



October 27, 2021

Dear Waverly Families,

As of today we have taken about 2500 PCR tests at school with **zero** positive results. That is a combination of the school's consistent protocols and procedures along with our families being reasonable and cautious. When we rolled out the policies at the beginning of September we were hopeful that they would mitigate the transmission of this virus between students, faculty and staff here at Waverly. The consistent use of protective gear, handwashing, use of HVAC systems and outdoor spaces have contributed to this excellent outcome.

The local Pasadena numbers are astounding in terms of vaccination levels. Dr. Goh, Pasadena's Medical Health Officer, recently shared that about 90% of people in Pasadena are fully vaccinated. There are lower COVID-19 numbers across Los Angeles County as well. When we shared our plans in early September, the daily average COVID-19 cases were around 4,000 per 100,000. Today it is closer to 1000 per 100,000. Vaccinations for 5-11 year olds are imminent as well. This will continue to increase the level of safety amongst us all in the coming months, especially at the elementary school where we have provided in person learning for the last two months with very few vaccinated children.

Below is a FAQ sharing important COVID-19 information. You will note the continuation of some policies, a specific response to our return to campus after Thanksgiving break as well as a few other updates around parent opportunities and community events.

We will be sharing information about the return to school after winter break once we return from Thanksgiving break and have the most recent updates from Los Angeles County and Pasadena.

Question: What is the school's plan for returning from Thanksgiving break?

Answer: The following policies are in effect **regardless** of travel plans or household visitors, in order to simplify matters and take into account various risks that family gatherings may bring.

All fully vaccinated faculty, staff and students may return to school on Monday, November 29, assuming they are healthy and well. There are no testing requirements.

Unvaccinated faculty, staff, and students may return to school on Monday, November 29 **if....**

- a) They complete and submit a negative / non-detect PCR test result prior to the return, using Waverly's testing location.

Note that Waverly will host a special testing time on Friday, November 26 at the Elementary School Campus. It will take place from 11am-1pm. Please sign up here: [\[Link withheld\]](#)

OR

- b) They complete and submit a negative / non-detect PCR test result from a test taken off-campus, with the results sent to covidinfo@thewaverlyschool.org by 5 pm on Sunday, November 28.

OR

- c) They complete a PCR test on Monday, November 29 on campus but do not return to school until the results are published. Lesson plans will not be provided for the days spent remotely.

*Regardless of travel plans, we will test **all** faculty, staff and students on Monday, November 29, the first day of our return.*

Question: Will weekly testing for all students, faculty and staff continue regardless of vaccination status?

Answer: We will continue testing both vaccinated and unvaccinated students, faculty and staff on Wednesday's through December 8. We will not offer a test on Wednesday, December 15, just

a day before our winter break starts. After we return from our winter break the COVID-19 task force and administrators will review numbers and offer an update on this policy.

Question: Will you continue to have students, faculty and staff wear masks both indoors and outdoors?

Answer: We will continue with this policy on all three campuses until winter break. Our plan will be to review where numbers are when we return to school in January and reassess this policy. If we were to reassess, it would be first to examine wearing a mask outdoors. We will continue to follow city and state masking requirements for indoors.

Question: Do I need to continue to do a daily health screening for my child(ren)?

Answer: Yes. Pasadena has not changed this requirement at this time. We used a daily health check last year via Magnus Health. Please complete the daily health screenings by 8:00 a.m. each day, Monday-Friday.

Question: What if my child doesn't feel well or shows the slightest signs of possible COVID-19 symptoms?

Answer: All sick individuals must stay home. This is critical to avoid the spread of any communicable disease. We know this may prove an inconvenience. Please also consider getting a COVID-19 PCR test should you deem it helpful to rule out any possibility. We all appreciate the extra lengths you will go to!

Question. Will off-campus lunches for the MS and HS students return?

Answer: There is no change at this time. Though we are eager to see these return, we are holding off for the present time, and we plan to review their possible return after winter break.

Question: As a parent can I come onto campus yet?

Answer: We have begun to thoughtfully and very carefully begin some opportunities for parents to come on campus but with very structured expectations. For now, we will continue with our policy of **not having parents** on campus on a regular basis unless you have permission from one of the site directors or John Huber. Again, we will reassess this after winter break.

Question: Are there updates on upcoming Waverly community events?

Answer: We continue to figure out opportunities to build back events into the life of Waverly. For example, the upcoming Halloween events at each campus have been thoughtfully modified to celebrate with each other in a careful way. These events will take place outside with everyone wearing masks. The winter performance (was scheduled for Thursday, Dec 16) has been changed to a spring performance (date TBD) in hopes that we can gather together inside, which is not the case at this time. There will continue to be a slow roll out of other community-wide events so that we are staying in line with the recommendations and regulations of the Pasadena Health Department.

Thank you, everyone!