

Safe Return to School Plan

Safe Return to In-Person and Continuity of Services Plan (SRCSP)

9/22/21 Updated for 2021-2022



We Care.
We Contribute
We LEARN.



School District of Washington

Washington, MO 63090

www.washington.k12.mo.us

Serving the Missouri counties of Franklin, St. Charles, and Warren

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Posting on COVID-19 Liability for the School District of Washington

WARNING

Under Missouri law, any individual entering the premises or engaging the services of the business waives all civil liability against the individual or entity for any damages based on inherent risks associated with an exposure or potential exposure to COVID-19, except for recklessness or willful misconduct.

Re-Entry Plan for Regular School Term 2021-2022

Introduction

As the School District of Washington prepares to return to school for the 2021-2022 school year, there continues to be many question marks for school districts locally and across the nation. In times like these, we must prepare for multiple scenarios and ultimately educate students in the best way possible under any given circumstances. In order to do this, teamwork is necessary. It takes leaders, teachers, support staff, parents, and students working together to generate the most positive educational experiences in times of significant uncertainty. Public education provides for learning, connection, belonging, exploration, social interaction, friendship, mentorship and so much more. Equitable access to education for all students is extremely important, and this is the role of public education in our communities and world. This is why the School District of Washington has planned for multiple scenarios, as we understand the complexities of this situation and the need to pivot, if necessary.

As the world evolves and the nature of this situation changes, the adults must remain positive. It is the job of parents and school personnel to inspire our students and to model how we behaviorally manage difficult situations. We continue to review countless documents providing guidance, engage professional conversations, and establish protocols aligned to feedback and research in the best way possible.

The mission of the School District of Washington is to inspire achievement, character, and personal growth in all students as they pursue and succeed in college, careers and in life. We foster a culture of collaboration grounded in understanding, acceptance and mutual respect while remaining focused on student achievement, staff development, and the well-being of our students as they grow, mature and learn.

We recognize that without student safety, our mission cannot be realized. During these difficult times, we must keep our expectations high, persevere, and adapt to a changing environment. It is our goal to provide five days a week in person learning for all students as we know this is our most ideal instructional setting for student achievement. **The newly added Color-Coded Protocol outlined in our plan takes into consideration the complexities of the pandemic and our response.** We appreciate the cooperation of our staff, students, parents and patrons as we all do our part to realize this goal.

Periodic Review: As a note, this plan will be periodically reviewed **monthly by the Board of Education** or earlier as necessary with changing local, state and national research and data. **Each semester an identified group** of district stakeholders will collaborate on necessary changes or updates to the documents processes, procedures and information to the extent possible.

Please contact the district office if this information is needed in a different language.

Academic Schedule Scenarios

The School District of Washington is focused on remaining in an *On Campus* learning scenario through this academic year. Depending on the extent of quarantines and pandemic outbreaks this school year, we will also be prepared for an E-learning option of instruction similar to last year if necessary

On Campus instruction days will give teachers the opportunity to provide direct instruction and/or active project, lab or support time.

E-Learning days will require students to participate in zoom meetings with teachers, complete independent practice assignments, conduct research, complete readings, review videos and narrated power point presentations or other instructionally supportive documents. Google also offers students an opportunity to collaborate on projects and documents as assigned by the teacher in some instances.

Quarantine Remote Learning days will provide students on quarantine or COVID-19 positive (only) to zoom into their classroom to continue to receive instruction, complete assignments and participate in the virtual learning environment to the extent possible for the teacher and the student.

Full Participation in E-Learning from Home- Families are provided the E-learning from Home option (where applicable) if on-campus instruction causes them pause, and their students demonstrate the ability to be successful in this setting. Although education is best when interactive, hands-on, and engaged in face-to-face social interaction, our E-learning from Home option is an alternative for families that may desire the safest environment during this outbreak of COVID-19. For more information regarding this program option go to:
www.washington.k12.mo.us/parents/parent_choice_e-learning.

Note regarding participating in extra-curricular activities: Although we ask parents and students to consider their reasoning for choosing to go exclusively online as it relates to COVID-19 and determine if the same concerns materialize for them with extra-curricular activities, we will follow Board policy and the corresponding Administrative Procedure IGD-AP(3). The procedure states students may participate as long as:

1. Enrolling in, attending and completing the requisite number of courses required by MSHSAA and the district;
2. Earning adequate grades; and
3. Meeting MSHSAA and district eligibility requirements including, but not limited to, the requirements in procedure IGD-AP (3).

