



Ask Dr. Rodriguez



Top Ten Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
Edition #14 – Week of July 6, 2020

Questions are quoted as I received them directly from our community

1. I signed a school transfer application and turned it in around June 3. I haven't heard anything. Will I get a call back or a letter home or an email?

Many times schools are waiting to accept students once correct enrollment numbers are verified. Transfer applicants will be notified in late July or early August. If you do not hear anything, please contact Rick Ito at Student Services so he can assist you at 786-2390.

2. How long will people have to wait for transfer approval or denial?

If you applied for an elementary transfer, you should hear something in late July or early August. If you applied for a secondary transfer, you should call the school and ask about your transfer status. High schools are open all summer. If you need further assistance, please contact Rick Ito at Student Services at 786-2390.

3. Will there still be a Kinder/TK round up this year? I feel the opportunity to see the classroom and meet their teacher ahead of their first day is so important to this big transition for first time students, so I hope there will still be something like this.

At this time, due to the State and County Health guidelines to not gather in groups, we will be unable to conduct our usual TK/Kindergarten Round Up. To support students and families through this important transition to elementary school, sites will be working on creating virtual school and classroom tours which will be accessed on their school websites. In addition, we will be encouraging TK/Kindergarten teachers to reach out to students and families to the best of their ability before the first day of school. You may contact the school office after August 1st for more details.

4. Is there a form we can fill out if we do not want our children to return to school in person? Who teaches the virtual academy? Will materials be provided such as lab materials? Will teachers be credentialed in the subject for high school students? Will grading be standards based?

Yes, you can fill out the Virtual Academy Intent to Enroll form that is found at our District website at <https://www.pvUSD.net/enrollment>. The Virtual Academy will be taught by our PVUSD teachers using A-G approved online courses including all lab sciences such as Biology, Biology Honors, Chemistry, Chemistry Honors and AP Biology. There will be credentialed high school teachers in all four core content areas including English, Mathematics, Science and Social Science. Grading will be delivered via letter grades for GPAs and transcripts as in the traditional high schools.

5. What Learning options and or resources are you offering for families with students at high risk for developing complications from COVID-19?

We encourage any families that would prefer to have a 100% online experience due to high risk medical conditions to enroll in the PVUSD Virtual Academy. The virtual academy is recommended for the entire school year so the students can finish the online course work but is only a formal commitment of at least one semester. The student may return back to their home school for the second semester or following school year.

6. We know that many people infected with COVID-19 do not have fever. In addition to temperature checks, how do you plan to screen for symptoms?

All students will engage in an active screening of symptoms as students enter campus and buses, consistent with public health guidance, which includes visual wellness checks and temperature checks with no-touch thermometers (check temperature to ensure temperatures below 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit). They will be asked about COVID-19 symptoms within the last 24 hours and whether anyone in their home has had COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test. Each student will respond to screening questionnaire questions based on CDC recognized symptoms, including: Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea

7. If your preschooler did not get a Chromebook, will they be able to for kindergarten?

Yes, all students in grades TK-12 will receive a Chromebook for home use and instruction this upcoming school year. All current incoming students in grades 3-12 already have their Chromebook from last year and will keep them for the upcoming school year.

8. I've looked over the draft of the contingency plans, but I don't think I've seen anything about what happens when cases of COVID-19 appear on a school campus? Will that school then close for 2 weeks?

Each positive case will be handled according to the specific conditions that exist. When the Reopening PVUSD Plan is released at the end of July, a diagram will be included outlining "Procedure for Potential COVID-19 Positive Screening or Symptomatic Student/Staff at School or Boarding School Bus". The general guidelines from the CA Dept of Public Health are found below:

Considerations for Partial or Total Closures

- Check State and local orders and health department notices daily about transmission in the area or closures and adjust operations accordingly.
- When a student, teacher or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 and had exposed others at the school, implement the following steps:
- In consultation with the local public health department, the appropriate school official may decide whether school closure is warranted, including the length of time necessary, based on the risk level within the specific community as determined by the local public health officer.
- Given standard guidance for isolation at home for at least 14 days after close contact, the classroom or office where the patient was based will typically need to close temporarily as students or staff isolate.
- Additional close contacts at school outside of a classroom should also isolate at home.

- Additional areas of the school visited by the COVID-19 positive individual may also need to be closed temporarily for cleaning and disinfection.
- Implement communication plans for school closure to include outreach to students, parents, teachers, staff and the community.
- Include information for staff regarding labor laws, information regarding Disability Insurance, Paid Family Leave and Unemployment Insurance, as applicable for public local educational agencies.
- Provide guidance to parents, teachers and staff reminding them of the importance of community physical distancing measures while a school is closed, including discouraging students or staff from gathering elsewhere.
- Develop a plan for continuity of education. Consider in that plan how to also continue nutrition and other services provided in the regular school setting to establish alternate mechanisms for these services to continue.

9. Will teachers have access to work in their classrooms even if their students are doing distance learning? Or will we still be required to work remotely?

Yes, staff may come on campuses, using health and safety measures, during the hours of 7am-4pm. Teachers will be asked to be out of the sites by 4pm so that disinfecting can occur without people present.

10. If we return to School in August under the medium level, will K-3 be attending school 5 days a week?

No, at the medium restriction level, TK-3 grade students would still only attend two days a week to ensure that we could keep the classrooms at the 12:1 ratio. This change was documented in the version released on July 8, 2020 and is different from the draft plan released on June 13, 2020.