



# CRAFTING A SPECIAL YEAR

Midland School  
2020-21 UPDATED  
JAN '21



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# A Message from the Head of School

January 2021

## Dear Midland Community,

With great consideration for the health, wellness, and safety of all our community members, we would like to share our most current plans for a return to campus. This dynamic document contains the informed and sensible collaboration of our administration, staff, faculty, local and national medical professionals and organizations. For the coming school year (and beyond) we have four significant challenges to address. One, a global coronavirus health pandemic; two, a significant economic downturn and crisis; three, significant social unrest derivative of legitimate and ongoing social injustice; and, four, a challenging fire season (past and to come). The exact nature and magnitude of these challenges is unknown, although the impacts will be significant and lasting.

This is a plan in response to an evolving situation. President Eisenhower popularized the notion that plans (and planning documents) are useless and the process of planning is priceless (drafting & reviewing planning documents). We embrace this perspective and expect this plan to evolve given the rapidly changing context and available information. At heart, our intent is to craft a special year that responds to the various challenges and crises, allowing a path for continued on-campus learning in the future.

## Our Priorities for the Year

We have identified the following priorities, in rough priority order, to guide our response. This plan and our response should be bounded and limited to actions that support these priorities:

- Long term and short term health and wellness of students & community
- Mission: Survival of our ability to deliver Midland School's mission & core values sustained in the long term
- Institutional change to further incorporate our diversity, equity, and inclusion work into school culture, curriculum, programs and practices
- Respond to the emerging needs of the Midland community by bolstering our ability to be nimble and sensible
- Financial viability/solvency, especially the resources to allocate to needs (e.g. payroll, financial aid)

Although we recognize that the impact of the current challenges may extend well beyond a year, the scope for this planning effort is for the 2020-2021 school year. Please expect subsequent updates as we synthesize new information and best practices.

Sincerely,



Christopher Barnes  
*Head of School*

## Organizing Principles

### School Outside

- Maximize the use of our assets and skills – utilize the natural world as our primary classroom space as much as possible (which is significantly more than in other institutional and school settings)
- Default classrooms are outside not inside; increase utilization of the outdoors for place and project-based learning

### Stick to the Basics

- 4W's: Wear a mask, Wash Hands, Watch Distance, We're in this together
- Surveillance for illness: daily symptom checks, periodic surveillance testing (once every two weeks)
- Minimize groups of people in confined or indoor spaces
- Minimize unnecessary shared use of facilities
- Cohorting/"Families"/Batching (primarily by yard living groups, e.g. Lower Yard 10th grade, etc.)

### Simplify

- Less will be more, collapse program and offerings to the essential core (the "best half is best")
- Impossible to KNOW what will happen, so we plan extra time in blocks to allow for the capacity to address unknown issues and challenges as they arise
- Assume new inefficiencies (e.g. increase time allocated to transition and preparation for activities)
- Plan for periodic high levels of absenteeism (both student and faculty)

### Our Scale Is a Strength

- Be nimble and sensible – maintain agility and practicality that allows for quick decision-making and plan modification because our size allows for quick pivoting as we gather updated information
- Greatly expand flexibility by expanding roles and responsibilities (team approaches to most tasks and duties)

### Maintain Decision-Making Discipline

- Utilize definitive and high-quality sources for data and recommendations, controlling guidance hierarchy is Santa Barbara County Department of Public Health, California Department of Public Health, and finally the Center for Disease Control (CDC)
- We can and should utilize the data and information coming from other boarding schools, summer camps and associations as sources for practices that have been demonstrated to work
- People's long-term well being and mental health should supersede short-term gain & benefits

## Mitigation Strategies and Expectations Summary

### Mitigating Exposure

*Relentless emphasis and enforcement* of the 4 W's: Wear a mask, Wash Your Hands, Watch Your Distance, and We are in this together. Specifically:

- Approved face coverings at all times (except in cabin/private space, or, outside and well beyond 6 feet spacing) AND at all times when indoors in any communal space, indoors or outdoors
- Wash and sanitize hands before and after meals; wash and sanitize common use items before and after use
- Maintain 6 foot or greater spacing
- Minimize “close contacts” (> 15 minutes & closer than 6 feet in any 24 hour period)
- Support each other by developing skills and humor in gently reminding each other about the 4W's and cultivate skills in distanced connection

