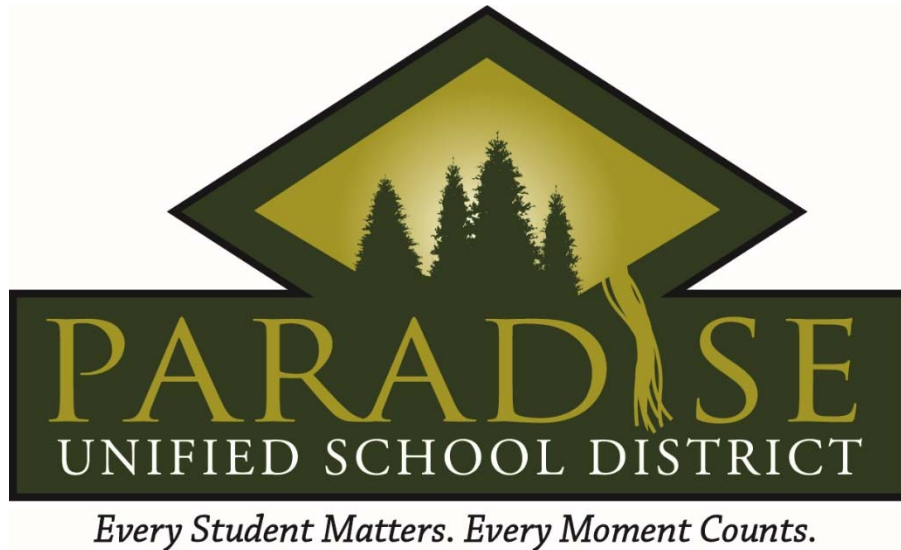


PARADISE UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT
**2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR
REOPENING GUIDE**

October 19, 2020



PLEASE BE AWARE THAT GUIDANCE AND DIRECTIVES ARE RAPIDLY CHANGING.
AS THESE CHANGE, SO MAY OUR PLANS.

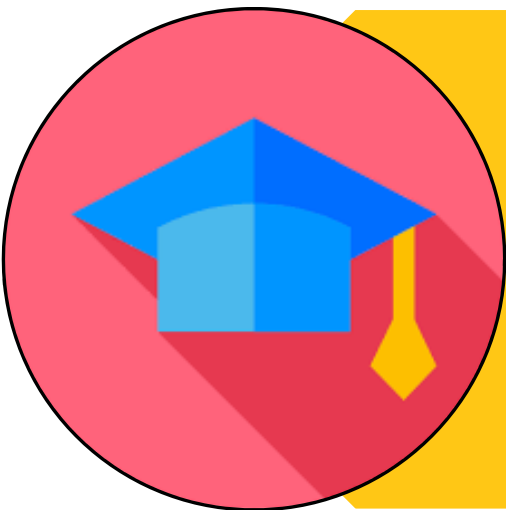
Priorities for Returning to School



Safety of
Students and Staff



Social Emotional
wellbeing of
Students and Staff



High Levels of
Learning for all
Students

PUSD Options to Return for October 2020



■ HYBRID MODEL

A hybrid model allows students in each grade to have some face-to-face instruction each week with their teacher. When at home students will complete extension activities, I-Ready, projects, etc. The following are the schedules for our Hybrid Model:

Cedarwood, Pine Ridge, Paradise Ridge (TK-6 Grade)

Start Date: October 19, 2020

- Elementary Half Day Model – AM/PM
 - Monday – Friday half the kids in the morning and half in the afternoon.
 - AM students attend class 8:00-10:30
 - PM Students attend class 12:30-3:00
 - Teachers will focus on essential core curriculum areas: Reading, Writing, Math, and Science while students are on campus.

