

Waiver Application Form



Please submit one application for each local educational agency or equivalent. If applying on behalf of a school district please submit one application for elementary schools in the district that are seeking to reopen for in-person instruction. If applying for an independent, private, faith-based, or charter school, please submit an application for each school.

Background Information

Name of Applicant (Local Educational Agency or Equivalent): Sts. Simon & Jude Catholic School

Name of District/School: Diocese of Orange County/Sts. Simon & Jude Catholic School

If this is a School District Consolidated Application Yes: No:
(Please list each school on a separate sheet)

School Type: Traditional Public School
Charter School
Private, Independent, or Faith-Based School

Number of schools: Enrollment:

Superintendent (or equivalent) Name:

Address:

Number of students and number of classes per grade proposed to be reopened:

TK (1) K (2) 1st (1) 2nd (1) 3rd(1) 4th (2) 5th (2) 6th (2)

Date of Proposed Reopening:

Name of Person Completing Application:

Phone Number:

Email:

Signature: Denise Grant

Date:

Updated, 8/24/20

I. Consultation

Please confirm consultation with the following groups:

Labor Organization

Name of Organization(s) and Date(s) Consulted:

Parent and Community Organizations

Name of Organization(s) and Date(s) Consulted:

**Please see addendum note on p. 4*

If no labor organization represents staff at the school, please describe the process for consultation with school staff:

**Please see addendum note on p. 4*

II. Elementary School Reopening Plans

Please confirm that elementary school reopening plan(s) addressing the following, consistent with guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the local health department, have been published on the website of the local educational agency (or equivalent):

Cleaning and Disinfection: How shared surfaces will be regularly cleaned and disinfected and how use of shared items will be minimized.

Cohorting: How students will be kept in small, stable, groups with fixed membership that stay together for all activities (e.g., instruction, lunch, recess) and minimize/avoid contact with other groups or individuals who are not part of the cohort.

Entrance, Egress, and Movement Within the School: How movement of students, staff, and parents will be managed to avoid close contact and/or mixing of cohorts.

- Face Coverings and Other Essential Protective Gear:** How CDPH's face covering requirements will be satisfied and enforced.
- Health Screenings for Students and Staff:** How students and staff will be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 and how ill students or staff will be separated from others and sent home immediately.
- Healthy Hygiene Practices:** The availability of handwashing stations and hand sanitizer, and how their use will be promoted and incorporated into routines.
- Identification and Tracing of Contacts:** Actions that staff will take when there is a confirmed case. Confirm that the school(s) have designated staff persons to support contact tracing, such as creation and submission of lists of exposed students and staff to the local health department and notification of exposed persons. Each school must designate a person for the local health department to contact about COVID-19.
- Physical Distancing:** How space and routines will be arranged to allow for physical distancing of students and staff.
- Staff Training and Family Education:** How staff will be trained and families will be educated on the application and enforcement of the plan.
- Testing of Students and Staff:** How school officials will ensure that students and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 will be rapidly tested and what instructions they will be given while waiting for test results. Describe how staff will be tested periodically to detect asymptomatic infections.
- Triggers for Switching to Distance Learning:** The criteria the superintendent will use to determine when to physically close the school and prohibit in-person instruction.
- Communication Plans:** How the superintendent will communicate with students, staff, and parents about cases and exposures at the school, consistent with privacy requirements such as FERPA and HIPAA.

School Website URL where reopening plan and waiver are posted.

****Please see attached addendum for additional information regarding Parent and Staff Consultations***

Additional Resources:

CDPH and Cal/OSHA Guidance for Schools and School-Based Programs

<https://files.covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-schools.pdf>

California Department of Education Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California's Public Schools

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/strongertogether.asp>

CDPH COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Framework for K-12 Schools in California, 2020-2021 School Year

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Schools%20Reopening%20Recommendations.pdf>

For Internal Use Only:

Date Received

Health Officer Review

Determination Date

STS. SIMON & JUDE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

RE: Waiver Addendum No. 1

DATE: August 24, 2020

Parent & Faculty/Staff Consultation Summary

Parent Summary

Two surveys were presented to the Sts. Simon & Jude parent community. The first survey conducted at the end of the school year addressed Distance Learning efficacy and experience, and school re-opening preferences and protocol priorities. At that time **seventy-five percent** of our parents who responded to the survey highly preferred returning to the traditional classroom model. Also in this survey the parents identified regularly-scheduled hand washing/sanitizing, enhanced cleaning, and the ability to maintain social distancing in the classroom as priorities for our health and safety protocols. With this data as support the Comprehensive Health and Safety Plan was created over a period of two months with the guidance of state and local health agencies, the CDC, the Department of Catholic Schools – Diocese of Orange, and the health and safety committee.

In August, another survey was conducted after the Health and Safety Plan was presented to the parents synchronously and asynchronously. This survey was intended to provide data for the waiver application as well as feedback for the efficacy of the Health and Safety Plan.

Eighty-five percent of our parents who responded to the survey were in favor of the waiver and would send their child to school 5 days a week if the waiver was approved. Since the survey was conducted interest in attending in-person learning from outside our school community (not reached by the survey) has increased substantially as seen through our inquiry section of our online enrollment system.

Faculty/Staff Summary

At the end of May and beginning of June individual consultations were held with the faculty/staff to discuss in-person instruction in the fall. Health and safety protocols were presented and discussed as they applied to the knowledge of the pandemic at that time. **One hundred percent** of the faculty/staff were committed to returning to in-person instruction. A second group meeting was held in July to present the Comprehensive Health & Safety Plan. The meeting included a Q & A and again **one hundred percent** of the faculty/staff expressed the desire to return to in-person instruction.