### Interim Midland Culture Practices

- Daily symptoms screening
- Report to Health Office (or Faculty of the Day) all flu-like symptoms
- Limited occupancy of indoor spaces
- Take full advantage of our isolation and unique status as a 100% boarding community
- No off-campus travel or exposures to off-campus indoor congregate settings
- Educate students in current safety hygiene practices and expectations
- Increase frequency of sanitizing/disinfecting/cleaning of all spaces and items (min. twice daily norm)
- Greatly expanded access to handwashing stations and touchless hand-sanitizer dispensers
- Educate and enlist engagement with hygiene protocols: cough/sneeze covered into elbow, disposal of kleenex, knowing to avoid touching hands to face, mouth, eyes, nose
- No sharing of eating utensils, water bottles, personal items
- Sleep with heads furthest distance as practically possible from one another in cabins
- Provide COVID-19 testing as needed

### What to Remember

- Ensure community awareness of COVID-19 symptoms. Mild to moderate symptoms of COVID-19 include but are not limited to: cough, frequent sneezing, fever, chills, muscle aches/pain, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

## Modes of Campus Operation

### **Overview of Protocols and Expectations**

Nobody is or can be perfect, and yet if we are not all highly disciplined and thoughtful in making the transition from life at home to life on campus... our time together on campus will be short-lived. A myriad of schools and colleges have opened only to be forced to re-close quickly due to an outbreak, others have been successful in managing the risks. The differentiator is the effective utilization of the basics!

All that follows are strong guidelines and expectations. Please read and consider them to be rules and requirements, although it is important that we all internalize that the task at hand is a fundamentally difficult one, and yet the task is for the benefit of others even more than for ourselves. While each of us might make compliance mistakes, we must all try to uphold them and we must hold each other accountable.

We as a community slow the potential spread of COVID-19 by batching, monitoring, reducing time and exposure. You as an individual slow the spread by following the 4W's and by maintaining an honest and transparent awareness of who you have been in close contact with. Please, for all our sakes, strive mightily to meet the ideal outlined below.

We will operate in one of two modes this year, with specific guidance for each one. However, we will adapt the plan and criteria based on the evolving guidance, data available to us, the number of infections on campus & locally, and any number of other factors.

The following protocols and expectations reflect our best effort at implementing the most recent and widely accepted practices for residential schools and similar congregate living facilities. Midland has some unique opportunities and strengths to apply to this challenge, we must fully utilize them: use the outdoor space to spread out, and build on our long history of doing the right thing even when it is the hard thing.

There is a risk of infection every time we leave our homes or invite someone into them. Ultimately, our goal is to stay open, which will require our collective commitment to each other. It is difficult to balance the requirement to inform community members of confirmed COVID cases with a desire to honor individual desire for privacy (an imperfect balance). Therefore, Midland is committed to upholding public health requirements and we plan to inform both community members and local public health officials of COVID-19 infections. We are hopeful that in adhering to some basic sensibilities, we can reduce disease transmission and enjoy a full and joyful on-campus return.

General Expectations	Overview of Level I High Risk Mitigation	Overview of Level II Surveillance & Management
<b>Trigger Levels</b>	Known/suspected COVID-19 infection on campus Initial 2-4 weeks of re-forming the community Significant increasing local/regional infection rate per guidance from Public Health officials	2+ weeks since last known infection exposure risk on campus
<b>Wash your Hands</b>	Before & After meals Before & After restroom use Before & After any group activity Before entering and after leaving any indoor space Increased hand washing and hand sanitizer stations throughout campus After sneezing or coughing. And: Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. Sneeze into the elbow or forearm.	
<b>Wear your Mask</b>	EVERYWHERE including outdoors when in groups of 2 or more. Exceptions: personal spaces (cabins, private office), outdoors > 8 ft spacing Approved masks only (bandanas, neck gaiters, buffs or loose face coverings are not acceptable) Face coverings need to be frequently washed, like underwear, and not reused from day to day As per CDPH guidance, any deviations from compliance (for legitimate exemption reasons) must be paired with additional risk mitigation strategies (e.g. face shield usage, workplace spacing changes, etc.)	
<b>Watch your Distance</b>	Maintain 6 feet distancing at all times “Stay Right” on paths and walkways Utilize reminders of physical distancing marked throughout campus Expect disciplinary consequences for violations for indoor spaces  <i>Note: as universally experienced by educational institutions nationwide, physical distancing is the hardest guidance to practice in a residential community of adolescents. To the degree we fail to meet this standard, we increase the risks we face. We must improve our practices, consistency, and seek to increase other additional measures to offset the compliance challenge. This also creates a duty to provide genuine opportunities for social (not physical) connection that satiates the very real and legitimate needs of our students for community and companionship.</i>	
<b>The Evolving 4th W: We're in this Together</b>	The Fourth W will be updated to meet the needs of the community... generally a “We...” statement We are in this together We approach wellness from a holistic perspective that considers the whole of the community and the individual We all will participate in daily symptom screening and temperature checks We got this We look after our individual and collective wellness We gently and graciously enforce the 4W's	

