Hello VCCCD Colleagues,

I am pleased to report that an updated VCCCD COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP) incorporating recently updated Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standards (ETS) requirements is being finalized. We are at an exciting time when the focus of regulations and guidelines is on the safe reopening of in-person services and activities. California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Oakley communicated on June 11, 2021, that "All colleges and universities will be authorized to be back in session in full-time, in-person instruction." This is a significant change compared to the status of our operations when the Fall 2021 schedules of classes were developed in January/February. The overall progress on COVID-19 vaccinations has and will continue to be a key component on the road to recovery. The impacts of the pandemic continue and regrettably, some of our colleagues and students have suffered significant loss and trauma. Our thoughts continue to be with them.

As we move forward, we must also adapt to change and support each other in the return to in-person work. This is a critical step in our ability to serve the diverse needs of our students and communities and rebuild enrollment by providing expanded in-person instruction and support services.

The following schedule will be used at VCCCD locations as all employees return to on-site work:

July 1, 2021: All managers, supervisors, and confidential employees continue or return to on-site work on a full-time basis.

Currently – August 2, 2021: All classified staff and faculty will continue the return to full-time on-site work during this period. We know that in-person student engagement will help us increase enrollment (access) and retention (success). Information Technology and Facilities personnel will coordinate with managers, supervisors, and employees to develop and implement a schedule of the planned return dates for employees/departments during this period. All employees are responsible for working with their immediate supervisors to establish the details for returning to on-site work. All employees will return to on-site work on a full-time basis between now and August 2nd. The schedule of reopening offices and support services for in-person appointments will be determined by each college as they finalize facilities work and IT support for returning employees.

The following information provides a broad overview of the new protocols that will be effective July 1, 2021:

VCCCD – General Summary of Revised VCCCD CPP Health and Safety Protocols

The following revised measures apply to employees, students, and visitors:

Protocols	COVID-19 Vaccination Status	
	Verified	**Not Verified**
Physical Distancing – outdoors or indoors	Not required	Not required
Face Coverings – outdoors	Not required	Not required
Face Coverings – indoors	Not required	Required
COVID-19 Testing	Not required (exceptions under defined situations)	Monthly COVID-19 test and testing if symptomatic
MyVCCCD Pre-Screening App	Complete daily	Complete daily
On-Site Screening to verify vaccination status. No on-site temperature checks	Yes Obtain identification indicating face covering is voluntary	Yes Obtain identification indicating face covering is required
Contact Tracing	Yes – when needed	Yes – when needed

All employees and students are strongly encouraged to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 as soon as possible. The Board of Trustees will be conducting the first reading of a Board Policy that would mandate COVID-19 vaccination during their July 10, 2021 meeting. The vaccination mandate would then be further considered at the August Board meeting.

A "Question and Answer" list is included below my signature line. Please contact your supervisor and/or Human Resources for questions specific to you or your department. The District and Colleges will be providing more information during the coming days as we approach the start of Fall Semester.

Please note that adjustments will be made should there be changes to regulations, orders, and guidelines from various agencies as has occurred throughout the pandemic.

I look forward to seeing you in-person…have a Happy 4th of July!

Greg

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General Questions and Answers?

1. How can I view the VCCCD CPP? All employees will receive an email with a link to the final version of the updated VCCCD CPP on June 30, 2021. The plan will contain details on operations, protocols, and reporting requirements in place at all VCCCD locations effective

July 1, 2021 (implementation adjustments to the new protocols will be occurring in July).

2.   Where can I obtain current information on vaccine appointment and COVID-19 status? [Ventura County Recovers](#).

3.   Is returning to on-site work voluntary? No. The CPP will contain details about contacting Human Resources for specific circumstances that may allow for remote work to continue.

4.   How will my vaccination status be verified? Human Resources will be providing the details to all employees soon.

5.   Do I have to return to work if I am not vaccinated/do not want to disclose and I do not want to wear a mask? Yes. Wearing a face covering will be required. There are some exceptions that will be detailed in the CPP that incorporates physical distancing from some employees for those exempted from wearing a mask.

6.   Are N-95 respirators required? No. They can be requested by employees who have not verified their vaccination status and the VCCCD will provide the respirator upon request along with training and fitting.

7.   Can I wear a mask if I am fully vaccinated? Yes, in this case wearing a mask would be voluntary.

8.   Will all buildings meet the Cal/OSHA ventilation standard? Any building at VCCCD locations will meet the Cal/OSHA ventilation standard (described in the VCCCD CPP) before it is opened for use by employees and students. The VCCCD is continuing to clean ductwork, maximize ventilation of outdoor air, and provide the highest level of filtration efficiency compatible with the existing or upgraded ventilation system. Use of portable or mounted High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA filtration units) or other air cleaning systems will be considered where their use would reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Many buildings are having UV light systems installed in the ventilation system for disinfection (exceeds required Cal/OSHA standard). The requirement for ventilation of outdoor air is not required when the process would create a hazard to employees from excessive heat, cold, or when the EPA Air Quality Index exceeds 100 for any pollutant.

9.   What will be the cleaning protocols for the Colleges and District Office? Adjustments are being finalized and the new protocols will be provided to all employees. Hand sanitizer will be readily accessible along with disinfecting wipes for surfaces.

10. Are plexiglass barriers required? No. Colleges have been installing and will use plexiglass or other barriers in certain locations and situations.

11. Can I continue to do my job remotely until August 2nd? Yes, up until the point where your work area is re-established on-site and your supervisor has changed your schedule to be on-site on a full-time basis.   A district work group will be established to evaluate what has been

learned during the pandemic response and provide recommendations regarding adjustments to remote work, levels of online instruction and access to student services, and overall operations as we prepare for upcoming semesters.

12. Do faculty return to on-site work? Yes. Non-classroom faculty will return to on-site work to conduct in-person and virtual appointments according to their approved schedules. Instructional faculty will be on-site for their mandatory time.

13. Will online student support services still be offered? Yes. Each area will begin incorporating in-person student appointments along with maintaining online access and support while working on-site. Colleges will be monitoring and adjusting the ratio of in-person/online services according to student need/demand.

14. Can my assigned class be changed from online to hybrid or in-person? Yes. This could be done as colleges continue to increase in-person offerings for Fall 2021 across the disciplines to provide options for students wanting/needing in-person instruction. Our student enrollments (FTES) declined over 9% this year. It is important that we do all we can to re-engage with students who have left, retain those who are here, and recruit new students. Online classes will not be cancelled unless then have no or only low enrollment and student schedules can be accommodated.

15. What will the Spring 2022 instructional schedule look like? A return to a more in-person instruction with assignments following pre-pandemic practices regarding limits to online class loads for full-time instructors.