

October 30, 2020

Dear Falls City Families,

Governor Brown held a press conference today to announce a change in the requirements for in person instruction. The school board and staff will be meeting next week to plan our next steps to bring your students back into the building in the safest way possible. Students will not return all at once. We will begin with our youngest students first and then add more grades if the county's COVID case numbers stay within the requirements. We will send more information as our plans are formulated. Be sure to check Remind, Facebook and the school website. If you a parent of PreK thru 3rd grader, please expect a call from your students' teacher/DLAG to see what your needs are.

I have added a visual for you to look at that outlines the new requirements. It is a bit confusing and if you have any questions please feel free to reach out to your students' teacher/DLAG.

Thank you,

Mr. Houghtaling and Mr. Kidd

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GENERAL METRICS FOR RETURNING TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION THROUGH THE ON-SITE OR HYBRID MODEL

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For a school to fully return to in-person instruction through ODE's On-Site or Hybrid instructional models, the criteria below must be met, including the metrics table that follows:

If a school draws >10% of students or >10% of staff from a given county where case rates or test positivity put them in the "Transition" column (see metrics table below) they should consider delaying a return to in-person instructional models until these counties also meet the required metrics, unless after discussion with the local public health authority a collaborative decision is made that the neighboring county community spread does not pose significantly higher-risk.

METRICS & MODELS	ON-SITE	ON-SITE AND DISTANCE LEARNING	TRANSITION	DISTANCE LEARNING
County Case Rate per 100,000 People Over 14 days	<50.0	50.0 to <100.0	100.0 to ≤200.0	>200.0
County Case Count Over 14 days (for small counties ¹)	<30	30 to <45	45 to ≤60	>60
County Test Positivity ²	<5.0%	5.0% to <8.0%	8.0% to ≤10.0%	>10.0%
Instructional Model	Prioritize On-Site or Hybrid (as needed to maintain small cohorts) instructional models.	Prioritize careful phasing in of On-Site or Hybrid for elementary schools (starting with K-3 and adding additional grades up to grade 6). Middle school and high school primarily Comprehensive Distance Learning with allowable Limited In-Person Instruction. Over time, if elementary schools can demonstrate the ability to limit transmission in the school environment ⁴ , transition to On-Site or Hybrid.	Consider transition to Comprehensive Distance Learning with allowable Limited In-Person Instruction. → For counties with an upward case/positivity trend (entering from a lower risk category), school officials should discuss with their local public health authority (LPHA) and consider the spread of COVID-19 within schools and the local community in deciding whether to return to Comprehensive Distance Learning (CDL). ³ ← Schools in counties with downward case/positivity trend must remain in CDL until they drop into the Moderate Risk category or lower.	Implement Comprehensive Distance Learning with allowable Limited In-Person Instruction only.

- Counties with <30,000 residents.
- If statewide testing volume decreases by more than 10% in the week prior compared to the previous week due to external factors (such as due to a natural disaster or acute decrease in testing supplies), then OHA and ODE will consider temporarily suspending the use of percent positivity in the reopening considerations.
- In considering community spread, public health should take into consideration the cases in the community, COVID-19 test availability in the community, recent percent positivity of tests, capacity in the community to respond to cases and outbreaks and the regional hospital capacity available for those with severe disease.
- As a measure to monitor limited introduction or spread, local public health should look for an average outbreak size of 3 or less, excluding outbreaks with only one case, over the prior 4 weeks.