

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment - Group 3



From: Sarita Bhatt <saritabhatt@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 10:24 AM
To: County Executive Office; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Nelson, Bob; PHD WEB WebMaster; vdoreynoso@coutyofsb.org
Cc: Elizabeth Scharpf
Subject: CDC- Test To Stay Program for Schools

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Public Health and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you as a concerned parent of two kids ages 3 and 5. My two little ones are in preschool and it seems the guidance for preschools has not been updated. The CDC has announced **test-to-stay** which k-12 schools are doing, but preschools are still waiting on updated guidance by you. My 4 yr old was exposed to a kid that tested positive to covid. His entire classroom is now shut down because of the outdated quarantine guidelines. My child is healthy and has been tested and is negative. A better practice for keeping our healthy kids IN school and not letting them continue to fall behind is the test-to-stay program the CDC is allowing. I beg you all to please update your guidelines for daycares and preschools for this program.

Preschools and k-12 schools have never had to shut down when a kid has the flu, hand foot mouth disease, chickenpox, a cold etc... the guidelines for that is when a kid is sick they stay home (NOT the entire class of healthy children)

Here is the CDC article: Please don't let our kids be an afterthought, please put them first!

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/what-you-should-know.html>

Test to Stay

Test to Stay (TTS) combines contact tracing and serial testing (testing that is repeated at least twice during a seven-day period after last close contact with a person with COVID-19) **to allow some students, teachers and staff who should quarantine to continue in-person learning**. This includes people who are a school-associated close contact, are not fully vaccinated, do not test positive for SARS-CoV-2, and have no symptoms. TTS participants should get tested at least upon notification of their close contact and again on 5-7 days after their last close contact with someone with COVID-19.

Students who participate in Test to Stay should wear well-fitting masks while in school and should stay home and isolate if they develop symptoms or test positive for SARS-CoV-2. In the studies done in Illinois and California, to qualify for Test to Stay, both the person with COVID-19 and the close contact had to be properly masked at the time of exposure. Schools considering Test to Stay should have robust contact tracing in place and access to testing resources (for example, testing supplies and personnel to conduct testing, or access to an existing community testing site), among other layered prevention strategies. Testing frequency after a close contact can vary (for example, from twice in a seven-day period to daily), but more frequent testing can more quickly identify students who become infected with SARS-CoV-2 and need to isolate.

Schools may consider Test to Stay as an option for keeping asymptomatic school-associated close contacts in the classroom as an alternative to traditional quarantine at home. Because Test to Stay can be resource intensive, it may not be a viable option for every school. School district administrators and local public health agencies should make efforts to ensure that such strategies, if offered, are available in an equitable way among students and across schools and comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies, including

those related to privacy and confidentiality. Administrators should ensure that students who are isolating or in quarantine at home have adequate access to remote learning options and that they and their families receive support and follow-up to promote learning and minimize disruption.

Sincerely,

Sarita Bhatt

--

www.saritabhatter.com

@saritabhatter

"There is no progress without struggle" --M.K. Gandhi

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Megan Barnes <meganebarnes@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 10:17 AM
To: County Executive Office; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Nelson, Bob; PHD WEB WebMaster; vdoreynoso@coutyofsb.org
Subject: Preschool Guidelines for COVID

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Public Health and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you as a concerned parent of three children ages 3,5, and 8. My youngest son is in preschool, and it seems the quarantine guidance for preschools has not been updated. The CDC has announced **test-to-stay** which K-12 schools have implemented, but preschools are still waiting on updated guidance.

It is in all of our best interests to keep healthy kids at school, rather than forcing students to quarantine who repeatedly test negative for COVID. Parents can continue working, while students can continue learning and experiencing the joy of being at school with friends!

Preschools and K-12 schools have never had to shut down when a student has the flu, hand foot mouth disease, chickenpox, a cold, etc... when a child is sick, only that child stays home (NOT the entire class of healthy children).

Here is the CDC article:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/what-you-should-know.html>

Please consider immediate action to help restore a normal childhood experience for our children! This is no way for them to grow up.

Thank you for your continued service to our community!

