School dances, large assemblies, and other school-based crowded events, all have the potential to cause substantial spread of COVID-19 within and beyond the school community. To help ensure events are COVID-safe as much as possible, follow these simple steps.

- Host events outdoors whenever possible.
- If event is indoors, keep doors and windows open. Good ventilation helps keep COVID particles from accumulating.
- Separate the event into smaller cohorts (by grade, for example) whenever possible. Smaller groups are less risky.
- Promote vaccines for all eligible attendees (students and adults).
- Remind everyone (students, parents, staff) to stay home if they aren’t feeling well.
- Ask for negative test results or consider testing attendees at or just prior to the event.
- Plan in advance how to identify close contacts or exposed groups if it is later discovered that someone with COVID attended the event.
- Encourage pre-registration with CA Notify and maintain a log of all attendees (even those arriving pre-event) at the door/entrance to the event.
- Consider requiring the use of masks at large school-based indoor events.
- If food or drinks are to be served, serve them outdoors whenever possible and/or place them away from other areas to clearly designate spaces where masks should be worn.
- Ensure that vendors and staff are taking protective measures and are following protocols to prevent the spread of COVID.

Continue to emphasize the following messages:

- Get vaccinated! Vaccines are safe and easy to get. Look here for options.
- Get a booster when eligible. Immunity wanes over time.
- Avoid poorly ventilated spaces and crowds. When in such a space, mask up and maintain six feet of distance from others as practicable.
- Wear a mask where the COVID Community Level is high, regardless of vaccination status.
- Wear a mask at public events such as graduation ceremonies out of respect and concern for attendees who are at higher risk of for severe disease if they contract COVID.
- Take precautions during travel. Mask when in crowds and tight quarters.
- If symptoms develop, stay home, get tested, contact medical provider, and inform close contacts.