



**SAN MATEO
COUNTY
OFFICE OF
EDUCATION**

Excellence and Equity in Education

Nancy Magee • County Superintendent of Schools

Dear Principals, Teachers, Parents, and Students:

The Outdoor Education Staff is preparing for a safe, fun, educational experience for all participants during their week at Outdoor Education. The Outdoor Education COVID safety plan will be approved by the Superintendent of Schools and county health officials to meet all county and state guidelines for COVID procedures. Below are the requirements that will be mandatory for participation in the Outdoor Education program.

1. Required negative COVID test prior departure for Outdoor Education. Preferred within 24 hours, but within 72 hours of departure is acceptable if necessary. Schools will be responsible for determining the tests needed and screening the results. No student that tests positive shall be allowed to attend OE until they meet public health guidelines for returning.
2. Required health check including a temperature check before students depart on the bus that is conducted by the school nurse, school staff or school-approved volunteers.
3. Students will be assigned to cabin groups upon arrival at Outdoor Education. These will be groups of 9-16 students of the same gender and may be from multiple schools dependent upon COVID data. These groups will remain stable for the week of Outdoor Education.
4. Masks are not required at Outdoor Education, but are highly recommended in the dining hall (unless eating), on the bus, in the cabins (unless sleeping) and large group assembly areas.
5. The cabins will have air purifiers that have the same level of filtration as classrooms.
6. If a student should become ill, Outdoor Education staff will conduct a COVID antigen test. If the test is positive, the student will remain separated from the group, parents will be contacted and will need to bring the student home for the duration of the program.
7. If we have a positive case in a cabin, all other students in the cabin group and the dining hall table will be tested and families will be notified by school staff. Students may remain at Outdoor Education regardless of vaccination status if they continue to be asymptomatic and test negative.
8. All our Outdoor Education staff and YMCA staff are vaccinated. Staff will be tested weekly.
9. The YMCA will ensure enhanced cleaning protocols for cabins, bathrooms and indoor meeting areas.
10. Students will eat together with a stable grouping, different from the cabin when in the dining hall. The YMCA will ensure that food preparation will meet COVID requirements.

If you have questions, please contact Allison Collins, Director - acollins@smcoe.org, or Amanda Lee, Administrative Assistant - alee@smcoe.org.

With everyone's cooperation, we will provide a safe, life-long learning experience for your students!