--

Warmly,
Megan Soderborg

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Nick Katzenstein <nickkatzenstein@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 9:54 AM
To: County Executive Office; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Nelson, Bob; teve.lavagnino@countyofsb.org; PHD WEB WebMaster; vdoreynoso@countyofsb.org; vdoreynoso@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
Cc: m.jacobs@mcssb.org
Subject: Preschool Guidelines for Covid- Test to stay

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Public Health and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing you as a concerned parent of three kids ages 4,4 and 6. Our twins are in preschool and it seems the guidance for preschools has not been updated.

The CDC has announced test-to-stay which k-12 schools are doing, but preschools are still waiting on updated guidance by you. Both my 4 yr olds have been exposed to kids that tested positive to covid. Both of their classrooms are now shut down because of the outdated quarantine guidelines. My children are healthy and have tested negative. A better practice for keeping our healthy kids IN school and not letting them continue to fall behind is the test-to-stay program the CDC is allowing. I beg you all to please update your guidelines for daycares and preschools for this program.

Sincerely,
Nick Katzenstein

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Meghan Behr <meghanjean13@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 8:30 AM
To: County Executive Office; Williams, Das; Hart, Gregg; Hartmann, Joan; Nelson, Bob; PHD WEB WebMaster; vdoreynoso@coutyofsb.org
Subject: CDC- Test To Stay Program for Schools

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Public Health and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you as a concerned parent of two kids ages 4 and 1. They are both in preschool/daycare and it seems the guidance for preschools has not been updated. The CDC has announced test-to-stay which k-12 schools are doing, but preschools are still waiting on updated guidance by you. I cannot afford for my kiddos to stay at home and quarantine every single time they are exposed to Covid. A better practice for keeping our healthy kids IN school and not letting them continue to fall behind is the test-to-stay program the CDC is allowing. I beg you all to please update your guidelines for daycares and preschools for this program. Preschools and k-12 schools have never had to shut down when a kid has the flu, hand foot mouth disease, chickenpox, a cold etc... the guidelines for that is when a kid is sick they stay home (NOT the entire class of healthy children)

Here is the CDC article for your reference:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/what-you-should-know.html>

Test to Stay

Test to Stay (TTS) combines contact tracing and serial testing (testing that is repeated at least twice during a seven-day period after last close contact with a person with COVID-19) **to allow some students, teachers and staff who should quarantine to continue in-person learning**. This includes people who are a school-associated close contact, are not fully vaccinated, do not test positive for SARS-CoV-2, and have no symptoms. TTS participants should get tested at least upon notification of their close contact and again on 5-7 days after their last close contact with someone with COVID-19.

Students who participate in Test to Stay should wear well-fitting masks while in school and should stay home and isolate if they develop symptoms or test positive for SARS-CoV-2. In the studies done in Illinois and California, to qualify for Test to Stay, both the person with COVID-19 and the close contact had to be properly masked at the time of exposure. Schools considering Test to Stay should have robust contact tracing in place and access to testing resources (for example, testing supplies and personnel to conduct testing, or access to an existing community testing site), among other layered prevention strategies. Testing frequency after a close contact can vary (for example, from twice in a seven-day period to daily), but more frequent testing can more quickly identify students who become infected with SARS-CoV-2 and need to isolate.

Schools may consider Test to Stay as an option for keeping asymptomatic school-associated close contacts in the classroom as an alternative to traditional quarantine at home. Because Test to Stay can be resource intensive, it may not be a viable option for every school. School district administrators and local public health agencies should make efforts to ensure that such strategies, if offered, are available in an equitable way among students and across schools and comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies, including those related to privacy and confidentiality. Administrators should ensure that students who are isolating or

in quarantine at home have adequate access to remote learning options and that they and their families receive support and follow-up to promote learning and minimize disruption.

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,

Meghan Behr

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Brian Campbell <brian@villagesite.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 9:56 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Covid policies need updating

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

With Omicron being described by Dr Fauci as a "common cold" it is obviously not as serious a virus as the original strain from 2 years ago.

Fauci & CDC also stated that everyone will get Covid regardless of vaccination status.

Fauci, CDV, New York, Alameda County & Cook County, IL have all publicly stated that Covid cases are being over counted.

Hospitals are reporting total cases with Covid, not just cases that are in health care because of Covid solely.

It's time to end the emergency lockdowns & mandates.