Testing & Tracing	Level I High Risk Mitigation	Level II Surveillance & Management
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<b>Community Health Surveillance</b>	<p>Daily temperature and symptom checks for all  <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html</a>                      Immediate quarantine any flu like symptoms until cleared                      Frequent surveillance testing if/as available (currently once per two weeks or greater frequency)                      Continue diligent hygiene, disinfecting and sanitizing practices                      Testing will likely be a mix of surveillance testing and testing based on the relative likelihood of someone having come in contact with COVID-19.                      We will also test on returns to campus/community.                      See Addendum: COVID Testing for further details</p>	
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<b>Contact Tracing</b>	<p>After a student has tested positive for COVID-19 or is suspected to have COVID-19, contact tracers interview to determine what other individuals are at risk                      It is critical that students be honest with the contact tracers so that we can mitigate the spread of COVID-19. <i>Any information gleaned through contact tracing will not result in disciplinary measures.</i>                      We are required to report all positive cases to the Santa Barbara County Dept of Public Health Disease Control.                      Both close contacts and roommate placed in cabin quarantine if not symptomatic.                      “close contact” = less than 6 feet apart for more than 15 minutes within a 24 hour period (with or without a face covering)                      Symptomatic individuals may be moved to a higher level of quarantine or sent home (TBD case by case)                      Resume normal access after 10-14 days post-contact</p>	
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Gatherings & Shared Spaces	Level I High Risk Mitigation	Level II Surveillance & Management
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<b>Academic Spaces for in-person learning (once allowed)</b>	<p>Outdoor classes, including use of Pole Barn, Barn, Lumberyard, etc.                      Utilize remote learning strategies &amp; systems</p>	
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<b>Assembly Protocol</b>	Meet online only	<p>Only if allowed (currently not allowed until further notice)                      Once allowed:                      Outdoors unless precluded (e.g. hard rain)                      Maximize spacing (great than 6 ft when feasible)                      Masked                      Uphold County gathering standards &amp; recommendations as per Tier levels</p>
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<b>Athletics &amp; Activities</b>	<p>No interscholastic competitions                      Individual gear/equipment assigned                      Equipment sanitizing pre &amp; post-use                      Masks required (exp. &gt; 10-foot spacing, very high exertion levels required)</p>	
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<b>Dining Services</b>	<p>Outdoor seating predominantly and if needed (e.g. weather)                      indoor with 6 ft spacing between cohorts, barriers between cohort members                      Staggered &amp; increased meal times, safe snacks</p>	
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Increased sanitation  
 No self-serve buffet lines  
 Cohorts/groups for foodservice line w 6 foot spacing  
 State guidance for restaurants will be implemented  
 Meals delivered to those in quarantine

