permit the student to attend school without a face covering.

San Bernardino County Schools Independent Learning Academy is an option for those families not yet comfortable with in-person instruction.

### **Safety Measures for Staff**

Staff are directed to conduct a self-assessment of COVID-19 illness symptoms daily prior to leaving home. Rapid COVID-19 testing is available to all staff by the district. All staff are required to wear masks at all times while indoors, regardless of vaccination status. School staff and regularly scheduled volunteers will be required to show original cards of COVID-19 vaccination to the administration. Individuals who do not have evidence of vaccination will need to participate in weekly surveillance COVID-19 testing provided by the school as a condition of being on campus. Individuals who refuse to participate in weekly testing will be sent off campus and will not receive wages for employment. Employees who refuse to wear a properly fitted mask will be offered the accommodations of mask or a shield with drape. Individuals who refuse to wear either accommodation will be sent off campus and will not receive wages for employment (Gov. Code 8655).

### **Safety Measures for Visitors**

All visitors must report directly to the school office. Everyone must comply with measures outlined for personal health and safety, compliant with the mandates of San Bernardino CDPH. Per CDPH guidance, schools should limit nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations with people who are not fully vaccinated, particularly in areas where there is moderate to high COVID-19 community transmission. Parents and families will be notified when volunteers can return to campus.

#### **Visitors guidelines:**

- Regularly scheduled volunteers will be required to show original cards of COVID-19 vaccination to the administration
- Individuals who do not have evidence of vaccination will need to participate in weekly surveillance COVID-19 testing provided by the school
- Wear a protective face mask or covering indoors
- Wash hands frequently

## COVID-19 Testing

The District has supplies and training to provide testing for students with signed parent permission at parent request (BinaxNOW) and for testing of staff for surveillance testing and upon request.

Staff members and students with symptoms of COVID-19 infections may not return to in-person instruction until they have met CDPH criteria to return to school until:

- At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medications
- Other symptoms have improved
- They have a negative test for SARS Covid-2 or healthcare documentation that the symptoms are typical of their underlying chronic condition or a healthcare provider has confirmed an alternative named diagnosis.

## At-Home Tests

The district distributes at-home tests for student use when available. Instructions for when to use these tests are provided by the district. Test results should be entered by parent/guardians into the Primary.Health platform.

## Symptom Monitoring

**The first day of symptoms OR a positive result of a COVID-19 is considered day zero for the purposes of determining days of isolation or quarantine.**

If a student experiences symptoms during the school day, the teachers and staff will follow the school plan for isolating and contacting the family.

- Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, or who display any Covid-19 symptoms (sore throat, coughing, fatigue, shortness of breath, etc.) will be isolated and sent home immediately.
  - Student or staff member is excused from the classroom and the office is notified.
  - The student is taken to a designated isolation room until transportation can be arranged to send the student home, or to seek emergency medical attention.
  - Parents are contacted by phone to arrange to collect the student as soon as possible. The student remains in the isolated area until collected.
- Parents are to consult with their healthcare provider for evaluation and determination if testing is recommended and then they must report back to the school.
- Close contacts may be contacted by the office with the appropriate updates and instructions. Please see "Quarantine Guidelines" below.

## Isolation Guidelines

Isolation guidelines for students exposed to COVID-19 off campus are listed in Table 1 below:

### Isolation and Quarantine Recommendations for the General Public (not applicable to healthcare personnel)

**Table 1**

| Persons Who Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolation)                                  | Recommended Action  |
|---|---|
| Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, previous infection or lack of symptoms. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Stay home</b> (PDF) for at least 5 days.</li><li>• Isolation can end after day 5 if symptoms are not present or are resolving <b>and</b> a diagnostic specimen* collected on day 5 or later tests negative.</li><li>• If unable to test or choosing not to test, and symptoms are not present or are resolving, isolation can end after day 10.</li><li>• If fever is present, isolation should be continued until fever resolves.</li><li>• If symptoms, other than fever, are not resolving continue to isolate until symptoms are resolving or until after day 10.</li><li>• Wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings (see Section below on masking for additional information)</li></ul> <p>*Antigen test preferred.</p> |

## Quarantine Guidelines

Parents will be notified via email if one or more individuals on campus receive a positive COVID test result and was on campus during the possible infectious period. School staff will contact-trace and speak directly to the parent of any student that may have had close contact with COVID-19. Data and information on members of the community is confidential and will be maintained in accordance with privacy laws and regulations. Through tracking and tracing, quarantine recommendations outlined below will be followed:

Definition of "Prior COVID-19 Infection:" evidence of infection of SARS-CoV-2 that has been laboratory confirmed and has occurred within the last 90 days.

## Quarantine Guide for Unmasked Exposure

**Close Contact Definition:** Unmasked exposure for 15 minutes or more, 6 feet or less in a 24 hour period

### Unvaccinated + No documented Prior COVID-19 Infection+ No Symptoms + No Test

If they are a **close contact** to a positive case = 10 day quarantine

- Return to School on day 11 w/no symptoms and fever free for 24 hours
- Monitor health for 14 days

### Unvaccinated+ No Documented Prior COVID-19 + No Symptoms + Test after 5 days

If they are a **close contact** to a positive case

- Quarantine for 5 days
- Test on day 5
- Return to School on day 5 if test is negative
- Monitor health for 14 days

### Unvaccinated + No documented Prior COVID-19 Infection + Symptoms+ No Test

- Quarantine for 10 days.
- Return to school on day 11 if symptoms are resolving

### Unvaccinated + No documented Prior COVID\_19 Infection + Symptoms+ Test after 5 days

- Quarantine for 5 days
- Test on day 5
- Return to school on day 5 if test is negative and symptoms are resolving

### Vaccinated or Documented Prior COVID-19 Infection within last 90 days + No Symptoms

If exposed to a **positive case** or **close contact**

- NO NEED to quarantine but monitor symptoms for 14 days

### Vaccinated or Documented prior COVID-19 Infections with last 90 days + Symptoms + Test After 5 Days

- Test at day 5 from the onset of symptoms, if negative and symptoms are resolving student returns to school on day 5

## Quarantine Guide for Masked Exposure

**Close Contact Definition:** Exposure for 15 minutes or more, 6 feet or less in a 24 hour period when both parties were wearing masks

### Vaccinated + No Symptoms

If they are a **close contact** to a positive case but both parties were wearing masks= No quarantine

- Continue to attend in-person instruction
- Monitor health for 14 days

### Unvaccinated + No Symptoms

If they are a close contact to a positive case but both parties were wearing masks= Modified Quarantine

- They can continue to attend in-person instruction if:
  - They have no symptoms
  - Continue to wear a mask
  - Undergo at least twice weekly testing during the 10-day quarantine
  - Quarantine for all extracurricular activities at school and within the community setting

### School Absence

Absence due to COVID-19 quarantine or illness is treated the same as absence for any other illness such as flu. **Student work missed will be collected during the school day, and will need to be picked up by an adult on a regular basis to assure the student does not fall too far behind.** As with other school work missed during an absence, one day will be added for each day absent for return of completed work for credit.