It is obvious to everyone, including Fauci & the CDC that the pandemic is over and now it's just a common cold being spread around and that Covid will never leave.

End the mandates & lockdowns, the emergency period has expired.

--

Take care,

Brian E. Campbell JD, GPA, ABR
Grubb Campbell Real Estate Group
Village Properties
805.294.2890
LIC#01410304
www.GrubbCampbell.com

LOCALLY OWNED, GLOBALLY CONNECTED
LEADING REAL ESTATE COMPANIES OF THE WORLD

Ramirez, Angelica

From: County Executive Office
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 10:29 AM
To: Ramirez, Angelica
Subject: FW: Test To Stay Program for PreSchools

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

From: z z <vfoster11@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 8:51 PM
To: County Executive Office <caoemail@co.santa-barbara.ca.us>; Williams, Das <DWilliams@countyofsb.org>; Hart, Gregg <gHart@countyofsb.org>; Hartmann, Joan <jHartmann@countyofsb.org>; Nelson, Bob <bnelson@countyofsb.org>; PHD WEB WebMaster <phdwebmaster@sbcphd.org>; vdoreynoso@countyofsb.org
Subject: Test To Stay Program for PreSchools

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Public Health and Board of Supervisors,

As a Santa Barbara resident and concerned parent, I implore you to act now to update the quarantine guidance for Santa Barbara preschools to be in alignment with the CDC recommendations for Test-to-Stay.

As a community, we must unit to ensure our children have access to crucial in-person education where possible. By not incorporating Test-to-Stay, you are at risk of widening the education gap for our children who do not pose a health risk but are forced for quarantine.

Please act now to update the quarantine guidance for preschools.

Signed,
Vanessa

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Nila K Hastings <nilawill@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 11:27 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Board of Supervisors should immediately address new Jail COVID Outbreaks

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Nelson and Supervisors:

The CLUE Criminal Justice Workgroup has reviewed Aaron Fisher's letter to the Santa Barbara County's legal counsel. We support the following actions:

Avoid Catastrophic Staffing Crisis and COVID Transmission. Nearly one quarter of the 725 current jail residents have tested positive during the outbreak that began in late December. As of January 5th, there were 94 active resident cases and 32 active staff cases. Now custodial and health care staff report 45% health and mental health care vacancies and at times have been unable to provide COVID vaccines to anyone in custody, despite a backlog of requests from jail residents.

1. Reduce Jail Numbers Safely. The recent Jail population's rise from 580 to 725 results from tripling the number of those accused of misdemeanors. Unsentenced low level accused jail residents, and those near the end of serving lengthy sentences, should be screened for release. Sheriff Brown should be encouraged to follow the practice of other counties and use his discretion for early release; thus far he has failed to act.
2. House mental health patients and those with substance abuse issues in appropriate alternatives. A recent Santa Barbara Grand Jury Report found under use of current community mental health crisis beds.
3. Immediately enable County Probation to coordinate risk assessments to recommend discharge. Provide authority and funding now for County Probation to manage risk assessments and decisions related to discharge. Appoint Probation to implement assessments and release of jail residents deemed not to be a risk to public safety. Accelerate funding for a multi-disciplinary risk assessment team.
4. Encourage a Safe North County Branch Jail Opening. Lawyers for the jail residents recommend collaboration with their Jail Remedial Plan experts to provide safe staffing ratios and required safe transport practices for the north county move. Please endorse this recommendation to the Sheriff.

Sincerely,
Nila K Hastings

Date: January 11, 2022

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Rev. Dr. Tim Burnette <tim@waycollective.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 11:09 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Board of Supervisors should immediately address new Jail COVID Outbreaks

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Nelson and Supervisors:

The CLUE Criminal Justice Workgroup has reviewed Aaron Fisher's letter to the Santa Barbara County's legal counsel. We support the following actions:

Avoid Catastrophic Staffing Crisis and COVID Transmission. Nearly one quarter of the 725 current jail residents have tested positive during the outbreak that began in late December. As of January 5th, there were 94 active resident cases and 32 active staff cases. Now custodial and health care staff report 45% health and mental health care vacancies and at times have been unable to provide COVID vaccines to anyone in custody, despite a backlog of requests from jail residents.

