



Upcoming Events

February 1

100s Day Celebration in the lower elementary classes

February 14

Jump Rope for Heart
Valentines Day

February 15

Town Hall- results of parent/student surveys midyear review of LCAP
Community input
LCAP Advisory 4:00 pm
Board of Trustees Meeting 5:00 pm

LUNCH MENU



Menu for January 31- Feb 4

Monday: Chicken Patty Sandwich, Fritos, red pepper strips & fruit

Tuesday: Hot Dogs, Lays chips, BBQ beans and apples

Wednesday: Grilled Cheese w/Tomato Soup, muffin and apples

Thursday: Meaty Pasta, rolls, small green salad and oranges

Friday: Chicken Nuggets w/BBQ Sauce, curly fries, cherry tomatoes and banana

Milk served at every meal



French Gulch-Whiskeytown School

Parents and Guardians, as you are aware by now, at the end of last week and the beginning of this one, several of our students tested positive for Covid. Those students are quarantining at home. For those of you who registered your students in the school data base with primary health account, we were and are able to test at school. In fact, two of the most recent cases were picked up in that testing on Monday. If you would like us to be able to test your child at school, we need to have your consent which is contained in the registration link below:

https://my.primary.health/r/frenchgulchschool?registration_type=student

(please note there should be an underscore between registration and type that is not showing up!)

On the back of this newsletter is an informational flyer from the CDPH (CA Dept. of Public Health) explaining **group contract tracing** which is the protocol FGWS is now following. At this point in time we have had several students in both the upper and lower elementary classrooms test positive Covid. Please call if you have any questions.

100s DAY

Don't forget that Mrs. Swayne's class will be celebrating the 100th day of school on Tuesday, February 1. 100s collections are encouraged. They can be glued on to poster board, come in baggies, jars, on a string -let your creativity soar!



JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Information went home last week on Jump Rope for Heart. We will kick off the campaign on Monday with the students. Remember that all of the proceeds go to the American Heart Association to aid in pediatric cardiac research.

PARENT SURVEYS

Parent surveys will go home today. It would be appreciated if they were completed and returned by next Friday, February 4. You do not need to identify yourself by name if you so choose. One completed survey is sufficient per family even if you have multiple students enrolled at FGWS.

BOARD MEETING

There is a Board of Trustees meeting on February 15. Prior to the Board Mtg there is a Town Hall meeting in which parent/student surveys will be presented as well as a midyear report on implementation of our LCAP. Both meetings are open to the public. **We still are seeking a 5th person to serve on our Board.**

New Group Tracing Guidance for Schools

Dear school community. We are writing to let you know about updates to the way we are managing COVID-19 at school. On January 12th, California Department of Public Health (CDPH) adopted changes to contact tracing guidance for K-12 students, which adds an option for “group contact tracing” of students in shared school settings. The goal is to keep students in school in a safe environment for all, while updating the practices to fit the current situation. Both individual contact tracing (the old method) and group tracing are tools available to schools. Some schools may not use the group tracing method. There are a couple of reasons for this change.

- The current COVID-19 variant that is circulating in California is much more transmissible and has a shorter incubation period. Transmission of the virus occurs earlier in the course of illness, generally in the 1-2 days prior to symptoms onset and 2-3 days after. So individual contact tracing may take too long and not be worth the effort.
- Our schools are using tools that work, providing layers of protection within school settings: COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters, wearing high-quality well-fitting masks, improvements in indoor air quality, moving activities outdoors, as well as student COVID-19 testing programs have made schools safe places for students. Masking is a requirement for all in K-12 School settings and an important prevention tool.

What does this mean for students? The group tracing method allows for quicker and broader response to COVID-19 cases identified in school settings. “Group contacts” are the individuals who have spent 15 minutes within a 24-hour period in the same shared space as a person identified to have COVID-19. A *shared space* may be a classroom, cafeteria, bus, during extracurricular activities, etc. If your child is a “group contact” in a shared space, the school will notify you and let you know what to do. Most importantly, watch for symptoms and keep your student at home if sick. The school will also recommend your student get tested and tell you how to go about doing so. It is recommended that exposed students participate in testing, continue to attend school, and participate in all aspects of K-12 education including extracurricular activities and sports unless symptoms develop.

What does this mean for schools? School staff members will be able to quickly notify groups of contacts and provide safe in-person instruction without complicated and time-consuming individual contact tracing.

Our school is adopting the “Group Tracing” option outlined above. The entire CDPH guidance document is linked here: [Group-Tracing Approach to Students Exposed to COVID-19 in a K-12 setting \(ca.gov\)](#)