



Department of Public Health



MAYOR
Oscar Leeser

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY COVID-19 UPDATED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SCHOOLS K-12 (ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022) UPDATED DECEMBER 3, 2021

CITY COUNCIL

District 1
Peter Svarzbein

District 2
Alexandra Annello

District 3
Cassandra Hernandez

District 4
Joe Molinar

District 5
Isabel Salcido

District 6
Claudia L. Rodriguez

District 7
Henry Rivera

District 8
Cissy Lizarraga

CITY MANAGER
Tommy Gonzalez

Recommendations for area schools K-12 are developed to assist in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and regularly updated to address the changing dynamics of the COVID-19 pandemic; these are based on careful analysis of the most current local data; our main focus is on protecting the health and well-being of students, teachers, and school staff in general.

Our community is currently experiencing a surge of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations; with a large number of these new cases being among children aged 0-18, most of whom are attending school.

Vaccination against COVID-19 continues to be strongly recommended for all eligible individuals, or to complete their 2-dose regime; a booster dose is strongly recommended for those 18+ who have completed their immunization schedule at least 6 months after the last mRNA (Moderna, Pfizer/BioNTech) vaccine dose or 2 months after the Viral Vector (Janssen/J&J) vaccine dose.

It is **STRONGLY** recommended that students, teachers, and staff in general wear any form of face coverings while indoors; covering a person’s nose and mouth is necessary to help slow the spread of the virus within schools and throughout our community.

It is preferred that individuals wear a mask that is a medical grade or higher, when indoors, except in outdoor places and other situations such as:

- any person younger than 2 years of age
- any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering;
- any person while the person is consuming food or drink;
- any person while the person is in a swimming pool;

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- any person while the person is giving a speech for a broadcast, or from a podium, to an audience;
- any person while the person is exercising or engaging in physical activity

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We strongly recommend Holiday festivals observe the following precautions:

- Limit the audience attending holiday festivals;
- Divide and conduct groups performances in separate rooms to avoid large crowds in the same indoor location;
- If possible, choose an outdoor location for the holiday festival;
- Strongly recommend all audiences to wear a face mask;
- Advice, ahead of any festival, that anyone exhibiting any symptoms get tested and avoid attending the event;

We strongly recommend school districts to continue conducting enhanced surveillance testing, promptly identifying any symptomatic student, teacher or staff and excluding from classroom or office and continue with sanitation and disinfection as per school safety plans.

It is required to report to the DPH the number of positive COVID-19 cases and absenteeism to assist determine proper next steps. Please refer to the “Guidance on School Closure for In-Person Instruction” for decision thresholds for closing a classroom, grade level or school, or suspend a sports team.

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