1. Reduce Jail Numbers Safely. The recent Jail population's rise from 580 to 725 results from tripling the number of those accused of misdemeanors. Unsentenced low level accused jail residents, and those near the end of serving lengthy sentences, should be screened for release. Sheriff Brown should be encouraged to follow the practice of other counties and use his discretion for early release; thus far he has failed to act.
2. House mental health patients and those with substance abuse issues in appropriate alternatives. A recent Santa Barbara Grand Jury Report found under use of current community mental health crisis beds.
3. Immediately enable County Probation to coordinate risk assessments to recommend discharge. Provide authority and funding now for County Probation to manage risk assessments and decisions related to discharge. Appoint Probation to implement assessments and release of jail residents deemed not to be a risk to public safety. Accelerate funding for a multi-disciplinary risk assessment team.
4. Encourage a Safe North County Branch Jail Opening. Lawyers for the jail residents recommend collaboration with their Jail Remedial Plan experts to provide safe staffing ratios and required safe transport practices for the north county move. Please endorse this recommendation to the Sheriff.

Sincerely,
Rev. Dr. Tim Burnette

Date: January 11, 2022

Ramirez, Angelica

From: jane fehrenbacher <janeldy11@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 10:58 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Board of Supervisors should immediately address new Jail COVID Outbreaks

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Nelson and Supervisors:

The CLUE Criminal Justice Workgroup has reviewed Aaron Fisher's letter to the Santa Barbara County's legal counsel. We support the following actions:

Avoid Catastrophic Staffing Crisis and COVID Transmission. Nearly one quarter of the 725 current jail residents have tested positive during the outbreak that began in late December. As of January 5th, there were 94 active resident cases and 32 active staff cases. Now custodial and health care staff report 45% health and mental health care vacancies and at times have been unable to provide COVID vaccines to anyone in custody, despite a backlog of requests from jail residents.

1. Reduce Jail Numbers Safely. The recent Jail population's rise from 580 to 725 results from tripling the number of those accused of misdemeanors. Unsentenced low level accused jail residents, and those near the end of serving lengthy sentences, should be screened for release. Sheriff Brown should be encouraged to follow the practice of other counties and use his discretion for early release; thus far he has failed to act.
2. House mental health patients and those with substance abuse issues in appropriate alternatives. A recent Santa Barbara Grand Jury Report found under use of current community mental health crisis beds.
3. Immediately enable County Probation to coordinate risk assessments to recommend discharge. Provide authority and funding now for County Probation to manage risk assessments and decisions related to discharge. Appoint Probation to implement assessments and release of jail residents deemed not to be a risk to public safety. Accelerate funding for a multi-disciplinary risk assessment team.
4. Encourage a Safe North County Branch Jail Opening. Lawyers for the jail residents recommend collaboration with their Jail Remedial Plan experts to provide safe staffing ratios and required safe transport practices for the north county move. Please endorse this recommendation to the Sheriff.

Sincerely,
jane fehrenbacher

Date: January 11, 2022

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Ruth S Van Dyne <ruhdesb@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 8:46 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Board of Supervisors should immediately address new Jail COVID Outbreaks

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Nelson and Supervisors:

The CLUE Criminal Justice Workgroup has reviewed Aaron Fisher's letter to the Santa Barbara County's legal counsel. We support the following actions:

Avoid Catastrophic Staffing Crisis and COVID Transmission. Nearly one quarter of the 725 current jail residents have tested positive during the outbreak that began in late December. As of January 5th, there were 94 active resident cases and 32 active staff cases. Now custodial and health care staff report 45% health and mental health care vacancies and at times have been unable to provide COVID vaccines to anyone in custody, despite a backlog of requests from jail residents.

1. Reduce Jail Numbers Safely. The recent Jail population's rise from 580 to 725 results from tripling the number of those accused of misdemeanors. Unsentenced low level accused jail residents, and those near the end of serving lengthy sentences, should be screened for release. Sheriff Brown should be encouraged to follow the practice of other counties and use his discretion for early release; thus far he has failed to act.
2. House mental health patients and those with substance abuse issues in appropriate alternatives. A recent Santa Barbara Grand Jury Report found under use of current community mental health crisis beds.
3. Immediately enable County Probation to coordinate risk assessments to recommend discharge. Provide authority and funding now for County Probation to manage risk assessments and decisions related to discharge. Appoint Probation to implement assessments and release of jail residents deemed not to be a risk to public safety. Accelerate funding for a multi-disciplinary risk assessment team.
4. Encourage a Safe North County Branch Jail Opening. Lawyers for the jail residents recommend collaboration with their Jail Remedial Plan experts to provide safe staffing ratios and required safe transport practices for the north county move. Please endorse this recommendation to the Sheriff.