Paradise Junior Senior High School and E-Learning (7th – 12th Grade and K-6 E-Learning, including Independent Study)

Start Date: October 26, 2020

- Secondary Alternating Days Model
 - Half the students attend M/W all periods, T/TH Zoom Advisory
 - 8:40 – 2:30
 - Half the students attend T/Th all periods, M/W Zoom Advisory
 - 8:40 – 2:30
 - Friday all Students attend online for a modified 6 Period day
 - 9:00 – 12:25

Ridgeview High School (10th – 12th Grade)

Start Date: October 26, 2020

- Secondary Alternating Days Model
 - Half the students attend M/W all periods
 - 8:40 – 1:05
 - Half the students attend T/Th attend all periods
 - 8:40 – 1:05
 - All Students alternate each week for a modified 6 Period day
 - 8:40 – 1:05

All schedules are subject to minor changes based on transportation needs.

Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians, and Community,

Over the last few months our students, families and staff have had to adapt to the many changes thrown our directions. This month is no different. The following is a little bit of history that has impacted all of us:

- March 16, 2020 – Governor Closes Schools
- August 3, 2020 - Waiver Criteria Identified
- CDPH recommends that schools with case rate two times the 100 per 100,000 not be considered
- August 3, 2020 – Cohorts Identified
- No More than 14 Students Per Cohort
- September 30, 2020 – Governor Opens Schools
- Butte County Moves into Red
- If we remain in Red for two weeks schools could open on October 14, 2020



Prior to the start of this school year, plans were developed for the opening of Traditional School, Distance Learning and a Hybrid Model. Just before the start of school we were informed that we had been put on the Governor's Watch List and therefore would be doing Distance Learning. On September 30, 2020, Butte County moved into the Red Zone on the Governor's plan. According to the Governor's plan if we stayed in the "Red Zone" for two weeks, schools could be opened. As of October 19, 2020, PUSD will be allowed to stay open.

This plan has been created with the input of the community and is in line with the guidelines from state and local governments. While we know that this plan is not perfect, it is our goal to serve our students and families in the best way we can and still follow the guidelines for safety. Since March, our parents and guardians have served not only as parents and guardians, but also taken on a much bigger role in the education process. During this time the success for our students has been reliant on the added role of the parent. As we move forward these demands on parents and guardians will hopefully be lessened, but I do hope that the partnership between the parent/guardian, and school system remains strong. Our teamwork will be critical in being sure that all of our students are successful.

For those parents and students who wish not to return to school we understand and respect your decision. If that is your choice, we will continue our Independent Study program as well as our E-Learning program.

I understand that there are many concerns regarding COVID-19 and the safety of all. I also want you to know whichever program you choose for your student, PUSD is committed to providing the best education and services to you so your child continues to receive a high level of learning based on quality instruction.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact our district office or your child's site.

Thank you

Tom Taylor, Superintendent

Our Mission

The mission of Paradise Unified School District, as the educational leader of the community, is to graduate knowledgeable, productive, responsible citizens who are motivated to continue learning and are able to function successfully, with integrity, in a complex, changing world.

Our Goals

The district's specific goals are created with participation and input from business and community members, parents, teachers, staff member and administrators. These goals are then revised periodically to best reflect the community's needs and desires for its school district.



Our community's goals for education are:

- Graduate 100% of our students by providing multiple pathways to meet graduation requirements
- All students competent in basic skills
- Technology skills for all students and staff in well-equipped, interconnected schools
- Character education for all students and competence in interpersonal skills
- Educational programs to meet the individual needs of all students
- Partnerships with home for academic learning and student conduct
- Reciprocal partnerships with the community in which our schools are community learning centers
- Disciplined, safe, alcohol- and drug-free schools
- Provide for smaller schools and class sizes
- Professional development for staff

Guiding Principles to Reopening School

- Keeping students at the center of our focus
- Address the safety and health of all students and staff.
- Address the impact of safety guidelines on student learning and well-being.
- Address and, to the extent possible, minimize impact on families by utilizing guiding documents from the federal, state, county, and public health agencies.



PROCESS:

Through a series of meetings parents, staff and community members used the guidelines from the California Department of Health, California Department of Education, Center for Disease Control, and directives from the Governor of the state of California to develop the Planning Guide to reopen schools.

