



KEHILLAH JEWISH HIGH SCHOOL

COVID-19 Addendum

August 2021



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A Letter from Our Director of Health and Safety

Dear Kehillah,

We are thrilled to be learning again as a full community, in person. On the global scale, we have not quite made it to a post-COVID-19 reality, so we will need to continue some of the safety measures from last year while getting to ease up on some others. The biggest shift in the landscape from last year is the widespread availability of safe and effective vaccines. Since the health and safety of our community remain our utmost priority, we are requiring all employees to be vaccinated. We urge our families and students to join us in receiving your vaccination, if able. Vaccinations are an important step in our continued layered mitigation strategy. Last year, we had members of our community that contracted COVID-19 outside of Kehillah, but by following our safety protocols, we had no spread through our building. We are confident that we can do the same this school year by continuing to be vigilant and by using the best science and learning available to us. We continue to work in concert with federal and local agencies, as well as experts in the field when creating and amending our policies.

Per CDC guidelines, we must continue wearing masks indoors, at all times. This also means that we will continue using the Kehillah Plaza (back of the parking lot) for lunch. We will not have the same strict standards for social distancing that we had last year, but we will still be mindful of one another's personal space and respecting each person's comfort with close contact. We do request that everyone refrains from personal physical contact.

Our hope is to be able to open our doors on August 19th for in-person learning and not have to make a shift to remote learning for the duration of the school year. If we do need to shift, we will do so as a community. Last year, we learned that the hybrid model was difficult for teachers and students and led to a less than optimal learning environment. Therefore, we cannot accommodate individual remote learning options this year, for any reason.

We thank you for your continued cooperation and flexibility as we respond to the changing guidelines and considerations of what is best for our community. It is my honor to serve Kehillah again as the Director of Health and Safety. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or would like clarity about the guidelines set forth in this COVID-19 Addendum.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2021-2022 school year.

Best,



Talia Anders
Director of Health and Safety
Academic Operations Manager

Pandemic Planning

Our COVID-19 policy is a living document and will evolve as the situation unfolds. We will alert you to any changes in our policy. Our guiding principles have remained the same since the start of the pandemic and we remain committed to them today. Our 6 pillars of prevention-layered mitigation strategies have also proven the test of time and have kept us safe since March of 2020.

Our Guiding Principles:

- Prioritize the physical health, safety, and social-emotional wellbeing of our students, staff, and faculty.
- Maintain Kehillah’s exceptional academic program and supportive environment.
- Remain committed to an education rooted in Jewish values and providing for our pluralistic community.
- Prepare for multiple responsive shifts to 100% online learning with fidelity.
- Make data-informed and evidence-based decisions.

6 Pillars of Prevention

Hygiene: Hand washing and hand sanitizing stations have been placed at building entrances and high utilization areas, as well as classrooms and offices. Signage reminding students, faculty, and staff of the importance of proper handwashing is posted throughout the building.

Screening: Students, faculty, and staff must be screened daily upon entrance into the building. Those with COVID-19 related symptoms must stay home.

Distancing: Distancing remains a mitigation strategy. Although we do not intend on implementing 2021-22 style social distancing, we ask our community to be mindful of others’ personal space and refrain from personal physical contact with one another.

Masks: Until otherwise directed by the CDC, everyone in a K-12 setting must wear a mask at all times when indoors. Masks must be at least three-ply, form-fitting, and cover the nose and chin.

Ventilation: Our HVAC goes above and beyond recommendations with MERV filtration as well as UV lights. Additionally, classrooms have been outfitted with portable HEPA filters.

Vaccination: We strongly encourage all individuals who can be vaccinated to do so. Vaccinations help stop the spread of COVID-19 and strongly minimize the risk of severe infection or death.

There will be training for employees, parents, and students about policies and how to maintain a safe and healthy learning environment in accordance with Federal, State, and local guidelines.

Instructional Model

Kehillah Jewish High School (“Kehillah”) will begin the 2021-2022 school year fully in-person. We intend on being fully in-person for the duration of the school year. However, if we see significant community spread of COVID-19 or are otherwise directed by Santa Clara County, we will move to a fully remote program. As a community, we will learn in the same modality. We will either be 100% in-person or 100% remote. **We will not offer a hybrid option for the 2021-2022 school year.**

Remote instruction will be delivered synchronously via zoom. Class attendance and participation are expected during virtual school. The block schedule will remain the same for both in-person and virtual learning.

