



HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

Public Health Services

820 Scenic Drive, Modesto, CA 95350-6194

Julie Vaishampayan, MD, MPH

Public Health Officer

August 10, 2020

Dear County and District Superintendents and Charter and Private School Administrators:

Stanislaus County has been on the State Monitoring List since June 16, 2020. On July 17, 2020 Governor Gavin Newsom announced that if a county has been on the monitoring list within the prior 14 days, a school must conduct distance learning only, until the county has been off the monitoring list for at least 14 days.

In counties on the monitoring list, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) guidance allows a district superintendent, private school principal/head of school, or executive director of a charter school (hereinafter superintendent) to apply for a waiver from the Stanislaus County Health Officer to open an elementary school for in-person instruction. This waiver is applicable only for grades TK-6, even if the grade configuration at the school includes additional grades.

When applying for the waiver, the superintendent must submit to the Stanislaus County Health Officer evidence of (1) consultation with labor and parent organizations and (2) publication of the elementary school reopening plans on the website of the school and the Stanislaus County Office of Education website by emailing the reopening plan to Judy Boring, JBoring@Stancoe.org.

The Stanislaus County Health Officer then reviews the application and reopening plan (along with local community epidemiological data), and in consultation with CDPH, decides whether to grant or deny the waiver. Elementary schools in counties on the monitoring list within the prior 14 days may not open for in-person instruction until they have received approval of the submitted waiver from the Stanislaus County Health Officer.

In order to apply for a waiver, please complete and submit the attached Application Cover Form. An application must contain:

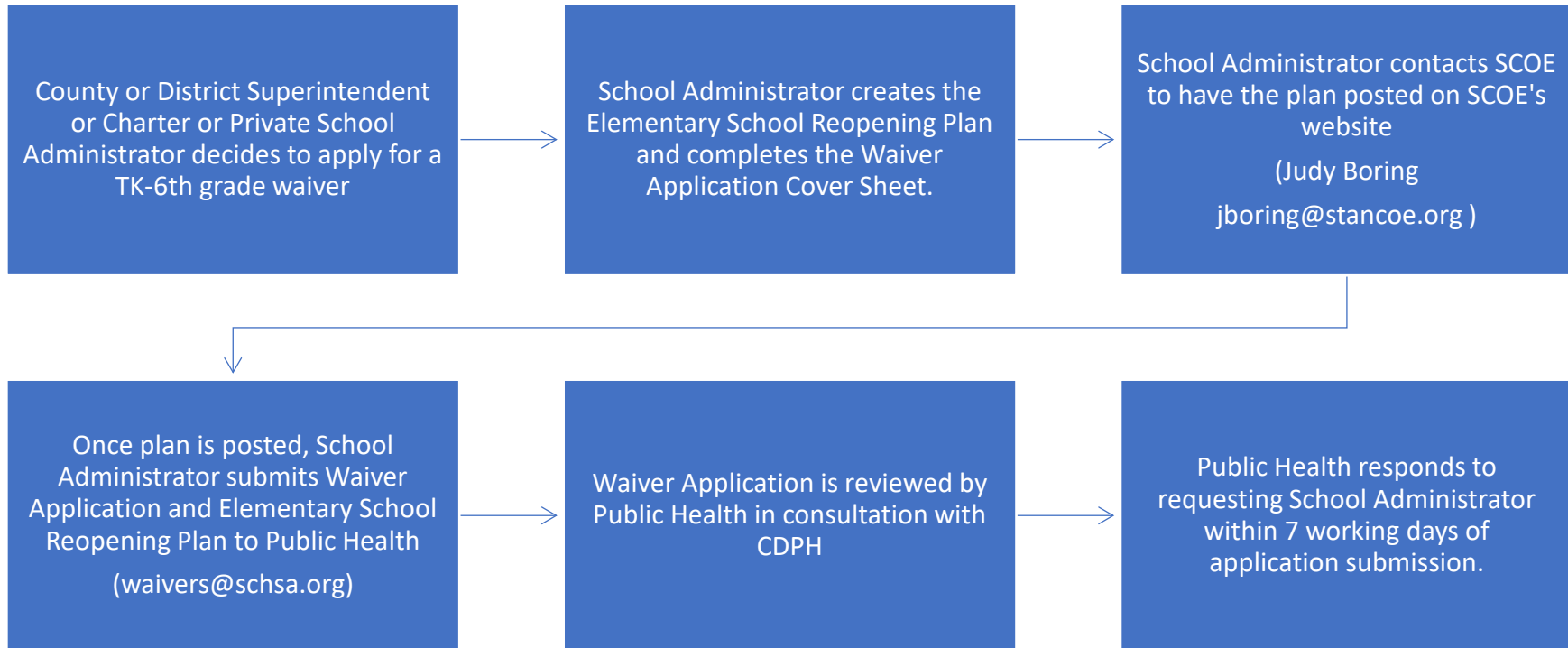
- Attestation that the superintendent (equivalent or designated staff) has consulted with all parent and labor organizations at each school site for which an application is being submitted. If no labor organization represents the school site staff, then consultation with school site staff is sufficient.
- Confirmation that elementary school reopening plans have been published on the school and Stanislaus County Office of Education websites. Reopening plans must address the components in the CDPH guidance for schools and school-based programs which are listed in the attached Application Cover Form.

Applications and all supporting documents should be submitted to the Stanislaus County Public Health Officer at least 14 days prior to the desired reopening date by emailing to waivers@schsa.org.

Sincerely,

Julie Vaishampayan, MD, MPH
Health Officer of the County of Stanislaus

Flow Chart of Elementary School Waiver Application Process



Additional Resources:

CDPH and Cal/OSHA Guidance for Schools and School-Based Programs <https://files.covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-schools.pdf>

California Department of Education Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California's Public Schools

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/strongertogether.asp>

CDPH COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Framework for K-12 Schools in California, 2020-2021 School Year

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Schools%20Reopening%20Recommendations.pdf>