

Thermalito Union Elementary School District Worksite-Specific COVID-19 Protection Plan



Purpose

This document summarizes Thermalito Union Elementary School District's (TUESD) health and safety procedures to address the CDPH and CalOSHA requirements for a Worksite Specific Plan to reduce COVID-19 transmission.

Risk Assessment and Measures to Prevent Transmission of COVID-19

To determine appropriate precautions a risk assessment has been performed. Utilizing [OSHA's Occupational Risk Pyramid for COVID-19](#), TUESD is currently considered a low risk exposure level and when students return to campuses will be considered a medium risk exposure level simply because of the additional contacts.

TUESD is a diverse educational institution, with a wide array of workplace environments, employee titles, work assignments, and COVID-19 risk factors and preventive measures. While each department supervisor is responsible for continually assessing the risks facing his/her employees and assuring effective safety measures are implemented to protect those employees, the school principal is designated as the person to implement this plan at his/her site.

Some risk of transmission of COVID-19 to TUESD employees is present simply due to the presence of this new coronavirus across the globe and throughout the communities that TUESD serves. Thus, like everyone else, all employees face some risk of exposure to the virus simply through close contact with other individuals (including co-workers, but also including other community members) and through contact with contaminated surfaces and/or airborne droplets containing the virus.

Because of the general presence of this coronavirus throughout the environment, several precautions have been established by TUESD. These general protective measures include:

Individual Control Measures and Screenings

- Symptom and Temperature Screening
 - All employees should self-administer symptom screenings consistent with [CDC guidelines](#) prior to beginning each shift.
 - All employees have been provided with TUESD Workplace Guidelines and Should I Go To Work Today flyer to aid in this measure.
 - Employees who are [sick or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19](#) shall stay home. CDC guidelines will be followed for when that employee can [return to work](#).
- Face Coverings
 - In accordance with [CDPH guidance](#), all TUESD employees **are required to wear a face covering** while on site, except when alone in a private office/room, alone in a private vehicle, or when eating apart from others.
 - TUESD employees are encouraged to bring and wear their personal face covering from home. Because this may not always be possible, TUESD will provide face coverings as needed.
 - In accordance with [CDPH guidance](#), all adult visitors on school sites shall be required to wear face coverings unless exempt. Face coverings may be made available.
 - Those [exempt](#) from wearing a face covering shall provide a specific written medical exemption signed by a physician licensed to practice in the State of California.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols

- Thorough cleaning in high traffic/high touch areas (door handles, light switches, sink handles, bathroom surfaces, tables, student desks, chairs) should occur at least daily and, as practicable, frequently throughout the day by trained custodial staff. Drinking fountains will not be permitted.
- Entrances and exits are equipped with proper sanitation products, including alcohol-based hand sanitizer and/or sanitizing wipes.
- Hand washing facilities will stay operational and stocked at all times and additional soap, paper towels, and hand sanitizer are supplied when needed.
- Sanitizing supplies are provided to promote employees' personal hygiene. This may include tissues, no-touch trash cans, hand soap, adequate time for hand-washing, alcohol-based hand sanitizers, disinfectants, gloves, and disposable towels.
- Cleaning products are used that meet the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s-approved for use against COVID-19.

Physical Distancing Guidelines to Keep People at Least Six Feet Apart

- TUESD employees are required to be physically distant from all other individuals by at least six feet whenever possible.
- Employee breaks and break rooms are managed to allow employees to eat on premises in designated areas where they can remain 6 feet apart.
- Floors in common areas and where lines may form have markings to aid in proper physical distancing.

Process to Investigate and Respond to COVID-19 Cases

- Employee notifies supervisor of symptoms or situation.
- Supervisor asks clarifying questions and sends the employee home (if not already home).
- Supervisor notifies District Nurse and District Office Supervisor (D.O.).
- Supervisor contacts the Director of MOT to enact an additional disinfection of the affected areas.
- District Nurse contacts the employee and works with supervisor to determine potential close contacts
 - Gather preliminary information using “[SHOULD I GO TO WORK TODAY?](#)” flowchart.
 - Shares allowable information with supervisor, D.O., and Butte County Public Health.
 - Determines other employees with possible exposure that should be sent home.
- The District Nurse reports information back to D.O. and supervisor.
- The District Nurse or supervisor contacts the additional employees that have possible exposure and directs them to self-quarantine and await a call from BCPH or the District Nurse.
 - Give leave / work from home information.
- Supervisor notifies other site staff members as needed.
- D.O. notifies bargaining units as needed.
- The District Nurse or Supervisor communicates with affected employees regarding BCPH follow up. If they haven’t received a call within 48 hours, contact the District Nurse to follow up with BCPH.

Protocols for COVID-19 Outbreak

- In accordance with [CDPH guidance](#), individual school closure may be appropriate when there are multiple cases in multiple cohorts at a school or when at least 5 percent of the total number of teachers/student/staff are cases within a 14-day period, depending on the size and physical layout of the school.
- The BCPH Officer may also determine school closure is warranted for other reasons, including results from public health investigation or other local epidemiological data.
 - If a school is closed, it may typically reopen for in-person learning after 14 days and the following have occurred:
 - Cleaning and disinfection.
 - BCPH investigation and consultation.
- In consultation with BCPH, the entire school district will close if >25% of schools have closed due to COVID-19 within 14 days.
 - Districts may typically reopen after 14 days, in consultation with the BCPH department.

Training

Employees have been trained on the following topics:

- Information from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) on COVID-19, how to prevent it from spreading, and which underlying health conditions may make individuals more susceptible to contracting the virus.
- Self-screening at home, including temperature and/or symptom checks using CDC guidelines.
- The importance of not coming to work if employees have a frequent cough, fever, difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, recent loss of taste or smell, or if they or someone they live with have been diagnosed with COVID-19.
- The importance of seeking medical attention if an employees' symptoms become severe, including persistent pain or pressure in the chest, confusion, or bluish lips or face. Updates and further details are available on CDC's webpage.
- The importance of frequent handwashing with soap and water, including scrubbing with soap for 20 seconds (or using hand sanitizer with at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol when employees cannot get to a sink or hand washing station, per CDC guidelines).
- Manufacturer's directions and Cal/OSHA requirements for safe use of personal hygiene and cleaning products.

- The importance of physical distancing, both at work and off work time (see Physical Distancing section above).
- Proper use of face coverings, including:
 - Face coverings do not protect the wearer and are not personal protective equipment (PPE).
 - Face coverings can help protect people near the wearer, but do not replace the need for physical distancing and frequent handwashing.
 - The importance of washing and/or sanitizing hands before and after using or adjusting face coverings.
 - Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Face coverings to be washed after each shift.

Compliance and Documentation

- Worksites are regularly inspected for compliance with this Worksite-Specific COVID-19 Protection Plan and any deficiencies are documented and corrected.

The person(s) responsible for implementation of this Plan is:

Gregory Blake

Name

Superintendent

Title

I, Gregory Blake, certify that all employees have been provided a copy of it and have reviewed it and received training as required in this SPP.

Name

Signature