

CLEAN ROOM TESTING

Ivonne Adrianzen-Watson
Bilingual School Psychologist
San Francisco Bay Area
(650) 338-9963



IvonneWatson@gmail.com

“CleanRoom” Assessment Testing During Covid-19 Shutdown:

Providing an immediate accommodation for SPED evaluation continuity during recovery

Goal: To design and configure a room in the district office in compliance with county social distancing guidelines to promote the continuation of critical special education evaluations amidst school closures.

Background: In light of school closures due to Covid-19, SPED evaluation teams have made swift accommodations in moving all collaboration, communication, and IEP meetings to digital platforms through video conferencing. These efforts have been both impressive, and in my opinion, extremely successful in ensuring continued progress in light of current realities.

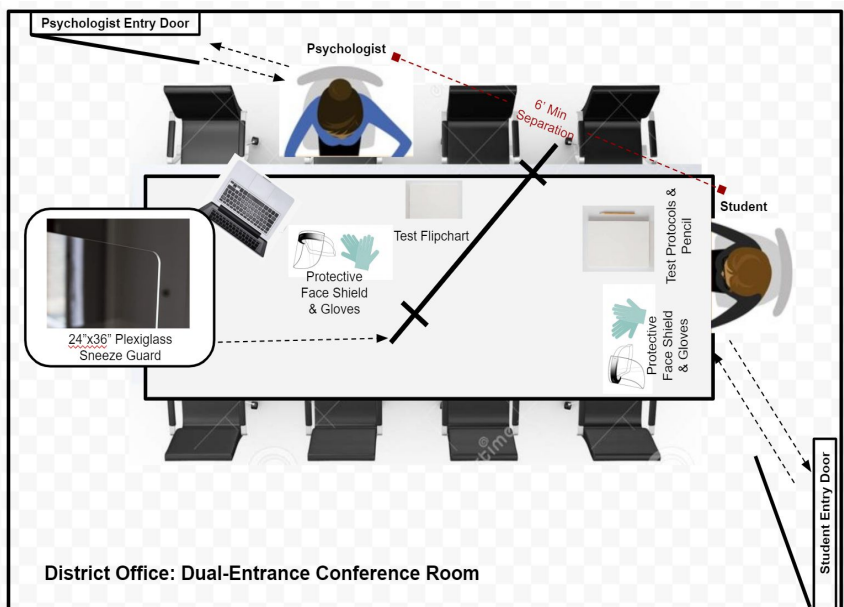
Despite this success, one element of the evaluation workflow - assessment testing - cannot be transitioned to a fully virtual environment. As a result, all new cases in which testing had not been previously completed, has been stopped in their tracks. The case backlog has quickly become problematic.

Proposed Solution: In order to help partially minimize this backlog, in late-April I designed and proposed to pilot a sanitary testing solution with the Redwood City School District (RCSD).

My “CleanRoom” proposal described a thoughtfully-designed, social distancing-compliant testing session. Full consideration was given to the safety of the student, myself (the testing psychologist), and the student’s parent/guardian.

Core to the design is a 24"x36" plexiglass sneeze guard (with bottom opening for safe passing of protocols), six feet of separation, reducing the use of testing manipulatives through cross-battery assessment strategies and single-use protective face shield and surgical gloves.

Redwood City School District (RCSD) agreed to initially pilot the CleanRoom program starting mid-May.



External Seating/Waiting Area for Parent/Guardian

I and a colleague implemented the first CleanRoom at the RCSD district office the third week of May and commenced testing sessions with students. Over the course of the past two weeks, I have tested multiple students using cross-battery techniques . While the CleanRoom requires several accommodations and adjustments, *and is not appropriate for all students and age-levels*, I feel it is one attempt to provide an effective solution to continue providing special education evaluations in light of the many new restrictions. It is a design to consider despite challenges and roadblocks that have occurred with Covid-19.