<b>Living Yard Restrooms, Showers, &amp; Laundry</b>	Use limited to cabin group cohorts & strictly limited occupancy (2 max) with mask (except for showering and tooth brushing)	
<b>Public Bathrooms</b>	CLOSED - students and faculty use respective bathrooms in living yards & homes & designated cohort porta-potties Cleaning protocol pre/post use Wear masks inside Maximized ventilation	1 person at a time occupancy & maintain physical distancing, face covering required. Cleaning protocol pre/post use Increase ventilation Occupant use by cohort as feasible
<b>Public &amp; Shared Spaces</b>	Generally closed (e.g. commons, library) - OK to enter to get something, wash hands before enter & after exit No sharing of items (e.g. tables, chairs)	Open but with occupancy limits and physical distancing enforced Maximized ventilation No sharing of unsanitized items Increased cleaning, emphasis on sanitizing
<b>Study Spaces, esp. Status</b>	Common spaces closed Students study in cabins for status & free periods	Study/Status very spread out using cabins, classrooms, and other spaces w/ physical distancing Maintain physical distancing within posted limitations on space occupancy
<b>Transportation &amp; Vehicle Use</b>	Essential transportation only (e.g. medical) No group (2+ students) use of vehicles All non-essential appointments need to be scheduled during breaks or via remote/digital Medical/Special - allowed w/ face coverings (N95 masks) Due to COVID-19, we will only be able to support appointments that are truly essential and can't wait until the student is home on vacation. The necessity of such appointments will be at the discretion of our health office Minimize risk by utilizing drivers who are internal to our community (subject to our surveillance testing, etc.) as feasible	Group (2+) - YES w/ face coverings & windows open but limited, minimized, and for mission-specific purposes only Physically distanced seating (as much as possible) Wash/disinfect hands and all high touch surfaces before/after vehicle use Limited specialty appointment transportation considered on a case by case basis

<b>Private Spaces &amp; Quarantine</b>	<b>Level I High Risk Mitigation</b>	<b>Level II Surveillance &amp; Management</b>
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**Cohorting Families by Cabin**

Cohorts/Families are formed by living yard grade level + prefect groups, eating areas, and access to laundry and bathroom facilities  
 Limited physical intermingling between cohorts, to minimize all “close contacts”  
 An entire cohort may be quarantined  
 Daily resident sanitizing of cohort areas (bathrooms, laundry room, etc)  
 2+ windows 25% open or more at all times in cabins  
 All cabins closed to all visitors! (check-ins from the doorway w face covering only)

Beds set up to maximize separation of heads  
 Bathroom use limited to cohort members

<b>Quarantining on Campus</b>	While awaiting test results and/or a strong reason to believe a student has been exposed to COVID-19 Students will remain in a quarantine space (health office rooms or cabin) except for prescribed exceptions (outdoor solo exercise, bathroom use, showering, etc.) Meals will be delivered If positive, complete 14-day quarantine, home or off campus (utilizing external medical care and support) as possible Exceptions will be resolved on a case by case basis Roommates and/or an entire cohort may be under quarantine if one or more members test positive
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<b>Personnel, Pets &amp; Individuals</b>	<b>Level I High Risk Mitigation</b>	<b>Level II Surveillance &amp; Management</b>
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**ALL Employees**  
[Daily self screening](#) and temperature checks  
 Stay home when symptomatic  
 Contact Health Office re potential testing/quarantine requirements

<b>Dogs, Pets, Animals</b>	Sanitize hands before AND after all animal contacts Review <a href="#">CDC guidelines</a> regarding pets	
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<b>High-Risk Community Individuals (TBD based on disease profile)</b>	Engage remotely entirely or as much as possible Released from community activities Evaluate the feasibility of temporary changes to responsibilities to allow remote work	Encourage working remotely to decrease exposure Maximize separation when on campus 100% face covering Maximize physical distancing between community members
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<b>Minimal Non-Employee Workers/ Vendors</b>	Screening upon arrival Arrival hand washing Face Coverings Required Stay off campus if symptomatic or if have had recent contact with persons known or suspected of having COVID-19	
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**Off-Campus Employees & Non-employee Residents**  
 Eat meals physically distanced from on-campus population, availability dependent on food service capacity  
 Work remote as possible/viable  
 Stay in primary workspaces  
 Do not enter or use any on-campus public spaces (e.g. Pole Barn, Library)

