

ATTACHMENT

For Item

#21

Tuesday,

August 16, 2022

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE
CLERK OF THE BOARD**

DISTRIBUTED 08/15/2022

From: henkinp@earthlink.net
To: [Kadakia, Ankita](#); [Kaiser, Cameron](#); [Wooten, Wilma](#); [Desmond, Jim](#); [Anderson, Joel](#); [Fletcher, Nathan \(BOS\)](#); [Vargas, Nora \(BOS\)](#); [Lawson-Remer, Terra](#)
Cc: [FGG, Public Comment](#); [Robbins-Meyer, Helen](#); [SDUSD Kevin Beiser](#); [SDUSD Michael McQuary](#); [SDUSD Richard Barrera](#); [SDUSD Sharon Whitehurst-Payne](#); [SDUSD Sabrina Bazzo CA Assembly](#) [Akilah Weber \(La Mesa\)](#) assemblymember.aweber@assembly.ca.gov
Subject: [External] NEW CDC GUIDANCE - NO TEST TO STAY FOR SCHOOLS - MANDATES DROPPED
Date: Friday, August 12, 2022 8:14:48 PM

Hi Wilma, HHSA people, Supervisors, Trustees,

Facing a **huge** popular 'revolt' against COVID regulations and mandates, the CDC bowed to reality and 'relaxed' their rules significantly, abandoning some and modifying or even emasculating others.

While earlier rules treated vaccinated and unvaccinated people differently, so many people have been infected with the coronavirus that natural immunity appears to have provided a bulwark of its own.

Among several revisions:

1. "screening testing of **asymptomatic people** without known exposures" is no longer necessary.
2. "case investigation and contact tracing **only in health care settings and certain high-risk congregate settings.**"
3. People — **including students in schools** — do not have to quarantine if they have been exposed to someone who had tested positive but are not feeling sick themselves.
4. "Quarantine is no longer recommended for people who are exposed to COVID-19 except in certain high-risk congregate settings such as correctional facilities, homeless shelters, and nursing homes."
5. **An accompanying guidance for schools dispenses with last year's test-to-stay policy**, which mandated that students in a classroom with a confirmed coronavirus exposure be tested regularly in order to keep attending school.

Getting the vax or masking up more than ever should be a

personal decision based on individual risk both of the effects and side effects, and not co-erced or influenced by impersonal government recommendations or advertising. The CDC has effectively ended its state of emergency. I would suggest that it is long past the time to end your COVID mandates and local state of emergency.

“The goal has to be to minimize disruption to school, work and other aspects of life,” medical analyst Dr. Leana Wen told Yahoo News in an email. “It also acknowledges that, at this point, **people have different levels of risk and risk tolerance, [As they always did, and you can say that again!]** and need to be able to choose mitigation measures accordingly.”

In particular, those with a test-to-stay policy are out of step with reality.

Let me know what you think.

Regards,

Paul Henkin
henkinp@earthlink.net

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/technology/cdc-moves-beyond-covid-emergency-with-new-guidance/ar-AA10B4SN?ocid=Peregrine&cvid=5826715a5f004728ae0b8fd6b7a165f2>

Yahoo News US

CDC moves beyond COVID emergency with new guidance

Alexander Nazaryan - 8h ago [8/12/2022]

WASHINGTON — The day after a newly coronavirus-free President Biden embarked on a post-infection vacation to South Carolina, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released revisions to pandemic guidance that **clearly indicate a shift from the state-of-emergency approach** that has been in place, at least on the federal level, since 2020.

The new rules, unveiled by the CDC's chief field epidemiologist Dr. Gretta Massetti on Thursday afternoon, are the latest sign that the Biden administration is seeking to move into a new post-pandemic mode that acknowledges the dangers posed by the coronavirus but also **allows people to make their own decisions about how much those dangers should dictate their lives**.

"This guidance acknowledges that the pandemic is not over, but also helps us move to a point where COVID-19 no longer severely disrupts our daily lives," Massetti said in a statement that accompanied the new guidance, which was cheered by some and denounced by others.

Among several revisions, the update says that "screening testing of asymptomatic people without known exposures" is no longer necessary. The new guidance also recommends "case investigation and contact tracing only in health care settings and certain high-risk congregate settings."

