



August 18, 2021

Dear Waverly Families,

We continue to monitor closely the new regulations and recommendations that the CDC, Los Angeles County, and Pasadena health departments are sharing about the COVID-19 plans for return to school in September. Below are answers that Waverly will be adhering to at the start of school. Please do be aware that some are mandated and some are recommendations that we are choosing to implement as a precautionary measure. All regulations and recommendations will continue to be reviewed in light of new information about the local area and the Waverly community.

Updates from our Aug. 3 communication have been highlighted in bold. These changes have been made in response to both the increase in local COVID-19 cases and the latest city, county, and state guidelines. Please pay particular attention to the weekly testing information, as we will be reinstating weekly testing for all students and employees (see below).

Testing

Given the current setting of high transmission of the COVID-19 Delta variant, the school will require weekly testing for all (vaccinated or unvaccinated) asymptomatic individuals (employees and students) with no known exposure as recommended in the California Department of Public Health K-12 Testing Strategies. Testing will be available at no charge to families on-campus during school on Wednesdays. The company, Path MD, Inc. Laboratory will be collecting insurance information. The frequency of testing may change throughout the school year based on transmission rates in the southern California area.

All students (including those who have been vaccinated) are required to take a baseline test on Wednesday, September 1 to be eligible to come to campus for the start of school. On-campus testing will take place September 1 from 9:00-1:00 pm. A link with access to

registering will be sent soon. If families wish to test outside of Waverly (PCR only), they may do so and forward their results to covidinfo@thewaverlyschool.org by end of day Friday, September 3.

Two new Waverly forms have been generated in your student portal that will require you to fill out:

1. Permission for your child to be able to have the PCR testing done on campus.
2. An attestation for families to follow the health checks for COVID-19.

Additionally, families will be required to log into [Magnus Health](#) to attest daily that their child is healthy and does not exhibit symptoms of COVID-19. This is to be completed before 8:00 am each school day.

Masks

Inside-Will be mandated to be worn by all members of the community: student, parent, and staff while inside a school building. This applies to vaccinated and unvaccinated people. It is currently a mandate from CDC as well as Los Angeles County. **The only exception is a proven medical accommodation. If your child does have a medical accommodation, please contact Jason Gottlieb (jason@thewaverlyschool.org) immediately and he will provide you with the necessary documentation forms.**

Outside-Although not mandated, it is highly recommended by CDC and Los Angeles County for people to wear masks in crowded outdoor spaces. As a school, the outdoor spaces on campus are considered crowded when multiple students and faculty/staff are utilizing the space. Therefore we will begin the school year **requiring** all students, faculty, and staff to wear masks outside. We also understand that it is not always the case that outdoor spaces are crowded, so we will give teachers discretion when it is appropriate for masks to be optional. For example, when only a small group of students are utilizing the high school or middle school quad or elementary school playground, during lunch times for children to eat and at the farm. We will be monitoring this to adjust it as needed in response to local rate cases.

Vaccinations

Evidence overwhelmingly shows that COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and prevent serious illness if exposed to the coronavirus. Approximately 96.5% of Waverly faculty and staff (and 100% of teachers) have received the vaccine, and employees who have not will be strongly encouraged to be vaccinated this fall, with the exception of those who have medical or religious exemptions.

Also, we acknowledge that our students younger than age 12 are not yet eligible for vaccination, which gives us greater urgency to protect our most vulnerable students from exposure to COVID-19. We appeal to every eligible student and employee to be vaccinated to protect ourselves, the health of others, especially younger students who do not have the opportunity to receive the vaccine and avoid future restrictions on Waverly's educational program due to cases of infection within our community.

Proof of Vaccination

We are now requiring families to show proof of their child's vaccination. Please upload a photo of each student's vaccination card to their [Magnus Health](#) account (under the "Immunization" section) at your earliest convenience. (Even if you previously noted vaccination status in your child's account, we will need to have a photo of the vaccination card.)

Indoor Spaces

We have upgraded to MERV 13 filters and installed iWave air purifiers in all of our HVAC units. iWave purifiers are highly effective in eliminating Covid-19, allergens, mold, bacteria, and other viruses and greatly reduce odor, smoke, static electricity, and dust in the air. The air filtration system will be running throughout the building at all times.

We will have all windows open in classrooms. **For those classrooms that don't have windows that open we have added a room air filter to provide the additional air circulation.**

Cleaning

The CDC and Los Angeles County reopening guidance recommend cleaning of areas done at least one time daily. We have an excellent cleaning crew that adheres to all the health recommendations and will continue to provide deep cleaning each evening after the buildings are vacated. We will also have CDC approved wipes available in all buildings for highly used spaces so that more frequent cleaning can take place as needed. For example, in areas where students are eating, we will ensure that tables are wiped down after each group of students are finished and before the next group arrives.

We also have hand sanitizers in multiple places around each campus.

Handwashing

We will be implementing measures to ensure that students, faculty and staff are offered multiple opportunities throughout the day to wash their hands. We will be modeling this for

students at the appropriate ages so that it becomes part of their regular routine throughout the day.

Handwashing stations, set up last year, continue to be available at the entrances of the high school and elementary school campuses.

Visitors

At the start of school and until further notice, visitors to campus, including parents, will be limited, and must be approved by division directors beforehand. No drop-in visitors will be allowed on campus. Student meetings and activities will be capped at grade-level (e.g., no in-person division or all school meetings) and parent meetings will be held virtually when possible. Those events taking place at school will be held outdoors in almost all circumstances.

Parent Events--If the event is planned for outdoors, we will require people to be masked, physically distanced, and without any symptoms of COVID-19. These will be primarily events away from students (e.g., Coffees with the Head). This will be on an invitation basis only.

If working with children-Waverly will require adults to be fully vaccinated or show proof of negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of the visit to campus. This will be with the approval of the appropriate division director.

Field trips/Overnight trips

There are regulations in place that allow schools to offer field trips and overnight trips. We will be following all regulations (i.e. buses with windows that open) so that we can ensure a safe experience for everyone. We will be sharing more about this to families as classes prepare for field trips/overnight trips.

Food

The CDC and Los Angeles County recommend that eating take place outdoors due to mask removal. We will be following this recommendation to the extent possible. If there are times when children eat inside (due to weather), we will ensure a stricter level of social distancing.

We will be able to offer our Choicelunch service. So look for information about signing up in [My BackPack](#).

With support,
Jason Gottlieb, CCP Coordinator