Guidelines in red text indicates recent changes have been made and are under review while we work with local agencies to identify the best practices.

What Students, Staff and Families Can Expect

Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Thorough sanitization will be done in each class and high traffic areas. This will be included surfaces that people come in contact with such as; desks, chairs, door handles, and bathrooms
- Shared equipment will be avoided whenever possible, if items are shared they will be sanitized between use
- Electrostatic Back Pack Sprayers are used to clean common areas, classrooms, offices, and buses
- Nightly cleaning and sanitization
- Provide appropriate training for staff regarding cleaning of classrooms as outlined by CDC, CDE, and CDHP.
- Air exchanges set at 100% fresh air
- Disinfectants that are used will be mixed at the appropriate dilution rates so that they are safe and kill the COVID-19 virus
- Signs are posted as a reminder to practice safe hygiene
- Windows and doors will be open as much as possible to provide ventilation.
- Additional disinfecting guidelines developed by Centers for Disease Control for school campuses including classrooms, workspaces, outdoor spaces and playgrounds will be followed
- HVAC filters will be changed as needed (with a minimum of 1 time each month, a MERV 8 filter will be the minimum used and when available we will replace filters using MERV 13)
- Hand sanitizer or directions to a wash station/restroom will be provided to individuals upon entering district sites



Small, Stable, Cohorting

- Class sizes will be set to allow for six feet of social distance for each student and the instructional staff
- Classes/Cohorts will not be allowed to intermingle
- Staggered recesses at the TK-6 level
- Use outdoor spaces as much as possible for classrooms.
- Plexi-Glass/Plastic barriers will be provided for each desk
- No large gatherings such as assemblies and dances
- Modified sporting events

Entrance, Egress, and Movement within the school

- School sites shall identify multiple points to be used for student and parent ingress and egress before and after school
- Where possible, staff, students, and parents will be assigned an ingress and egress point for use when coming to school for in-person learning
- Appropriate training and signage as outlined by CDC, CDE, and CDHP will be in place
- Hallways will be marked with arrows to identify travel direction and provide social distancing
- Visitors are discouraged from being on campus
- If there must be a visit to the campus, visitors must check in and sign in to campus, passing all health screening guidelines as outlined for staff and students
- In the classroom students will be spaced six feet apart and each student will have a plastic barrier on their desk

Face Coverings and other Essential Protective Gear

- Masks are required as long as it is directed by the Governor
- Masks have been or will be provided by PUSD for all staff and students
- Students and staff will wear masks with the exceptions outlined by CDHP
- Provide appropriate signage as outlined by CDC, CDE, and CDHP
- Visitors will be required to wear masks, if they do not have a mask one will be provided

Health Screenings for Students and Staff

- Families/students, adults and staff are recommended to take temperatures daily before going to school and follow the [CDC Daily Home Screener for Students](#). Anyone with a fever of 100.4 or higher should not go to a school site.
- Families/students, adults and staff should also screen themselves for respiratory symptoms such as cough and shortness of breath prior to coming to school each day. Anyone experiencing symptoms should not attend school.
- Staff will be required to do a self-assessment each day
- Staff are expected to take their temperatures each day or be screened by other staff. The same will apply to any visitors or volunteers. The goal will be to minimize visitors.
- Screening with symptoms will follow the BCPH flow chart ([Attachment 1](#))

Healthy Hygiene Practices

- All students and staff will be encouraged to wash/clean their hands regularly.
- Additional hand washing stations will be provided at each campus.
- Additional hand sanitization stations will be provided throughout the school site and in each classroom. Every classroom shall be provided hand sanitizer.
- Staff have been trained in healthy hygiene practices.
- Staff viewed all the recommended videos from Keenan.
- Staff have signed a return to work affirmation ([Attachment 2](#)).
- Students will be trained to properly wash their hands and in healthy hygiene practices.
- Provide a location for students who are not feeling well so that interaction is limited.
- Every room with a sink shall be stocked with soap, hand sanitizer, and hand drying equipment at a height accessible to all students.
- Hand sanitizer or portable hand washing stations shall be provided at each collaboratively designated ingress and egress point on a school campus.
- All hand washing/hand sanitizing supplies noted above or otherwise provided shall be checked and restocked immediately as needed and prior to the beginning of each day that staff or students are on campus.
- Lunch staff will continue to wear gloves and masks when preparing food.
- Lunch will be a grab and go style.
- Hand sanitizer will contain at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Avoid Contact with one's eyes, nose and mouth.
- If you sneeze or cough use a tissue or the inside of your elbow.

