

# PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

## Tehama County TK-12 Public School COVID-19 Public Health Guidance Expectations and Enforcement Plan 2021-2022 School Year

Tehama County Public Health, Tehama County Department of Education, and all Tehama County Schools have spent the summer working together to ensure our classrooms are filled with laughter and learning as we approach a new school year.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) released the updated [COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for TK-12 Schools in California](#) on July 12, 2021. Based on current data, some restrictions are no longer required which will allow us to return to a more typical school day.

Here are some of the updated guidelines:

- Face coverings are not required outdoors
- Student cohorts will no longer be required
- Physical distancing is no longer required
- Modified quarantine rules

CDPH guidance continues to mandate that **all TK-12 students and staff wear face coverings when indoors**. This is not a district or even a county decision. Masks are required at all schools in the state of California, public or private. Districts and school boards do not have a choice about whether or not to enforce public health's guidance; we are required to do so. If a district were to ignore this guidance, they could face criminal sanctions, expose the district to liability, risk loss of funding, and be subject to penalties from Cal/OSHA and public health.

All Tehama County Schools will be following the *Student Expectations and Enforcement Plan* for the 2021-2022 academic year. The state has indicated "county health agencies are responsible for making sure that districts enforce the mask mandate." The attached *Student Expectation and Enforcement Plan* has been developed and approved for use by the Tehama County Department of Education, all Tehama County schools, and our local Public Health Officer.

Our resources will be focused on safety and ensuring every student gets the best education and access to mental health services possible, as well as engaging students with gaps in learning due to COVID-19 disruption and challenges during the past school year.

All schools will continue to implement COVID-19 prevention measures and encourage everyone to take public health precautions and follow CDC and CDPH guidelines.

Additionally, all schools remain committed to advocating for local control on issues of this nature.