Medical Response and Campus Closure

In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in an employee or student, Kehillah Jewish High School will require N95 masking and will increase physical distancing to the greatest extent possible until we determine if there has been community spread. If there is evidence of community spread– 5% or more of our employees or students have confirmed or strongly suspected cases of COVID-19 within a 14 day period, Kehillah will move to 100% remote learning for a minimum of 14 days.

Any person who tests positive for COVID-19 must quarantine for 14 days. Kehillah will continue to define a close contact as someone who spent 15 minutes or more, in a 24 hour period, closer than 6 feet to a person who has a known case of COVID-19; regardless of vaccination status. Any student who has been determined to be a close contact must self-isolate for 7 days. After 7 days of self-isolation, the students can take a COVID-19 test. If the test is negative, the student may return to school. Any student who chooses not to take the test must quarantine for 14 days. Close contact status must be notified to the school if the contact happened outside of Kehillah. If one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19, they must self-isolate until proof of a negative COVID-19 test can be submitted. Students may not attend school if they are displaying symptoms of COVID-19.

We will notify our community if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in a student or employee. Families that do not feel comfortable sending their child to school while we are in the investigatory phase of community spread may take an excused absence. Any student who needs to miss in-person learning for any reason is expected to follow class instruction on Schoology. Students can schedule a meeting with teachers during office hours about missed school days. There will not be a remote learning option when learning is in-person.

Health Protocols

Campus Safety Updates:

- Improvement of HVAC system: upgraded to HEPA filter, added blacklight filtration, and bringing in 50% outside air with an air exchange minimum of 4x per hour.
- Health screening for everyone coming onto Kehillah campus.
- Masks are required while indoors or when carpooling with people outside of your household.
- Required student/staff training.
- Eating must be done outside.
- Outdoor space is available for open blocks and lunch.
- Proper use of PPE, including activities that require PPE in addition to masks.
- Gloves and eye protection used for those doing health screenings.
- Increased access to disinfectant and sanitizing products.
- More frequent COVID-19 communications regarding policy updates, and requirements.
- Proper signage throughout learning spaces to remind all persons to use safe practices.
- All-school gatherings will occur outside.

Personal Responsibility

We need to work differently and we must work together. We ask you to commit to these safe practices:

- Read and understand all communications.
- Self-certify your health using the Fever Free app daily.
- Go/stay home if you feel sick and contact your healthcare provider and the School for further guidance.
- Wash your hands when you get to school and continually throughout the day. Be sure to wash for the recommended 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth, especially with unwashed hands.
- If you cough or sneeze and don't have a tissue, keep your facemask on and cover your mouth with the inside of your elbow.
- Be considerate of your classmates and teachers (remember, we're all in this together).
- Wear a mask when riding in a vehicle with people outside of your household.
- Please stay focused on your safety and our community's safety. If you see unsafe behaviors, please report them to Talia Anders.

Vaccination Policy

- We are requiring full vaccination of all employees; for the safety of our community, we are strongly encouraging all students and all members of their households to be fully vaccinated.
- If, for any reason, you remain unvaccinated, please take extra precautions. We strongly recommend unvaccinated individuals wear an N95 mask.
- We ask all individuals to be mindful while traveling and follow any quarantine rules. We ask unvaccinated individuals to return from travel 10 days before returning to on-campus education.

School Safety and Prevention Policies

About COVID-19

Everyone is at risk for getting COVID-19 although symptoms vary from mild to severe. Many of the symptoms of COVID-19 are not unique to COVID-19 and masquerade as stress or exhaustion. We are all responsible for the health and well-being of our community. If you are having symptoms of COVID-19, you must get tested - do not brush it off as 'not sleeping well.'

People with these symptoms may have COVID-19*:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Coughing● Shortness of Breath● Fever 100.3 and over● Loss of Taste and/or Smell● Chills● Muscle or body aches	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sore throat● Headache● Diarrhea● Nausea or vomiting● Fatigue
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*This list does not include all possible symptoms. We will continue to update this list as the CDC learns more about COVID-19.