Identification and Tracing of Contacts

- PUSD will follow and support Butte County Department of Public Health with all contact tracing ([see attached flow charts from BCPH, Attachment 3](#))

Physical Distancing

- Class sizes will be determined based on the number of students who can fit in a classroom with a teacher and still be socially distanced by six feet
- Hallways, walkways, and other areas will have arrows placed identifying the direction of traffic
- Students will be kept in smaller groups whenever possible
- Recess will be staggered
- Hold class outside whenever possible
- The District shall ensure minimum physical distancing of six (6) feet between all student workspaces, between all educator and student workspaces, and between all employee workspaces.
- All desks (staff and students) shall have plexiglass/plastic barriers



Staff Training and Family Education

- Staff have been trained in proper handwashing and hygiene practices
- Staff have been trained on how to properly wear a mask and remove a mask
- Staff have been informed of the symptoms of COVID-19 and how to respond if symptoms are evident
- Staff have signed an affirmation to return to work
- Staff have been informed of the guidelines
- Students will be trained in proper handwashing and hygiene practice during their class time
- Families will receive the school plan and other information to educate them in how to stop the spread of COVID-19
- Expectations will be posted on social media for families
- Each site will have CDPH and BCPH guidelines available for families to view
- Appropriate training and signage as outlined by CDC, CDE, and CDHP will be in place.
- Families/students, adults and staff are recommended to take temperatures daily before going to school and follow the [CDC Daily Home Screener for Students](#). Anyone with a fever of 100.4 or higher should not go to a school site.

Testing of Students and Staff

- PUSD will follow guidelines set forth by BCPH
- If students have symptoms they will be sent to the COVID-19 Isolation room and immediately be masked
- Any student or staff person with Influenza-like or COVID-19-like symptoms that have not been explained by another condition as diagnosed by a medical professional needs to be tested for COVID-19 with an FDA EAU-authorized test, according to the most up to date guidance from CDC and CDPH (available at: [CDC-Screening K-12 Students for Symptoms of COVID-19](#) and [Overview of Testing for COVID-19](#))
- School staff are essential workers, and staff includes teachers, paraprofessionals, cafeteria workers, janitors, bus drivers, or any other school employee that may have contact with students or other staff. In accordance with CDC recommendations that acknowledge the importance of transmission of the COVID-19 virus (SARS-CoV-2) from asymptomatic individuals (this is "screening" or "surveillance" testing). Remove surveillance - CDC and CDPH use that term for population based testing, this would be screening?
- School districts and schools shall "screen" staff periodically as testing capacity permits and as practicable, using only FDA-approved PCR test methods and not "antigen" or "antibody" methods, in accordance with CDPH guidelines for testing symptomatic vs asymptomatic individuals. Examples of recommended frequency include testing all staff over 2 months, where 25% of staff are tested every 2 weeks, or 50% of staff every month to rotate testing of all staff over time.
- School staff will be tested by collecting specimens on site, or they may choose to go to their primary health care provider, or local community testing site. Available testing sites in Butte County can be found at <https://www.buttecounty.net/Portals/21/COVID-19/COVIDTestingLocations.pdf?ver=2020-06-26-092239-917>.
- Students and staff who demonstrate symptoms will be asked to stay at home at least 10 days since the start of symptoms and must be fever free without medications for 1 day and symptoms are better. If a student or staff demonstrates symptoms and receives a negative COVID-19 PCR test and has been symptom free for 3 days, they may return.