Masking Color-Coded Protocol

It continues to be our goal in SDoW to provide full in-person learning for all students, as we know this is our most ideal instructional setting for student achievement. The protocols below take into consideration the complexities of the pandemic and our response. This document serves as a guide when the district shifts masking protocol by building or district due to increases in student and/or staff quarantines and/or COVID positivity rates.

Changes in levels will be reviewed and communicated when daily absences are 15-18% due to COVID. Changes will occur once the daily absent rate reaches 18-25% depending on COVID-related exposure and other information regarding possible school spread. Changes beyond Green will occur for 14 days and with a reevaluation of the daily absences due to COVID.

Due to the quarantine measures in place by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and Board Policy, students that are considered close contacts to a COVID-19 positive will not have to quarantine during a 14 day status change to Yellow or Orange because they will be in a mask to mask environment. If COVID-related absences decline over the course of the 14-days, there will be a return to Green status.

When in Green... (ALL district)

- Masks are optional for ALL students in ALL district buildings.
- Masks are optional for ALL employees in ALL district buildings.
- Masks are required for ALL students and staff on district buses.
- Masks are optional for visitors and spectators.

When in Yellow due to increasing exposure rates (per building)...

- All students at the specified school will be required to wear a face mask when indoors on campus.
- All staff at the specified school will be required to wear a face mask when indoors on campus.
- Masks are required indoors for visitors and spectators at the specified school.
- Masks are required for ALL students and staff on district buses.

When in Orange due to heightened exposure rates (ALL district)...

- All students in the district will be required to wear a face mask when indoors in ALL district buildings.
- All staff in the district will be required to wear a face mask when indoors in ALL district buildings.
- Masks are required indoors for visitors and spectators in ALL district buildings.
- Masks are required for ALL students and staff on district buses.

When in Red due to high exposure rates (per building)...

- School building site(s) will be closed.

9/13/21

Instructional Programming

Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Connectivity: Students will be expected to complete all coursework regardless of how we are in attendance. Academic progress has always been a high priority. For students that either cannot afford or obtain internet access (in the event we are in the hybrid (yellow) or all virtual (red) model, accommodations may be made. We may use this mechanism or others to ensure assignments and course materials are downloaded onto a flash drive or printed in situations only where internet concerns cannot be rectified. We intend to run our bus service as long as the District is in the in-person (green) or hybrid (yellow) model.

Student Services Programming (Gifted Education, Individual/Small Group Literacy, English Language Learner, etc.): Student Services Programming will follow the schedule chosen by the School District of Washington and their classroom protocols will be aligned to this plan. Enrollment in some programs may dictate adjustments to the schedule throughout the year. The teachers of the program will communicate with parents prior to the first day of attendance.

Special Education The District's *Safe Return to School Plan* includes all students enrolled in the District, including students with disabilities. Therefore, all students will follow the plan that is in place for each student's appropriate building or the District as a whole. [Students receiving special education services as identified under IDEA eligibility will continue to receive services in-person as written in their IEP. If an E-learning instructional day is deemed appropriate for all students within the District, the IEP services will be provided as outlined in FORM G of each individual student IEP. We recognize each Individual Education Plan may have additional considerations and/or accommodations associated as appropriate by the IEP and the District is always willing to accommodate with each family as necessary to deliver services.](#)

IEP/504 meetings will be held on campus unless parents request another format (by phone or virtually). If the District is in the red scenario, all IEP meetings will be held virtually. District screening protocols and other safety measures outlined in this plan will be required of parents, guardians, or advocates arriving for meetings.

Early Learning Special Education and Pre-K Programs: The Early Learning Center will implement safety precautions that are in alignment with this plan. Because the programming, schedule and staffing considerations are so unique in this setting, further communication will be provided directly by the Director of Early Learning regarding classroom protocols, class sizes, entry/dismissal procedures, and programming changes that may need to occur. **Parents as Teachers** will employ alternative methods of delivery when conducting visits.

