

August 13, 2021

Dear Live Oak Charter School Community:

The purpose of this letter is to continue to share new information that we have available to us so that we can update the community with accuracy and timeliness. We continue to closely monitor and collaborate with our local health department, and we will provide any updates on practices and protocols based on guidance and/or requirements.

Listed below is timely and updated information related to school safety and other back-to-school information. Please read through it carefully and help spread the word to others!

Masking Update:

Since my email from Tuesday, we have gathered more information, discussed amongst the staff, and came to a new decision regarding masks. Based on further information and increasing risks associated with the Delta variant, we believe that it is appropriate to require all students and adults (including parents) to mask outdoors as well as indoors. During recess, drop off and pick up it is especially seen as a social and connecting time. We want to encourage students and adults to be playful, relaxed, and safe by keeping masks on. For snack, lunch, and transitions between classes students will be allowed to take mask breaks.

A main reason for this additional mitigation strategy is to provide an additional layer of COVID protection during times that students may be in close contact. The county health department still considers a “close contact” to be an individual within 6 feet of a COVID positive case for 15 cumulative minutes or more in a 24-hour period. If students are unmasked in a “close contact” scenario, both students must quarantine at home instead of having access to the modified quarantine which would allow them to still attend school in person. Even though many staff, faculty, parents, and students, have been looking forward to having less mask wearing requirements, we believe that this step is necessary to prevent exposures that would lead to a significant amount of lost instructional days for impacted students. Thank you in advance for your understanding on this matter.

Parent Access:

Parents access to campus will be restricted. We are doing this as an extra COVID safety mitigation strategy to help create a safe school environment. For parents in grades 1-5, please stay on the blacktop as you are not allowed to go behind the wooden fence that leads to the classrooms. For parents of students in grades 6-8, we ask you to stay close to your car and not access the walkways leading to the doors of the MS building. Again, thank you in advance for your cooperation with this matter.

Town Hall:

On Wednesday, August 11 Live Oak hosted a community Town Hall event via Zoom with 100 participants. The video of the Town Hall is available here: [Live Oak Town Hall 8/11](#). We highly encourage families to click on the link and watch the recording as well as the Q and A together.

New State Health Order Regarding School Staff Vaccination:

On Wednesday, August 11, 2021, all California public and private schools were provided with a new State Public Health Officer Order directing vaccine verification for workers in schools. All public and private schools providing instruction in grades transitional kindergarten through 12th grade are subject to the Order.

The information contained in the Public Health Officer Order identifies the following actions:

All schools must verify vaccine status of all workers.

A. Pursuant to the CDPH Guidance for Vaccine Records Guidelines & Standards, only the following modes may be used as proof of vaccination:

- 1. COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (issued by the Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control & Prevention or WHO Yellow Card) which includes name of person vaccinated, type of vaccine provided, and date the last dose administered); OR*
- 2. A photo of a Vaccination Record Card as a separate document; OR*
- 3. A photo of the client's Vaccination Record Card stored on a phone or electronic device; OR*
- 4. Documentation of COVID-19 vaccination from a health care provider; OR*
- 5. Digital record that includes a QR code that when scanned by a SMART Health Card reader displays to the reader client name, date of birth, vaccine dates, and vaccine type; OR*
- 6. Documentation of vaccination from other contracted employers who follow these vaccination records guidelines and standards.*

B. Schools must have a plan in place for tracking verified worker vaccination status. Records of vaccination verification must be made available, upon request, to the local health jurisdiction for purposes of case investigation.

C. Workers who are not fully vaccinated, or for whom vaccine status is unknown or documentation is not provided, must be considered unvaccinated.

Testing requirements:

- A. Asymptomatic **unvaccinated** or incompletely vaccinated workers are **required to undergo** diagnostic screening testing.
- B. Workers may be tested with either antigen or molecular (PCR) tests to satisfy this requirement, but unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated workers must be tested **at least once weekly** with either PCR testing or antigen testing. Any PCR or antigen test used must either have Emergency Use Authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug

Administration or be operating per the Laboratory Developed Test requirements by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

- C. Unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated workers must also observe all other infection control requirements and are not exempted from the testing requirement even if they have a medical contraindication to vaccination, since they are still potentially able to spread the illness. Previous history of COVID-19 from which the individual recovered more than 90 days earlier, or a previous positive antibody test for COVID-19, do not waive this requirement for testing.

- D. Schools with workers required to undergo workplace diagnostic screening testing should have a plan in place for tracking test results and conducting workplace contact tracing and must report results to local public health departments.

Live Oak Charter School will continue to implement the above as well as continue to be up to date and current with all guidance and recommendations. If/when changes happen, we will communicate those to you in a timely manner. Thank you for your continued patience, understanding, and support.

Best,
Justin Tomola
Director