Health Screening Process for Students

Santa Clara County requires all persons to be free of symptoms related to COVID-19 to be on campus. As such, every person coming to Kehillah, including students, will be screened before gaining access to campus. Kehillah has partnered with Fever Free to help monitor the health of our students as it relates to COVID-19. Fever Free is a daily health screening application that uses AI to verify that temperature checks happen daily.

Once you have taken your temperature and answered the screening questions, the system will either give you a clearance badge to show at security or will tell you that you have not been cleared to enter the campus. All medical information is maintained by Fever Free and follows HIPAA, FERPA, and OSHA guidelines. Additional information about Fever Free and how to download the app will be sent by email.

To ensure the safety and well-being of our employees and students, students will be required to follow these health screening steps before entering the campus:

- Students must participate in daily health screenings. Students are required to use the Fever Free App to manage the health screening process from home, or, when this is not possible, they will be required to take their temperature at school and fill out a paper questionnaire before being allowed to enter the campus.
- Kehillah will be providing bi-monthly, free, COVID-19 testing.

Below are the steps each student will need to follow before entering the campus:

Use the FeverFree App at home	Onsite health screening at Kehillah
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Film yourself with the use of a smartphone taking your temperature with a digital thermometer*. 2. Answer the questionnaire to determine if you have any COVID-19 related symptoms or participated in any high-risk activities. 3. Students using the Fever Free App will receive a “badge” on their phone screen indicating whether or not they are cleared to enter the premises. 4. Students who receive a symptom-free badge will present the badge to the attendant at the check-in desk*. 5. Complete instructions for using Fever Free are available from the Director of Health and Safety. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Go to the Check-in desk where you will be asked a series of questions and have your temperature taken. <p>**This is a long process and has the potential to hold up visitors trying to access campus. Plan accordingly so that you aren’t late for class.</p>
<p>* Attendants may ask for an additional screening including taking your temperature.</p>	

On-Campus COVID-19 Testing

Kehillah is providing on-campus, COVID-19 testing, free of charge to all Kehillah Community members. The agency we use provides both antibody and PCR testing. COVID-19 testing will be required every other week for all students regardless of vaccination status. Santa Clara County requires all students to be tested monthly. We feel that bi-monthly tests will do a better job surveying for potential community spread.

General Policies and Procedures

Masks

Santa Clara County and the City of Palo Alto require all students to wear masks. The mask must cover your nose and mouth and be worn whenever inside the building. Masks are not required when outdoors. The Center for Disease Control “CDC” has advised that wearing a mask significantly reduces the likelihood of someone transmitting the virus to others.

- Masks must be worn at all times in the building.
- Masks must be made out of breathable material, three-ply, form-fitting, cover the entire nose and mouth area, and be secured to the head with elastic ties or straps without any visible gaps around the sides or bridge of the nose.
- N95 masks are strongly recommended for non-vaccinated students.
- Students should bring masks from home.
- Masks may not have vents, rips, or tears.
- Non-disposable masks should be washed daily per CDC guidance or cannot be worn on consecutive days.
- Masks must follow dress code policies as defined in the Student/Parent Handbook.
 - Any clothing with offensive printing or promoting a substance that is illegal for minors is not permitted.
- All students who chose to bring/wear face shields must clean and disinfect them after each school day. Face shields need to be worn in conjunction with a mask. Face shields cannot be worn in place of a mask.
- Please contact Talia Anders if you are concerned about your ability to wear the required mask for medical or other reasons.

You can remove your mask when you are eating or drinking, but be aware and sensitive to those around you. We require all eating to happen outdoors and mask removal is quick when drinking indoors.

Food on Campus

- Students should plan to bring their lunches, snacks, refillable water bottles, utensils, plates, snacks, etc., needed for eating and drinking while on campus.
- Meals must be eaten outside.
- No sharing of food or communal dining.
- Wash hands, per CDC guidelines, before and after eating.

Visitor Policy

We will continue to limit the number of visitors to campus to help keep our students and employees safe. When a visitor comes to campus, they must first complete a health screening. Visitors must be masked at all times while on the Kehillah campus.

Kehillah Jewish High School reserves the right to amend any of these policies at any time. We will update our policies in order to keep our community safe in accordance with the latest guidelines.