Triggers for Switching to Distance Learning

- Due to the changing dynamics of COVID-19 we will monitor state and local authorities so that we can adjust when necessary
- If a student or staff member tests positive we will follow the flow chart as outlined by BCPH ([Attachment 4](#))

Communication Plans

- Post all plans on social media
- Families will be provided education and information on social distancing, use of face coverings, screening, and symptom identification
- Post safety expectations on social media
- Use BCPH letters to notify parents ([Attachment 5, 6, and 7](#))

Transportation

- Students wear masks on buses as long as mandated by the Governor
- Parents will be encouraged to provide transportation
- Revise routes to reduce the number of students on each bus
- Sanitize buses after each run
- When possible keep bus windows and hatches will be open to improve ventilation
- Students will load from the rear to the front
- Students will unload in the reverse order
- Seats will be labeled to insure social distancing
- Buses will be disinfected at the end of each day
- Families will be educated on the transportation process through fliers and videos



Food Services



1. ONSITE MEAL SERVICE:

- Assess whether to serve meals in the classroom or cafeteria or to use outdoor seating.
- Provide at least 6 feet of physical distancing or a physical barrier between tables.
- Provide physical guides
- Remove or suspend the use of shared tables and self-service buffets
- Consider increasing access points for providing meal services.

2. OFFSITE MEAL SERVICE (WITH APPROVED USDA WAIVERS)

- Offer grab-n-go student meals for consumption at home, including drive-through, delivery, curbside pick-up options.
- Assess whether there are students who are unable to access school meal distribution sites and identify ways to address these gaps.

3. BLEND OF ON-SITE & TAKE HOME

- California Education Code (EC) Section 49550 requires school districts and county offices of education (COE) to provide nutritionally adequate meals to pupils who are eligible for free and reduced-price (F/RP) meals every school day. Therefore, Food Services will offer a grab & Go style breakfast and lunch on campus daily and continue with the 5-Day Meal Distribution on Thursdays. We encourage our families to feed their students before and after school using the meals provided during the 5-Day Meal Distribution.

Student and Staff

Mental Health and Wellness

For our students in Paradise it is critical that we continue to the work to provide services for our students and staff. We know that some students and staff will experience fear and anxiety because of COVID. We continue to be committed to supporting student and staff social-emotional wellness and offering resources to ensure students transition back to school smoothly. Supports include the following



- Crisis Counseling
- Butte County Office of Education Counselor
- Youth For Change Counselors
- Screenings for students so that we may recognize need
- KELVIN- An Aeries based program that allows communication and outreach to students
- SAHSMA – A grant to assist in providing students support and education regarding substance abuse
- RULER – Social Emotional Learning Curriculum to assist teachers in providing SEL lessons
- Mindful Littles – Teaches strategies to our students that build resilience
- Training for staff
 - Dr. Bruce Perry – Trauma Informed Practice
 - Capturing Kids Hearts – Relationship Building
 - Mindful Littles – Resiliency Strategies
- PBIS Practices at each site
- SEL Practices at each site
- TRSS Committee

We recognize that our entire community is still in the recovery mode from the Camp Fire. It is vital that we continue to communicate with our students so that we may provide them with support. The current programs we provide assist the staff in identifying students who may be at risk. Once we know that a student could be at risk, we can provide them with the supports they need. At the same time, we realize that many students may feel they do not need support. We feel it is important to still provide strategies that assist all students in dealing with trauma. Our classroom programs are aimed to do just that.

Courses/Class Modification

Classes and activities that require students to congregate may be limited and modified as guidelines change. Some courses may need modifications on how the course will be taught if social distancing is not feasible or when there is an increased risk for spreading the virus. Some examples of this include courses like Band and Chorus.

Childcare Needs

Currently Paradise Unified School District works with the Butte County Office of Education and Butte County Boys and Girls Club to provide after school supervision for students. We will continue to offer the same partnership with both of these groups and explore how we may be able to expand our After-School Programs to fill an increased need.