Human Resources: Keeping our staff safe as we return to school is critically important to us. The health of the staff plays an important role in the delivery of academic and support services in any school system. Specific information regarding annual trainings, leave policies, accommodations, and other related information will go directly to our staff by means of the Human Resources

Department in conjunction with their building supervisor/administrator. Any employee-related questions or concerns can be expressed directly to them.

Open House/Parent Conferences/ Parent Events- Our schools will be hosting Open House and Parent Conferences this year with the possibility of slight modifications for group attendance. Many elementary parent events do not begin until late fall. At this time, larger elementary parent events will be placed on pause until late fall. While this may be the case for larger secondary parent events, MSHSAA sponsored activities will continue as scheduled. Masks will remain optional for students, parents and patrons at each of these events.

Building Visitors and Volunteers- For the first semester of the school year, we will be limiting visitors to the buildings as we work to reduce the number of adults in school during this pandemic. Although we value the extra assistance, we will temporarily discontinue the use of volunteers.

Public Use of Facilities- The public use of our facilities has opened. We will continue to properly clean and disinfect our facilities for use the following day.

Special Classes/Electives

Special classes and electives are an important part of the education process, and we value well-rounded experiences and our special/elective teachers. To the extent possible, the School District of Washington expects classroom activities to be in adherence to recommendations, including but not exclusive of the following:

- Elementary specials may push into the classroom in order to limit transitions between classrooms, or they may utilize outdoor areas and outdoor spaces as scheduled by the building principals.
- Locker rooms may not be used or will be scheduled to manage occupancy.
- Larger classrooms will be considered to accommodate for physical distancing, if designated rooms are too small, as much as applicable in each building or facility.
- Equipment may not be shared unless properly sanitized between uses.
- Seating charts and cohorts (grouping of students) will continue to be required at this time.

Four Rivers Career Center (CTE) will develop protocols and schedules that align to this plan and accommodate sending school district students and Washington students. If the School District of Washington is in green (5 days per week in session, on campus), Four Rivers will follow suit. If the School District of Washington is in yellow (hybrid model), Four Rivers Career Center will establish a customized schedule with sending school districts. Each school district may be on entirely different schedules than Washington, therefore schedules will require some flexibility which may mean certain schools attend on specific days in order to reduce class sizes, social distance and meet all building protocols aligned to this plan. Four Rivers Career Center instructors will be using Google Classroom to post lessons, reading materials, modules and assignments

School Processes and Procedures

Classroom/ Academic Spaces: Teachers and support staff, along with school leadership, play a critical role in student safety. In addition, the safety of our staff is at the forefront of our minds as we value their expertise and desire to serve students. For the purposes of spacing, all unnecessary furniture will be removed from the classroom to make more room for student seating and distancing. In addition, teachers will maintain a seating chart in all classrooms. Consistent classroom procedures and routines and established protocols will be implemented during the school year. Along with consistent classroom procedures associated with social distancing, teachers and students will have to assist in maintaining cleanliness within the classroom during the school day. Custodians utilize sanitizing and cleaning protocols building-wide during the day and during the second shifts in preparation of the next day (see cleaning and sanitizing protocols section). However, during the school day and when the classrooms are in use, teachers and students will need to assist in keeping surfaces clean. Classroom care instructions for cleaning have been broken down for appropriateness by Pre-K, Grades K-6, Grades 7-8 (Middle School) and Grades 9-12 (High School). These classroom cleaning procedures can be found in the Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols section of this document.

Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs: School District of Washington counselors will work closely with teachers and students to identify any social or emotional concerns associated with the stress and impact of COVID-19. Guidance counselors will assist with transitions to new schedules, provide small group or one-on-one counseling, and work through advisement to keep students progressing toward graduation. Additionally, counseling staff assists building principals and teachers with the facilitation of restorative circles within the classroom (in-person or virtual) as means of establishing the classroom community, discussion of topics relating to social and emotional well-being, or conflict resolution. [Furthermore, staff and students will work to create a school culture that respects a person's individual choice to wear a mask or not.](#) The guidance staff institutes a curriculum that supports and promotes confidence, coping skills, conflict resolution and academic success.

In the event of online instruction, students are expected to follow the expectations of the District in terms of appropriate use. Although the District blocks harmful sites and gets alerts regarding inappropriate use, supervision at home is still advised.