Such shifts are meant to reduce some of the inconvenience and disruption people and institutions have experienced in trying to reduce the spread of the coronavirus. The new approach emphasizes finding

and treating cases of serious illness, not stamping out every infection.

An accompanying guidance for schools dispenses with last year's test-to-stay policy, which mandated that students in a classroom with a confirmed coronavirus exposure be tested regularly in order to keep attending school.

The new rules still recommend that people who are sick with COVID-19 should isolate at home, but people — including students in schools — do not have to quarantine if they have been exposed to someone who had tested positive but are not feeling sick themselves. Instead, people who have been exposed should take a diagnostic test on the fifth day after the date of exposure, and to wear a mask for ten days after that date.

“Quarantine is no longer recommended for people who are exposed to COVID-19 except in certain high-risk congregate settings such as correctional facilities, homeless shelters, and nursing homes,” Thursday’s revised rules say. “In schools and [early childhood education] settings, which are generally not considered high-risk congregate settings, people who were exposed to COVID-19 should follow recommendations to wear a well-fitting mask and get tested.”

People isolating with coronavirus symptoms still need to wear a mask for five days after the end of the five-day isolation period.

But the agency **no longer emphasizes physical distancing**, a popular practice from the early days of the pandemic that later became contentious. “Physical distance is just one component of how to protect yourself and others,” the revised guidance says.

And **while earlier rules treated vaccinated and unvaccinated people differently, that difference has now been erased**, even if the CDC continues to urge vaccination as a baseline protection. New variants of the coronavirus have shown the ability to evade the defenses offered by vaccines, **making them less effective than had once been hoped**. **[You can say that again!]** At the same time, so many people have been infected with the coronavirus that natural immunity appears to have provided a bulwark of its own.

“High levels of population immunity due to vaccination and previous infection, and the many tools that we have available to protect people from severe illness and death, have put us in a different place,” Massetti acknowledged on Thursday.

Even many states with Democratic leadership, where caution had been the norm for most of the first two years of the pandemic, started to return to a kind of pre-pandemic normal in early 2022. The new CDC guidance seems to acknowledge that reality, leaving individuals to make their own decisions about how many protections to take.

“I’m glad the CDC is finally meeting the moment and recognizing our broad health needs beyond simply not getting COVID,” Dr. Lucy McBride, a Washington internist and podcaster, wrote in an email to Yahoo News.

“For kids in particular, it’s time to more appropriately balance the harms of COVID with the harms of mitigation measures. COVID is here to stay. Living in a perpetual state of emergency isn’t sustainable; it’s also not necessary with widespread availability of vaccines and therapeutics.”

Others, however, lamented that a presidential administration that had promised to “listen to the science” was abdicating its responsibility to

Americans left vulnerable by illness, poverty or other conditions.

“Capitulation,” said Yale public health expert Gregg Gonsalves in a text message to Yahoo News. He and others have noted that hundreds continue to die daily from COVID-19, and that poor people and people of color have borne the brunt of the pandemic from the start.

“We need a vaccination and booster campaign and delivery,” Boston University public health expert Julia Raifman told Yahoo News. She also argued for “data-driven surge policies that turn on mask mandates early in bad surges to avoid widespread harm to health, overflowing hospitals, and work and school disruptions.”

Los Angeles County came close to reimposing a mask mandate in July, only to decide at the last minute against doing so.

The White House did not respond to a Yahoo News request for comment, but officials there have used Biden’s own bout with the coronavirus as evidence that vaccination, combined with treatment, readily blunt the effects of the disease. And they, like Massetti, have pointed out that the ever-evolving pathogen is unlikely to fully disappear, as some had once hoped. That hope now seems woefully naive.

“This virus is going to be with us forever,” Dr. Ashish Jha, the White House pandemic response team coordinator, said at a briefing last month.

The new rules come as students prepare to return to school and many white-collar workers head back to the office. Meanwhile, airplanes are packed, as are sports stadiums and restaurants.

“The goal has to be to minimize disruption to school, work and other aspects of life,” medical analyst Dr. Leana Wen told Yahoo News in an email. “It also acknowledges that, at this point, **people have different levels of risk and risk tolerance, [As they always did, and you can say that again too!]** and need to be able to choose mitigation measures accordingly.”

