



County of Sacramento

August 20, 2020

Dear Sacramento County Schools, School Districts, and School Leaders,

Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) continues to monitor COVID-19 in our community. We are still seeing concerning levels of new COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths in Sacramento County and believe it is not advisable for schools to conduct in-person instruction at this time. All schools (TK-12), both public and private, in Sacramento County must utilize a distance learning model until further notice.

SCPH will consider granting elementary school (TK-6) waivers at a future date, if epidemiological conditions support such a decision, but no sooner than mid-September. Schools serving grades 7-12 in Sacramento County will not be eligible to reopen for in-person instruction until such time Sacramento County has been removed from the California Department of Public Health [monitoring list](#) for a period of at least 14 consecutive days. It is impossible to predict when that may occur.

No students may be permitted on school campuses with the exception of where specifically indicated below.

Emergency Mental Health Counseling

Counseling services should be conducted virtually, as much as possible. If emergency in-person mental health counseling is deemed necessary, it may be conducted on an individual (1:1) basis.

Initial English Language Learner Assessments

Initial English Language Learner assessments may occur in-person on campus. They must be conducted on an individual (1:1) basis unless legally required to be conducted in a group setting, in which case they should be conducted with the smallest possible group size.

Special Education Assessments

Special education assessments may occur in-person on campus on an individual (1:1) basis as required by state and federal regulations.

For these allowable activities, physical distancing of 6 feet or greater must be maintained by all parties at all times and face coverings must be worn as much as is practicable. Schools should

also pre-screen students and staff for COVID-19 symptoms prior to appointments, stagger appointment times to prevent congregating, designate clearly marked entrances and exits, and follow other health protocols in the CDPH Guidance for Schools and School-Based Programs. For guidance on other school-related activities, see the attached FAQs.

We understand the disruption this continues to create for students, teachers, staff, and families and hope you appreciate that these restrictions are in place to limit the spread of COVID-19 in Sacramento County. Thank you for doing your part to keep our community healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Olivia Kasirye MD". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Olivia Kasirye, MD, MS
Public Health Officer