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## COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

August 25, 2020

TO: **Zion Lutheran**  
RE: School Waiver Application

Thank you for submitting a TK-6 Elementary School Waiver application. After both local health officer and California Department of Public Health Review, your waiver request has been approved. Note: Special Education classes will have separate guidance forthcoming from the State and are ineligible for this waiver process.

Following review of many TK-6 Elementary School Waiver applications, the County Health Officer requires that all applicants ensure that their TK-6 reopening plans include the following information:

1. Clearly indicate that all COVID-19 positive tests (cases) or known close contacts of cases in students or staff are reported to the Health Care Agency (within one business day) by calling the COVID Schools Response Team through the Orange County Health Referral Line (HRL): (800) 564-8448 – option 2, between 9AM-5PM on weekdays. (Note: this option is for School Personnel only)
2. COVID-19 Testing:
  - a. Include information about COVID-19 testing available for people with insurance. Information available at: <https://occovid19.ocalthinfo.com/testing-resources-orange-county>
  - b. Include information about the availability of COVID-19 testing at the Orange County COVID-19 Super Site for Orange County residents at no-cost for people who meet Public Health priorities for testing (symptomatic or close contacts) and cannot get a test through their medical provider (doctor). Information available at: <https://occovid19.ocalthinfo.com/supersite>
  - c. Include information about the availability of COVID-19 testing (symptomatic only) that is available through the Orange County COVID-19 Testing Network (from community health centers that offer testing and care, even if you do not have health insurance). Information available at: <https://occovid19.ocalthinfo.com/oc-covid-19-testing-network-those-symptoms>
  - d. Include information about the COVID-19 Testing Locations Map. Information available at: <https://occovid19.ocalthinfo.com/covid-19-testing-locations-map>
  - e. CDPH has revised the guidance to recommending, but not requiring, routine testing for staff. Schools may revise their reopening plans accordingly.


3. Face Covering requirements should be consistent with CDPH Schools Guidance as follows:

**STUDENTS**

Age	Face Covering Requirement
Under 2 years old	No
2 years old - 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade	Strongly encouraged**
3 <sup>rd</sup> grade - High School	Yes, unless exempt

\*\*Face coverings are strongly encouraged for young children between two years old and second grade, if they can be worn properly. A face shield is an acceptable alternative for children in this cohort who cannot wear them properly.

We appreciate your support in educating students, parents and faculty on following COVID-19 Guidelines and best practices. Please visit our website for the latest information on COVID-19 in Orange County.



David Nunez, MD, MPH, FAAP  
Medical Director/Schools Resource Team



Clayton Chau MD, PhD  
Health Officer

Zion Lutheran School  
Reopening Plan 2020-2021

Zion Lutheran Families,

We have been working diligently to create a plan for returning to campus in a safe and responsible manner, pulling in guidance from local, state and national health experts for the 2020-2021 school year. We know nothing can rival a modern classroom, where students can learn face-to-face from a highly qualified teacher and collaborate with peers. We also recognize the vital role school plays in promoting socialization, nutrition, mental health and physical activity.

Please read over the plan that will be put into place for reopening so that you are aware of the procedures.

### Phase 1:

- Remain open for in-person instruction Monday- Friday from 8 am to 3 pm (as well as before and after school care) until mandated not to do so, if there are no positive results among staff and families.
- Any students or staff exhibiting symptoms will immediately be required to wear a face covering and be required to wait in an isolation area until they can be transported home or to a healthcare facility. If results come back positive for COVID 19, we will move to Phase 2.
- Parents are asked to take children's temperatures each day before leaving for school. This is to limit creating a fearful environment at school. If a child has a temp of 100.4 or higher please keep them home, notify the school and observe the 72 hour exclusion. We are trusting staff and families to be prudent in observing these exclusion rules so that we can remain open.
- Enhanced cleaning procedures will include adding hourly wipe downs of high touch areas, fully cleaning all shelves and toys after use and each day at closure, removing any high risk/hard to clean supplies. Bathrooms will be sanitized multiple times throughout the day. It is encouraged that students bring their own water bottle with

a lid (reusable water bottles are preferred) to discourage drinking fountain usage. UV lamps will be used each night in each classroom for further disinfection.