<b>Visitors &amp; Guests of Students</b>	Not Allowed (including parents) Exceptions discouraged and require: admin approval, pre-arrival screening for short duration only & not inside buildings	Minimized & discouraged Exceptions: FOD or admin approval, pre-arrival screening for short duration only & not inside buildings, cabins, or common spaces.
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<b>General Health Practices</b>	<b>Level I High Risk Mitigation</b>	<b>Level II Surveillance &amp; Management</b>
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<b>Academic Continuity Planning</b>	For each academic class (by teacher), there will be a pre-planned independent study unit(s) that students could complete with only nominal subject area expert support (anyone) to allow for coverage for absent students or faculty.
<b>Cleaning &amp; Sanitization</b>	Additional daily campus-wide surfaces and touch points disinfected + regular cleaning schedule Full PPE as needed for cleaning “contaminated” areas Indoor spaces known to have contact with a COVID-19+ individual will be closed until disinfected Basic PPE for all routine cleaning tasks (mask & gloves)
<b>Communication</b>	Whenever we have a confirmed, or even strongly suspected, case of COVID-19 on campus, the community will be informed. As feasible (limited by our small scale and the demand of contact tracing), we will strive to respect individual privacy. We are required to report all COVID positive cases to public health officials and we will do so. When we have a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, our health care team has responsibilities that require their full attention. We ask that you please refrain from immediately calling the school to seek further information. Rest assured that if your child tests positive or is suspected positive, you will be notified as soon as possible.
<b>Flu Shots &amp; Vaccinations</b>	Flu shots are highly recommended and de facto required (with some special exceptions) for all students, faculty, and staff prior to the return to campus. For information on how to get a free or discounted flu shot, contact the Health Office for information on how & where to access flu shots As per California law, all students must have current vaccinations with documentation (see annual medical forms) As COVID-19 vaccines are approved and available, we expect all community members to get vaccinated to protect our local and extended community. We remain in contact with the local county health department to receive updates about when and who may be vaccinated and will notify community members accordingly. We also expect and intend to require COVID-19 vaccinations in the future within the constraints of the public health recommendations, legal requirements, and allowing for genuine and approved exceptions.
<b>Health Office</b>	Available spaces for quarantine are sectioned off from the main Health Office space Limited indoor access, used as a “triage” to assess students who aren’t feeling well Students may be assessed by Health Director outside No more than 2 students at a time in Front Office Some students may be sent back to their cabins All non-essential off-campus appointments must be arranged when students are home Essential off-campus appointments are at the discretion of the Health Office The Health Office will continue to evolve with the needs of the students and Midland Community

## Key Personnel & Temporary Succession Plans

### Chain of Command

*Board of Trustees (for emergent issues delegates to Executive Committee &/or Board Chair)*  
*Executive Committee (Ed Carpenter, Jim Dreyfuss, Michelle Howard & Christopher Barnes)*  
*Board Chair (Ed Carpenter)*

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 Head of School (Christopher Barnes)  
 Business Manager (Amy Grenier)

Dean of Students (José Juan Ibarra)  
 Dean of Academics (Ellie Moore)  
 Dean of Experiential Learning (Dan Susman)  
 Admin Team Member(s)  
 Health Director (Marissa Hildebrant)  
 Faculty & Staff  
 Non-Employee Adults on Campus  
 Head Prefects  
 Prefects  
 Seniors  
 Students

### Coverage Plan for Absent, Sick, or Unavailable Key Personnel

Role / Title	1st Alternate	2nd Alternate	3rd Alternate
Head of School	Business Manager	Dean of Students	Admin team Member
Business Manager	Head of School w/ Bookkeeper	Admin team member	BoT: Finance Comm Member
Health Director	Learning Support Faculty	Any WFR Cert. Employee	Any WFA Cert. Fac or Staff
Dean of Students	Learning Support Faculty	Dean of Experiential Learning	BoT: Program Comm Member
Dean of Academics	Dean of Experiential Learning	College Counselor	BoT: Program Comm Member
Dean of Experiential Learning	Dean of Academics	Dean of Students	College Counselor
Director of Admissions	Assistant Dir. of Admissions	Marketing & Comms Lead	Advancement Associate
Director of Advancement	Marketing & Comms Lead	Office & Data Associate	BoT: Development Comm. Chair
College Counselor	Dean of Academics	Humanities Faculty member	Art Dept. Faculty member
IT Director	Math/Science Faculty member	Dean of Experiential Learnings	Head of School
Bookkeeper	Business Manager	Assist. to the Head of School	Head of School
Kitchen Manager	Assistant Kitchen Manager	Any Cook	Any Employee
Subject Area Teacher	Other Subject Area Teacher	Any Teaching Faculty	Any Employee
Farm Manager	Farm & Ranch Asst.	Other Farm Staff	Horse Prog Director
Horse Program Director	Farm & Ranch Asst.	Other Horse Prg Staff	Farm Manager
Learning Support	Dean of Academics	Any designated faculty	Any designated faculty

