

Special Board Meeting Superintendent Notes:

September 21, 2021

6:00

Student Masking Overview and Resources:

[State of California- Health and Human Services Agency Guidance](#)

[CDPH Guidelines](#)

[Parent Letter sent on August 13, 2021](#)

From Our Legal Counsel:

A school district's failure to follow Executive Orders or public health orders and directives related to COVID-19 exposes a school district to significant liability in the event District students or community members become infected with COVID-19. Even if no injuries occur, there may be other consequences such as loss of funding, administrative enforcement by various agencies, or other consequences. The primary ones of concern are:

- Tort liability (a violation where one person causes damage, injury, or harm to another person) against the school district in the event of litigation over COVID-19 injury
- Lack of insurance coverage in the event of litigation, especially if intentionally flouting the law causes injury
- Fines/penalties issued by Cal/OSHA and/or public health officials
- Potential criminal sanctions for failure to follow public health directives
- Potential loss of special funding tied to the pandemic or disaster relief

Student Masking Superintendent's Notes:

The State of California has issued a mandate that requires face coverings to be worn while indoors at K-12 schools. The main goal of our district is to keep our schools open and provide the best education for our students. The district is at high risk of liability if we do not follow the mandate. The primary concerns are tort liability against the district, lack of insurance in the event of litigation, especially if we aren't following the mandate, fines and penalties, potential criminal sanctions for failure to follow CDPH directives, and potential loss of funding. After conferring with superintendents in Shasta County, at the state level, and with Happy Valley's legal counsel regarding our district's practices, it is my recommendation that we continue wearing face coverings according to the state mandate. Our staff and students are respectfully following the mandate. My recommendation to the board in order to keep our schools open is that we continue to follow the mandate.

Critical Race Theory Basic Overview:

San Fransisco Chronicle: Newsom will decide fate of the proposed ethnic-studies graduation requirement by Dustin Gardiner, Sep. 8, 2021:

The Assembly gave final approval to AB101 by Assembly Member Jose Medina, D-Riverside, which would add a one-semester ethnic studies course to the state's high school graduation requirements, starting with the 2029-30 academic year.

[AB101: Pupil instruction: high school graduation requirements: ethnic studies](#)

Critical Race Theory Superintendent Notes:

AB 101 was approved in September and would add a one-semester ethnic studies course to the state's high school graduation requirements, starting with the 2029-30 academic year. Happy Valley Schools are not considering this curriculum at this time and we do not have a plan in place to engage in this curriculum in the future. This course requirement applies to high school students.

Sexual Health Requirements:

California Youth Partnership: Hope Rising Shasta

Curriculum: Love Notes Middle School Edition, Relationship Skills for Love, Life and Work by Marline E Pearson, MA and Health Education and Relationship Training (HEART)

This curriculum provides a majority of the sexual health requirements for the State of California and according to our Board Policy.

[Heart Sexual Health Supplemental Curriculum California Youth Partnership Website](#)

[Heart Sexual Health 7th Grade Curriculum](#)

[Heart Sexual Health 8th Grade Curriculum](#)

[HVUSD Board Policy 6142.1: Sexual Health And HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction](#)

[CDE Website: Comprehensive Sexual Health & HIV/AIDS Instruction](#)

Superintendent Notes:

The California Healthy Youth Act (CHYA, 2016) (The bill) requires school districts to ensure that all pupils in grades seven to twelve, inclusive, receive comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education. Our BP specifically covers the details of required topics that will be covered in Happy Valley Schools. Last year, we used Love Notes curriculum to address sexual health components with our 6, 7, 8 graders. This year, we plan to use the same curriculum and supplement with Heart Sexual Health Curriculum for a more comprehensive presentation of topics within our BP and CHYA. Our school counselor will be trained to use teach the curriculum and work with Hope Rising Shasta staff to meet the state requirements for sexual health. These curricula are designed to present a well rounded approach to building healthy relationships, avoiding risk behaviors, and specifically address the required topics. The Heart Sexual Health Education curriculum is an extension of that curriculum that addresses the requirements of CHYA.

Testing/Vaccine Mandate

[State of California Mandate](#)

August 11, 2021 SACRAMENTO – In order to best protect students and staff as California starts the school year fully in-person, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) today issued a new [public health order](#) requiring all school staff to either show proof of full vaccination or be tested at least once per week.

Testing/Vaccine Mandate Superintendent Notes:

After the testing/vaccine mandate was issued in August, there has been a lot of conversation about how to address the requirements and respect staff within our district. I have been involved in multiple conversations at the state, county, and local levels. I will attend another California Superintendents Association (CSA) meeting on Thursday to discuss the requirements and implementation of plans to implement the process. I have spoken with many of our staff and have asked how we might be most respectful of privacy and provide a plan that will allow us to comply with the mandate. At this time, we have surveyed our staff and have the results of that survey will also guide our conversation and help us as we take next steps. I will also speak with HVUSD's legal counsel to make sure we are making the best decision for our district.