
FRESHWATER

SUPERINTENDENT: SI TALTY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

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ELEMENTARY AND CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

January 18, 2022

Dear Freshwater Families,

I am writing to update you on the latest guidance from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), our school testing program, and At-Home COVID-19 test kits.

The new CDPH guidelines include new protocols under [“Group-Tracing approach to students exposed to COVID-19 in a K-12 setting.”](#)

Here are some of the highlights that may impact your child(ren):

No More Contact Tracing

- When there is a positive case in a "shared indoor air space" (ex: classroom) all students in that shared indoor air space will be considered an "exposed" group.
- Parents and guardians will be notified by an email from the school when a student is considered part of an "exposed" group.
- Students who are part of an "exposed" group will be tested 3-5 days following the exposure in order to clear their exposure. Students must be registered in [Primary Health](#) in order for the school to provide this testing.
- Exposed students (**vaccinated or unvaccinated**) who have parent permission to participate in testing may continue to participate in all aspects of school, including sports and extracurricular activities, unless they develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19. This means **NO MORE MODIFIED QUARANTINE.**

What has not changed:

- Protocols for students testing positive for COVID-19
- Protocols for students who were exposed to a COVID positive person where one or both were not wearing masks
- If a student is experiencing COVID symptoms they should not come to school

It is extremely important that your child have permission to test on campus in the event of a classroom exposure so that they can stay in school. Please register your child for school testing [here](#).

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In addition we are providing onsite testing each morning between 8:00-8:30 in our computer lab for families that sign up in advance. This is recommended for symptomatic students, those returning from travel, and students that have had a community exposure. We also test students that are returning from quarantine on day 6 or later. Please contact Stacy Mintey in the front office to be added to the schedule.

Finally, we just received a limited number of At-Home COVID-19 tests for students that can be made available upon request. Though At-Home COVID-19 tests cannot be used to shorten quarantine or to clear a student to return to school, they can be utilized as an additional screening tool if you believe that your child(ren) may have been exposed to COVID-19 off campus.

We will continue to provide updates on this topic as new information is received.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to helping keep our Freshwater Community safe!

Sincerely,

Si Talty

Superintendent/Principal