ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
TO CLOSE ALL SCHOOLS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE IN SACRAMENTO COUNTY
FOR IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND TO ALLOW FOR THE PROVISION OF
TARGETED, SPECIALIZED SUPPORT SERVICES IN SMALL, STABLE COHORTS

This order supersedes the August 20, 2020 Order of the Public Health Officer directing all
schools to close for in-person instruction. Please read this Order carefully. Violations of or
failure to comply with this Order is a crime punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. Violators
are also subject to civil enforcements actions including civil penalties. (Health and Safety Code
Section 120275; Penal Code Section 19; Government Code Sections 25132 and 8665)

Under the authority of California Health and Safety Code Sections 101040, 101085, 120175, and
120275; Title 17 California Code of Regulations Section 2501; Article XI of the California
Constitution; California Government Code Sections 8610, 8630, 8634, and 8665; and Sacramento
County Code Section 2.15.100, The Health Officer of the County of Sacramento (“Health
Officer”) Orders:

All schools in Sacramento County (transitional kindergarten through grade 12), regardless of
grade level taught or building location, shall immediately close for in-person instruction and
remain closed until such time that the Health Officer declares that schools in Sacramento County
may re-open for in-person instruction.

Any elementary school wishing to receive a waiver to open for in-person instruction (PDF) shall
only be granted the waiver at the discretion of the Sacramento County Health Officer.

Schools may provide onsite targeted, specialized support and services to children and youth in
small, stable cohorts in accordance with California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
Guidance for Small Cohorts. In accordance with the CDPH guidance and cohort FAQs, cohorts
should be used to prioritize services to students with disabilities, English language learners,
students at higher risk of further learning loss or not participating in distance learning, students
at risk of abuse or neglect, foster youth, and students experiencing homelessness. Cohorts are
not intended to allow for in-person instruction for all students and the number of students on a
given school site should not exceed 25% of the school’s enrollment size or available building capacity.

This Order is issued as a result of the worldwide pandemic of COVID-19 disease, also known as “novel coronavirus” which has infected over ten million individuals worldwide in over 200 countries and is implicated in over 700,000 worldwide deaths, including over 16,000 cases and 259 deaths in Sacramento County. These numbers increase significantly every day.

This Order is issued based on evidence of increasing transmission of COVID-19 both within the County of Sacramento and worldwide, scientific evidence regarding the most effective approach to slow transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically as well as best practices as currently known and available to protect the public from the risk of spread or of exposure to COVID-19.

This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference, the: March 4, 2020 Proclamation of a State of Emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom; the March 13, 2020 Declaration of a National Emergency issued by President Donald Trump; the March 5, 2020 Proclamation of Local Public Health Emergency based on an imminent and proximate threat to public health from the introduction of novel COVID-19 in Sacramento County; the March 5, 2020 Proclamation of State of Local Emergency; the March 10, 2020 Resolutions of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sacramento ratifying the Local Emergency and Local Public Health Emergency; the guidance issued on March 11, 2020 by the California Department of Public Health regarding large gatherings of 250 people or more; Governor Gavin Newsom’s Executive order N-25-20 of March 12, 2020 preparing the State to commandeer hotels and other places or temporary residence, medical facilities, and other facilities that are suitable as places of temporary residence or medical facilities as necessary for quarantining, isolating, or treating individuals who test positive or COVID-19 or who have had a high-risk exposure and are thought to be in the incubation period; the guidance issued on March 15, 2020 by the centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the California Department of Public Health, and other public health officials through the United States and around the world recommending the cancellation of gatherings involving more than fifty (50) or more persons in a single space at the same time; Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-33-20 giving the state the ability to increase the health care capacity in clinics, mobile health care units and adult day health care facilities and allowing local governments more flexibility to utilize the skills of retired employees in order to meet the COVID-19 surge; Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-39-20 indented to expand the health care workforce and recruit health care professionals to address the COVID-19 surge; the California Public Health Officer’s Order issued July 17, 2020; the California Department of Public Health’s July 17, 2020 guidelines on reopening schools; and the California Department of Public Health’s Industry Guidance for Schools and School Based Programs updated on August 3, 2020. The Governor and the County Public Health Officer continue to issue COVID-19-related orders to mitigate the public health crisis.

This order is made in accordance with all applicable State and Federal laws, including but not limited to: Health and Safety Code Sections 101030, et seq.: Health and Safety Code Sections 120100, et. Seq.; and Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations Section 2501.
To the extent necessary, pursuant to Government Code Sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code Section 101029, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff and all Chiefs of Police in the County ensure compliance with and enforcement of this Order. Violators are also subject to civil enforcement actions including civil penalties.

Copies of this Order shall promptly be (1) made available at the Sacramento County Administration Building located at 700 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, First Floor; (2) posted on the Sacramento County COVID-19 website at covid19.saccounty.net, and (3) provided to any member of the public requesting a copy of this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

Olivia Kasirye, MD, MS
Health Officer of the County of Sacramento

08/28/2020
Date