Sincerely,
Ruth S Van Dyne

Date: January 11, 2022

Ramirez, Angelica

From: CLUE Santa Barbara <ruhdesb@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 8:46 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Board of Supervisors should immediately address new Jail COVID Outbreaks

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Nelson and Supervisors:

The CLUE Criminal Justice Workgroup has reviewed Aaron Fisher's letter to the Santa Barbara County's legal counsel. We support the following actions:

Avoid Catastrophic Staffing Crisis and COVID Transmission. Nearly one quarter of the 725 current jail residents have tested positive during the outbreak that began in late December. As of January 5th, there were 94 active resident cases and 32 active staff cases. Now custodial and health care staff report 45% health and mental health care vacancies and at times have been unable to provide COVID vaccines to anyone in custody, despite a backlog of requests from jail residents.

1. Reduce Jail Numbers Safely. The recent Jail population's rise from 580 to 725 results from tripling the number of those accused of misdemeanors. Unsentenced low level accused jail residents, and those near the end of serving lengthy sentences, should be screened for release. Sheriff Brown should be encouraged to follow the practice of other counties and use his discretion for early release; thus far he has failed to act.
2. House mental health patients and those with substance abuse issues in appropriate alternatives. A recent Santa Barbara Grand Jury Report found under use of current community mental health crisis beds.
3. Immediately enable County Probation to coordinate risk assessments to recommend discharge. Provide authority and funding now for County Probation to manage risk assessments and decisions related to discharge. Appoint Probation to implement assessments and release of jail residents deemed not to be a risk to public safety. Accelerate funding for a multi-disciplinary risk assessment team.
4. Encourage a Safe North County Branch Jail Opening. Lawyers for the jail residents recommend collaboration with their Jail Remedial Plan experts to provide safe staffing ratios and required safe transport practices for the north county move. Please endorse this recommendation to the Sheriff.

Sincerely,

Date: January 11, 2022

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Radhule Weininger, MD, PhD <radhule@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 8:35 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Board of Supervisors should immediately address new Jail COVID Outbreaks

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Nelson and Supervisors:

The CLUE Criminal Justice Workgroup has reviewed Aaron Fisher's letter to the Santa Barbara County's legal counsel. We support the following actions:

Avoid Catastrophic Staffing Crisis and COVID Transmission. Nearly one quarter of the 725 current jail residents have tested positive during the outbreak that began in late December. As of January 5th, there were 94 active resident cases and 32 active staff cases. Now custodial and health care staff report 45% health and mental health care vacancies and at times have been unable to provide COVID vaccines to anyone in custody, despite a backlog of requests from jail residents.

1. Reduce Jail Numbers Safely. The recent Jail population's rise from 580 to 725 results from tripling the number of those accused of misdemeanors. Unsentenced low level accused jail residents, and those near the end of serving lengthy sentences, should be screened for release. Sheriff Brown should be encouraged to follow the practice of other counties and use his discretion for early release; thus far he has failed to act.
2. House mental health patients and those with substance abuse issues in appropriate alternatives. A recent Santa Barbara Grand Jury Report found under use of current community mental health crisis beds.
3. Immediately enable County Probation to coordinate risk assessments to recommend discharge. Provide authority and funding now for County Probation to manage risk assessments and decisions related to discharge. Appoint Probation to implement assessments and release of jail residents deemed not to be a risk to public safety. Accelerate funding for a multi-disciplinary risk assessment team.
4. Encourage a Safe North County Branch Jail Opening. Lawyers for the jail residents recommend collaboration with their Jail Remedial Plan experts to provide safe staffing ratios and required safe transport practices for the north county move. Please endorse this recommendation to the Sheriff.

Sincerely,
Radhule Weininger, MD, PhD

Date: January 11, 2022