- Pickup and drop off will be modified. We will have a check-in station at each grade-level entry where temperatures will be taken and recorded, and we will screen for symptoms. Only essential personnel will be permitted to enter the facility. These procedures will be to limit the exposure to our staff members and school, as well as limit repeated touching of door knobs and sinks by multiple people. Masks or face shields are required for anyone coming onto the school grounds (please notify the school office if there is a health concern regarding this policy) in grades 3-8, as well as all adults. We ask that you bring your own face mask/ shield, but if you arrive without one we will provide one as needed. Students in grade K-2 are strongly encouraged to wear a face mask or shield.
- We will limit items brought from homes. Backpacks and lunches will be kept at the student's desk. Lockers will not be used at this time.
- Social distancing: We will have desks spaced out, all desks will be equipped with clear desk shields/ barriers, and recess and lunch schedules will be staggered to prevent interaction between different classes. Classes will be in small cohorts. We have several options for outdoor learning environments that will be employed for various grades.
- Require all staff to practice and monitor social distancing outside and inside the classroom.
- Require staff and students to wash their hands multiple times throughout the day. Utilize the hands-free sanitizer, soap, and paper towel dispensers, newly installed throughout the campus.
- For the safety of our Zion community, we ask staff and families not to hide symptoms.

- Staff trained in identifying COVID-19 symptoms and safety protocol.
- Staff will be tested monthly.

## Phase 2

(This phase will be enacted if we have a positive test among staff or families.)

- All staff and families will be notified and those who have been in close contact with the affected individual will be notified and are asked to be tested and to observe isolation.
- Our office staff will create and submit a list of exposed students and staff to the local health department.
- Should we be mandated to close or have a positive case among families or staff, we will close for at least 2 weeks, possibly longer. All surfaces, toys, etc. will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
- In the event that we are mandated to be quarantined as a community, we will do everything in our power to arrange care for children of healthcare and other essential workers.
- During mandatory quarantine, we will transition into remote learning.
- Tuition assistance is available to any families facing financial difficulties.

## Emergency Symptomatic Plan

In the event we have someone showing active symptoms of Covid - 19, we will follow the steps below. Here are the symptoms to watch for:

- Fever • Cough • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing • Chills • Repeated shaking with chills • Fatigue • Muscle pain • Headache • Sore throat • Congestion or runny nose • Nausea or vomiting • Diarrhea • New loss of taste or smell

1. Isolate symptomatic children or staff. Emergency services will be contacted if any symptoms of difficulty breathing are present.
2. Immediately contact family from the updated emergency contact form to pick up immediately.
3. Follow Phase 2

Our first priority is the health and safety of our students and their families. Please be aware that this is subject to change as we monitor the pandemic outbreak in our local area.

### COVID-19 Testing:

a. Availability of COVID-19 testing (symptomatic only) that is available through the Orange County COVID-19 Testing Network (from community health centers that offer testing and care, even if you do not have health insurance). Information available at:

<https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/oc-covid-19-testing-network-those-symptoms>

b. Availability of COVID-19 testing at the Orange County COVID-19 Super Site for Orange County residents at no-cost for people who meet Public Health priorities for testing (symptomatic or close contacts) and cannot get a test through their medical provider (doctor). Information available at:

<https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/supersite>

c. COVID-19 testing available for people with insurance. Information available at:

<https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/testing-resourcesorange-county>

d. COVID-19 Testing Locations Map. Information available at:

<https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing-locations-map>

COVID-19 WAIVERS: I represent and warrant that I am fully informed and aware of the risks and dangers that exist related to my child being present at Zion Lutheran Church and School's facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic. These risks include, without limitation, personal injury or death. I HEREBY ELECT TO VOLUNTARILY ASSUME THESE RISKS RELATED TO COVID-19 FOR ME AND MY CHILD. Additionally, I, for me and my child, hereby voluntarily discharge and release forever, and shall forever hold harmless, and agree not to sue, Zion Lutheran Church and School from and against all claims, liabilities, costs, expenses or damages which are related to or arise out of COVID-19, no matter how incurred, regardless of whether such claims, liabilities, costs, expenses or damages arise from the active or passive negligence of Zion Lutheran Church and School, other than claims, liabilities, costs, expenses or damages determined in final judgment, by a court having final jurisdiction, to be the result of Zion Lutheran Church and School's willful misconduct or recklessness. I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT THE ABOVE RELEASE PREVENTS ME FROM SUING ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL FOR ANY CLAIM, LIABILITY OR DAMAGE (EXCEPT AS SET FORTH ABOVE) RELATED TO COVID-19.

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