Stay Safe & Finish Strong!
COVID-Safety Tips for Students and Families

As COVID-19 remains a concern in San Mateo County, events such as graduations and end-of-year parties require special considerations for planning and participation. This document provides tips for students and families so everyone can stay safe and finish strong.

Be Aware of Local COVID-19 Conditions
Before planning or attending an event, make sure you understand the COVID conditions in your school community and county.

- Check the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)’s website for updated conditions.
- Large outbreaks have occurred from indoor events like proms.

Tips for Organizing an Event
With careful planning, social gatherings can be held safely in person. Find more details and links in the California Department of Public Health’s Events Playbook.

- Outdoor events are less risky; plan to hold events outside, if possible.
- Having fewer people in attendance is less risky; plan smaller events when possible.
- Keep doors and windows open when indoors. Ventilation keeps COVID particles from accumulating.
- If event is indoors, consider asking guests to wear a mask. Have masks available for guests.
- If event is indoors, plan to serve food outdoors, if possible.
- Ask attendees and vendors to show a photo of a negative COVID test before they attend. Consider offering testing onsite before the event begins.
- Encourage everyone to monitor their health and stay home if they don’t feel well or have symptoms.
- Encourage attendees to register for CA Notify, which will notify them if they have been exposed.
- Keep a list of attendee names and contact information to reach them if there is an exposure.

Tips for Keeping Yourself Safe
It is important for individuals and families to protect themselves while participating in gatherings. Here are some tips for keeping yourself and family safe.

- Get vaccinated and boosted. This is the best way to protect yourself.
- If you’re not feeling well, stay home and take a COVID test.
- Keep rapid antigen tests on hand to test yourself as needed.
- Carry a mask with you wherever you go; slip it on when in a crowded space or indoors.
- Ask if there are safety measures before attending. The risk is greater when hosts don’t require testing.
- If the event is large and/or indoors, attending could be riskier.
- Avoid poorly ventilated, crowded spaces. Ask the host to open windows and doors to help ventilate.
- If household members are unvaccinated or at risk for severe illness, wear a mask, distance, or don’t attend.
- Sign up for CA Notify, which will notify you if you have been exposed COVID.
- Additional information on keeping yourself safe can be found on the CDC website.

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