## Selection of External Resources & References

[Santa Barbara County COVID-19 Status Report](#)

[Santa Barbara County State Metrics Status](#)

Santa Barbara County | [How to help your kids navigate the impacts of COVID-19](#)

CDC | [Keeping Children Healthy during the COVID-19 Outbreak](#)

## Questions? Who to Contact at Midland

### **Travel, Transportation, or General Queries**

Jill Brady, Assistant to the Head Of School  
[jbrady@midland-school.org](mailto:jbrady@midland-school.org), 805.688.5114

### **Health, Wellness, Medical, or Testing Queries**

Marissa Hildebrant, Health Director  
[healthdirector@midland-school.org](mailto:healthdirector@midland-school.org), 805.688.5114 ext. 136

### **Community & Student Life Queries**

José Juan Ibarra, Dean of Students  
[jibarra@midland-school.org](mailto:jibarra@midland-school.org), 805-688-5114 ext.129

### **Academic Queries**

Ellie Moore, Dean of Academics  
[emoore@midland-school.org](mailto:emoore@midland-school.org)

### **External Relations**

Christopher Barnes, Head of School  
[cbarnes@midland-school.org](mailto:cbarnes@midland-school.org), 805.688.5114 ext. 112

**For all other questions, please get in touch with your / your child's advisor. Thank you!**

## Addendum: Context for External Readers

Midland School is a co-educational 100% boarding (no day students) independent college preparatory high school for grades 9-12 located on a 2,870-acre campus. Enrollment is 85 students and we have +/- 30 faculty, staff, and employees, half or more of whom live on our campus. The core of our campus (65+ simple and rustic buildings) are spread across 100+ acres. Essentially all of our buildings and every door opens to the outdoors. Our students live in cabins (no “dormitories”) that all open to the outdoors, there are no hallways. The school is located outside of Los Olivos, CA, bordered by the Los Padres National Forest and several large ranches (4+ mile drive to get to our third neighbor).

## Addendum: COVID Testing

As of mid-January 2021 within a rapidly changing context of options and availability: Midland's evaluation of available options; federal, state, and local guidance; available vendors/companies for testing; and accessible options via local medical clinics and clinicians presents the following as our testing schedule, system, and vendors:

### **Pre-arrival Testing**

All students are required to undergo COVID PCR testing (utilizing their own local options and medical support systems) 3 or more days after beginning a quarantine at home and provide negative results on or before arrival. Additionally, we have day-of arrival screening expectations & procedures and the drop-offs are significantly controlled relative to external visitors/parents. Prior to any returns to campus, all students quarantine at home and are required to bring a list of all close contacts from that time with them on arrival.

### **Surveillance Testing**

We have an established (and now tested & functional) relationship with [AgileForce](#) to provide on-site PCR COVID testing every two weeks for our entire community. This has been ongoing since October 2020 and we have scheduled all community testing days for the remainder of the school year.

### **On-Site &/or On-Demand Testing**

We have an established account with [Quest Diagnostics](#), which includes a local, supervising physician, and a system in place for access to testing, telemedicine, and evaluation of suspected, potential, and positive COVID cases.

The local Dignity Health system Urgent Care clinic (7 miles from our campus) is on standby for medical support, telemedicine, testing access, and the clinic's medical director has visited our campus multiple times.

We have rapid antigen testing available on-campus as an adjunct to decision making (positive antigen tests are confirmed by PCR type testing given the lower sensitivity of this type of testing).

### **In-Process Testing Options**

Midland sought and received a CLIA waiver and is on the wait-list to receive additional higher sensitivity rapid antigen testing, machine & supplies. We continue to track and seek to attain access to other testing options.

## **Addendum: COVID-19 School Guidance Checklist**

As per the “[COVID-19 and Re-opening In-Person Instruction Framework & Public Health Guidance for k-12 Schools in California, 2020-21 School Year](#)” published on January 14, 2021. Following this document (in the same pdf-format publication) is a copy of the “[COVID-19 School Guidance Checklist](#)”. Additionally, as per this guidance and beginning on January 25, 2020, Midland will submit data on the status of the school every other Monday.

