



# BONITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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January 1, 2022

Dear Bonita Unified families,

We hope you had a restful winter break and are excited for what is to come in 2022.

As we prepare for the return from winter break on Monday, January 3, I want to share some updates regarding the recent spike in COVID-19 cases and revised health protocols outlined by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH).

## Response to Increase in COVID-19 Cases

As Los Angeles County experiences a new COVID-19 variant and a rise in cases, we must continue to do our part to help limit the spread in our community and our schools. This includes the following:

- **If you/your child are sick, stay home.** Please continue to self-screen for COVID symptoms at home. Students, teachers, or staff who have COVID symptoms should not attend school/work until tested.
- **Report positive cases and exposures.** Please continue to follow the District's protocol in reporting positive cases and exposures promptly to your child's school health clerk or attendance clerk.
- **Wear a mask and follow health protocols.** We encourage our community to continue following health and safety protocols to limit the spread of COVID-19, such as washing your hands regularly, practicing social distancing when possible, and wearing a health department-approved mask.

## Updated Protocols and Mask Recommendations

Guidelines surrounding COVID-19 protocols continue to evolve, and school districts have the task of adapting to these changes while minimizing the disruption of learning and supporting the health and safety of students and staff.

As part of its updated guidance to school districts, LACDPH is strongly recommending three-layer masks and/or surgical masks be worn by teachers, staff, and students. Per LACDPH guidelines, masks should fit snugly against your nose and chin with no large gaps around the

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side of the face or your nose and should have three or more layers of tightly woven or non-woven material.

Additionally, on December 31, LACDPH updated the isolation protocols when students/staff test positive for COVID; we will provide more information to families and the community regarding the District's protocols within the next couple of days.

For current masking guidelines and information on mask types, please visit the [LACDPH website](#).

### **Testing Protocols and Opportunities**

- Bonita Unified offers a COVID-19 testing clinic, using rapid, same-day tests, for students from 3 to 6 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at the District Office. This is a walk-up clinic for BUSD students. All necessary documents can be filled out on-site.
- Visit one of the testing clinics available within the community. Visit the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) [website](#) to find a testing center near you.
- Your private health care provider may be able to offer you a test.
- Finally, the CDPH is providing free at-home COVID-19 testing kits for all K-12 students. The CDPH and Los Angeles County Office of Education ensure testing kits are being distributed to Districts as quickly as possible. We will notify families when the kits become available.

BUSD students and staff have been diligent in our protocols for the first half of the school year, and we have had much success in our classrooms, gyms, athletic fields, and during performances. As we return to school on Monday, it is essential to recommit to our COVID protocols ensuring the safety of all students, staff, and our communities.

As we have throughout the pandemic, we will continue to keep our families, employees, and community informed of any updates and remain committed to providing healthy and safe learning environments where our students can thrive.

We wish you all a Happy New Year, and we look forward to the first day of school in 2022 on January 3.

Sincerely,



Carl J. Coles  
Superintendent