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## **Olive Grove Charter Schools, Inc. Extreme Weather Protocols**

### **1. Purpose and Scope**

This policy is established by Olive Grove Charter Schools, Inc. (OGCS, Inc. or the School) to comply with California Education Code section 33355. As a family of independent study, flex-based schools, OGCS, Inc. has limited scheduled outdoor activities; however, this protocol ensures student safety during required events, such as physical fitness testing, and it aligns with standardized guidelines from the California Department of Education (CDE).

### **2. Definitions of Extreme Weather Conditions**

Extreme weather conditions include environmental factors that pose a risk to student health or safety, such as:

- Extreme Heat: Temperatures or HeatRisk levels reaching "Major" (Orange) or "Extreme" (Red/Magenta) on the [California Department of Public Health's Heat Risk Grid](#).
- Poor Air Quality: Air Quality Index (AQI) levels above 150 (Unhealthy).
- Other Hazards: Wildfire smoke, lightning, high winds, flooding, or extreme cold.

### **3. Weather and Air Quality Monitoring Procedures**

Staff responsible for supervising outdoor activities must monitor weather and air-quality conditions using recognized tools such as the National Weather Service HeatRisk system and AirNow.gov. Checks must occur prior to the commencement of any outdoor event.

### **4. Decision-Making Responsibilities and Timelines**

The Superintendent or designated site lead is responsible for monitoring forecasts and making the final determination to modify, postpone, or cancel outdoor activities based on objective thresholds. Decisions should be made as early as possible to ensure timely notification of participants.

### **5. Criteria for Modifying or Canceling Outdoor Activities**

Activities will be modified or canceled when:

- HeatRisk is Major (Orange) or Extreme (Red/Magenta): Cancel or modify all outdoor and un-conditioned indoor activities during the heat of the day.
- AQI exceeds 150: Move activities indoors or reschedule.

### **6. Indoor and Alternative Activity Plans**

When outdoor conditions are unsafe, the School will utilize shaded, cooled, or sheltered indoor areas for required testing or activities. Activities may be rescheduled to cooler times of the day or to a different day entirely.

### **7. Communication Protocols**

The School will notify staff, students, and parents/guardians regarding changes to scheduled outdoor activities due to extreme weather via email, phone, ParentSquare, and/or the School's website.

### **8. Mitigation Measures and Site Preparedness**

During outdoor activities, the School will ensure students have access to adequate hydration, shade, and rest breaks. Staff will be equipped with necessary weather-related information and resources through coordination with local agencies.

#### **9. Staff Training Requirements**

Relevant staff members will receive training on recognizing signs of weather-related distress, such as heat stroke or respiratory issues due to poor air quality, and the appropriate emergency response measures.

#### **10. Annual Review and Update Process**

Pursuant to Education Code 33355(b)(3), this protocol will be reviewed, evaluated, and updated annually to incorporate evolving best practices, reflect changing weather patterns, and address feedback from educational partners. This ensures the policy remains appropriate for the School's independent study, flex-based program.