



## Alternative Education

Sonoma County  
Office of Education

**SUBJECT:** Return to School Update - July 22, 2021

Dear Amarosa and Headwaters students and families,

You may have seen news stories about the state's new guidance for schools regarding [COVID-19 and the 2021-22 school year](#). We will be sending more information as we get closer to the start of school. Meanwhile, here is a quick update:

### **Back to school:**

School begins on **Thursday, August 12**. Classes will be **full-time and in-person**, 5 days a week. We are preparing for this year to be more like a "regular" school year, with learning taking place in our schools.

### **Masks will be required indoors:**

At this time, the state guidance makes it clear that certain safety measures must be in place. All students will be required to wear masks at all times when indoors, unless [exempted](#). Staff working directly with students will be required to wear masks indoors as well. Masks will be optional outdoors. We will be working closely with the Sonoma County Health Officer as guidelines are clarified for all of the county's schools.

### **Free school meals:**

All students will be provided free breakfast and lunch at school in 2021-22.

More information about meal applications will be provided prior to the start of school.

### **Transportation:**

Public transportation is still an option for students. We are working with the bus companies to confirm that all bus routes have been restored.

Families should also know that all students in Santa Rosa can now ride for FREE on any Santa Rosa CityBus, through December. Students in grades 9-12 will be asked to show a student ID as they board the bus. We will be issuing student IDs the first week of school.

## **Free COVID Vaccine clinics for ages 12+ -**

County officials say that getting vaccinated can help protect student health and ensure the least interruptions to in-person learning and after-school activities. Visit [scoe.org/vaccines](https://scoe.org/vaccines) for more information about upcoming vaccination clinics.

We are very excited to welcome everyone back to school on August 12<sup>th</sup>. We will be in touch with more information closer to the start of the school year. In the meantime, stay safe and be well.