

## Re-Opening of CSB Childcare Centers September 8, 2020

CSB directly operated childcare centers closed for a 4-week period August 10 – September 7, 2020. CSB's delegate agency, First Baptist Head Start, also closed childcare services in alignment with CSB.

CSB and the delegate agency are prepared to re-open on September 8<sup>th</sup>. CSB believes, in partnership with staff and families, it is safe to re-open in accordance with revised operational plan based on current guidance and feedback received (see below for more detail), and given current county-wide COVID-19 case trends. The county remains on the Monitoring List at this time however case numbers are no longer increasing as they did in June and July. The seven-day rolling average number of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 in Contra Costa dropped slightly, from 103 on Aug. 5 to 96 on Aug. 24. The average percentage of tests administered in the county that come back positive, meanwhile, has fallen from 8.8% on Aug. 6 to 7.4% on Aug. 24.

During the closure the following activities took place:

- A revised Re-opening plan was developed that will be shared with all staff, Local One and EHSD Director.
- Project lead, re-opening team and CSB management remained up to date with current and new guidance from Contra Costa Health Services Department (HSD), Contra Costa Office of Education, Community Care Licensing (CCL), CA State Public Health, CA Department of Education, CDC, and other entities.
- Internal stakeholder taskforce including staff and families was established and met weekly to provide feedback into re-opening plans and best practices to implement guidance from HSD, CCL, CA State Public Health, CDC, and other entities.
- Project lead sought input into re-opening from HSD taskforce on schools and childcare. HSD provided criteria guidance for cohort/center closure so that management has written guidance for a consistent practice and clear authority for future closures.
- Project lead and Health Manager sought resources and options for regular COVID-19 testing for staff as recommended in State's guidance for elementary schools seeking to provide in-person services while still on County is on the State's Monitoring List. Per HSD, no school-wide staff/children COVID-19 testing can be provided at this time. Staff and families will continue to instead be provided with resources of testing locations and resources to secure this on their own whenever desired.
- Additional PPEs ordered and secured, including: basic PPEs such as masks and gloves, additional smocks so that all teaching staff have option for use, clear mask/face shield options, and air purifiers for small spaces and in preparation for winter months when rooms cannot be easily ventilated via open windows.
- Teaching staff and Site Supervisors continued to work, and centers were open for this purpose so that staff had access office space, technology and classrooms.
- Families were informed of re-opening, revised/enhanced protocols and changes they can expect. They were notified via e-letter on August 31 with addition information shared on September 4.

### Key Points of the Revised Re-Opening Plan:

- Group size/ratios: Per State requirements only two supervising staff are permitted per cohort daily. Therefore 2-person teaching team will need to break themselves resulting in leaving one alone with the group during breaks and lunch. In order to maintain adherence to required ratios at all times, maximum class size for infant class is 3, for toddler class is 4, and for preschool class is 8 children in State-funded room and 10 children in Head Start only funded rooms. All other teaching staff will act as support to in-class services and focus on preparation of Distance Learning materials for children not offered in-class services.
- Additional PPEs such as smocks and air purifiers provided to support infection control and comfort level of staff and families.
- Clear and confirmed criteria to close
- Clear and confirmed criteria for Electrostatic Cleaning
- Revised instruction on written notifications to staff and families regarding possible exposure, based on Risk Management guidance.