# COVID-19 School Guidance Checklist

January 14, 2021

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CALIFORNIA  
**ALL**

Your Actions  
Save Lives



Date: 01/18/2021

# 2021 COVID-19 School Guidance Checklist

Name of Local Educational Agency or Equivalent: Midland School

Number of schools: 1

Enrollment: 85

Superintendent (or equivalent) Name: Christopher Barnes

Address: PO Box 8  
Los Olivos, CA 93441

Phone Number: 805-688-5114

Email: cbarnes@midland-school.org

Date of proposed reopening:  
10/22/2020

County: Santa Barbara

Current Tier: Purple  
(please indicate Purple, Red, Orange or Yellow)

Grade Level (check all that apply)

TK  2<sup>nd</sup>  5<sup>th</sup>  8<sup>th</sup>  11<sup>th</sup>

K  3<sup>rd</sup>  6<sup>th</sup>  9<sup>th</sup>  12<sup>th</sup>

1<sup>st</sup>  4<sup>th</sup>  7<sup>th</sup>  10<sup>th</sup>

Type of LEA: Independent School

**This form and any applicable attachments should be posted publicly on the website of the local educational agency (or equivalent) prior to reopening or if an LEA or equivalent has already opened for in-person instruction. For those in the Purple Tier, materials must additionally be submitted to your local health officer (LHO), local County Office of Education, and the State School Safety Team prior to reopening.**

The email address for submission to the State School Safety for All Team for LEAs in Purple Tier is:

[K12csp@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:K12csp@cdph.ca.gov)

**LEAs or equivalent in Counties with a case rate  $\geq 25/100,000$  individuals can submit materials but cannot re-open a school until the county is below 25 cases per 100,000 (adjusted rate) for 5 consecutive days.**

## For Local Educational Agencies (LEAs or equivalent) in ALL TIERS:

I, Christopher Barnes, post to the website of the local educational agency (or equivalent) the COVID Safety Plan, which consists of two elements: the **COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP)**, pursuant to CalOSHA requirements, and this **CDPH COVID-19 Guidance Checklist** and accompanying documents,

which satisfies requirements for the safe reopening of schools per CDPH [Guidance on Schools](#). For those seeking to open while in the Purple Tier, these plans have also been submitted to the local health officer (LHO) and the State School Safety Team.

I confirm that reopening plan(s) address the following, consistent with guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the local health department:

**Stable group structures (where applicable):** How students and staff will be kept in 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 stable group.

Please provide specific information regarding:

How many students and staff will be in each planned stable, group structure? (If planning more than one type of group, what is the minimum and maximum number of students and staff in the groups?)

Roommates are "family", 6 groups for meal service and facilities of 9-18

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If you have departmentalized classes, how will you organize staff and students in stable groups?

Fixed groups, class outside, physically distanced seating, 100% masking

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If you have electives, how will you prevent or minimize in-person contact for members of different stable groups?

Fixed groups, class outside, physically distanced seating, 100% masking

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**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 for staff and students.

**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 safe and appropriate use will be promoted and incorporated into routines for staff and students.

**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.

Please provide the planned maximum and minimum distance between students in classrooms.

Maximum: 10+ feet

Minimum: 6 feet. If this is less than 6 feet, please explain why it is not possible to maintain a minimum of at least 6 feet.

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**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 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. Below, please describe any planned periodic asymptomatic staff testing cadence.

Staff asymptomatic testing cadence. Please note if testing cadence will differ by tier:

All faculty, staff, employees, and campus residents tested every 2 weeks

**Testing of Students:** How school officials will ensure that students 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. Below, please describe any planned periodic asymptomatic student testing cadence.

Planned student testing cadence. Please note if testing cadence will differ by tier:

All students tested every 2 weeks & on-demand testing on-site as needed

**Identification and Reporting of Cases:** At all times, reporting of confirmed positive and suspected cases in students, staff and employees will be consistent with [Reporting Requirements](#).

**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.

**Consultation: (For schools not previously open)** Please confirm consultation with the following groups

Labor Organization

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent and Community Organizations

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**For Local Educational Agencies (LEAs or equivalent) in PURPLE:**

**Local Health Officer Approval:** The Local Health Officer, for (state County) Santa Barbara (in October 2020)\_\_\_\_\_. County has certified and approved the CRP on this date: 10/15/2020\_\_\_\_\_. If more than 7 business days have passed since the submission without input from the LHO, the CRP shall be deemed approved.

**Additional Resources:**

[Guidance on Schools](#)

[Safe Schools for All Hub](#)