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Subject: [External] NEW CDC GUIDANCE - NO TEST TO STAY FOR SCHOOLS - MANDATES DROPPED (please include with COVID update, agenda #21)
Date: Sunday, August 14, 2022 4:17:53 PM

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From: C. English, Director, ucop.edu
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2022 1:26 PM
To: Kevin Kiley (UC) <kiley@ucop.edu>
Cc: Foster, Andrew <afoster@ucop.edu>, BCL District Community <BCL.DistrictCommunity@ucop.edu>, Anderson, Paul <paul.anderson@ucop.edu>, Lawson-Ramer, Tara <tara.lawson-ramer@ucop.edu>, Desmond, Jim <jim.desmond@ucop.edu>
Subject: Internal Letter From California Legislature

wp-content/uploads/2022/08/August-15-Letter.pdf

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Assembly California Legislature



KEVIN KILEY
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SIXTH DISTRICT

- The UC requires individuals accessing facilities to provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19, including booster shots.¹
- CSU requires all individuals who access campus or campus programs to provide proof of vaccination against COVID-19, including booster shots, or they may be subject to other safety measures as determined by the campus President.²
- Each Community College District possesses the authority to impose a COVID-19 vaccination mandate on its students and employees.³ The Chancellor's office encourages all districts to impose the mandate, and 34 districts have done so.⁴

California policymakers, by contrast, have rejected the imposition of COVID-19 vaccine requirements in educational settings, even before the CDC updated its guidance. Governor Newsom called off a planned K-12 student vaccine mandate for 2022, and the California Legislature rejected a similar measure proposed as Senate Bill 871.

There is a word for a policy of exclusion that lacks a rational basis: discrimination. And it should not go on at our institutions of higher learning for another day. I request that you rescind all COVID-19 vaccination requirements for student and staff immediately.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kiley

Member, Assembly Committee on Higher Education
Assemblyman, 6th District

¹ SARS-CoV-2 Vaccination Policy (ucop.edu)

² Viewing (polycystat.com).

³ 2021-01 Advisory - Mandated COVID-19 Vaccinations in California community colleges (cccoco.edu)

⁴ California's Community Colleges Divided on Vaccine Mandates For Students | Jefferson Public Radio (ijpr.org).

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Assembly California Legislature



KEVIN KILEY
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, SIXTH DISTRICT

August 15, 2022

President Michael V. Drake
University of California, Office of the President
1111 Franklin Street
Oakland, CA 94607

Interim Chancellor Jolene Koester
The California State University, Office of the Chancellor
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, CA 90802

Interim Chancellor Daisy Gonzales
California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
1102 Q Street, Suite 4400
Sacramento, CA 95811

Dear President Drake, Chancellor Koester, and Interim Chancellor Gonzales:

Our institutions of higher learning should be places that are open, inclusive, and non-discriminatory. They should also be guided by facts, knowledge, and critical thought. These are the principles I have sought to advance as a Member of the Assembly Higher Education Committee; I am hopeful they are principles you share.

I ask you to consider whether the continuation of COVID-19 vaccination and booster requirements at your institutions is consistent with these principles. If the answer were not already clear, a recent update to the CDC's guidelines has removed all doubt: to maintain mandates at any California college or university is to enforce a policy of exclusion without any rational basis.

Specifically, an August 11 release titled Summary of Guidance for Minimizing the Impact of COVID-19 states that "CDC's COVID-19 prevention recommendations no longer differentiate based on a person's vaccination status because breakthrough infections occur." Thus, under current policy, the CDC does not treat people differently based on their vaccination status. Yet each of your systems continues to exclude students, staff, and visitors entirely on that basis:



DELL



New COVID-19 guidance from CDC focuses on individual decisions

- Those exposed to the virus are no longer required to quarantine.
- Unvaccinated people now have the same guidance as vaccinated people.
- Students can stay in class after being exposed to the virus.
- It's no longer recommended to screen those without symptoms.

August 11, 2022

PS. Hushers. Monkey Pox is not deadly. Also according to everyone, except you, it is a sexually transmitted disease predominantly amongst male homosexuals.

Christy English Bernick
760.877.1315
bernick@calnet.net

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