Entry and Dismissal Procedures: Entry and exit points during high traffic times: building principals will align building procedures to the social distancing considerations found in the various areas of this plan. Principals may require certain grade levels (or other determining factors) or individuals to enter and exit the building from specific locations in order to space traffic flow and improve social distancing procedures. Traffic patterns will be analyzed and staggered drop-off times may be implemented, as necessary. Specific procedures will be communicated by each building principal accordingly. We appreciate everyone's patience as we implement protocols and procedures. We expect adjustments may need to be made throughout the process.

Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities

Extracurricular Activities (including Athletics, Cheer, Dance, and Marching Band):

The School District of Washington believes that participation in extracurricular activities plays a key motivational role in school. It is our intent to participate in these activities as long as we can safely do so while adhering to the CDC, Franklin County Health Department, St. Charles County Health Department, and Warren County Health Department recommendations.

The Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) and the Gateway Athletic Conference may further outline guidelines as to what or how participation can occur. As a District, we know how important these activities are to our students, and we will make an effort to participate within the confines of the situation. However, we know that decisions may be made that are beyond our control due to quarantines as it relates to close contact or COVID-19 positive cases, either locally or with one of our opponents. These situations may cause an inability to field a team, travel or participate.

As long as the District is in green or yellow status, and the Health Department, Athletic Director, administration and Board of Education believe it is safe to participate, we will compete by following the MSHSAA guidelines and recommendations. Coaches and athletes will follow the handwashing protocols, physical distancing as reasonably able and screening protocols as outlined. [Masks remain optional for coaches, athletes, and spectators during events and practices; however, masks will be required by federal mandate on school buses to and from events.](#)

The links below provide Athletic Directors and school/district personnel with additional guidance. More information will be forthcoming as our conference, school and programs do the best they can to adhere.

[Guidelines and Recommendations for Opening for Sports/Activities- MSHSAA July 16, 2020.](#)

[MSHSAA Return to Play Flow Chart](#)

Note regarding participating in extra-curricular activities: Although we ask parents and students to consider their reasoning for choosing to go exclusively online (Parent Choice: E-Learning from Home) as it relates to COVID-19 and determine if the same concerns materialize for them with extra-curricular activities, we will follow Board policy and the corresponding Administrative Procedure IGD-AP(3). The procedure states students may participate as long as:

1. Enrolling in, attending and completing the requisite number of courses required by MSHSAA and the district;
2. Earning adequate grades; and
3. Meeting MSHSAA and district eligibility requirements including, but not limited to, the requirements in procedure IGD-AP (3).

Co-Curricular Activities (including Scholar Bowl, Band, Choir, Orchestra, Theatre, TSA, Pro-Start, Yearbook, NJROTC competitions, etc.):

Again, the School District of Washington believes that participation in co-curricular activities are equally as important as athletics and other related opportunities. Participation in these activities must also be in adherence with CDC and public health guidance and recommendations. Certain opportunities may be modified, limited or even canceled if adherence is not possible. Some of these co-curricular events can be converted through virtual delivery, if necessary. If these activities are able to continue, the following considerations will need to be made:

- Use of larger spaces to provide room for physical/social distance.
- Multiple practice sessions to break into smaller groups.
- Adjustments in competition sizes and locations.

Food Service (Breakfast and Lunch Services)

All food and nutrition staff are trained in food safety. The federal food service program continues to fund all nutrition services provided by the district. Breakfast and lunch meal services will continue and schedules will be developed by building principals before the first day of school.

Breakfast: Elementary students will continue with Grab and Go breakfast and secondary students will eat in the cafeteria.

Lunch: Building principals will be developing a lunch schedule and plan that may include limited seating in the cafeteria, cohort and assigned seating and alternative locations to sit and eat during lunch. This may include some outside seating, as well as seating in various places of the building. Cafeteria tables and eating surfaces will be sanitized in between uses to the extent possible. Students will be expected to wash their hands or utilize one of the hand sanitizer stations before picking up their tray and eating. Lunch periods may be spread out more throughout the day to accommodate the schedule. Specific information will be provided by your building principals.

Transportation Services

The School District of Washington contracts bus services through First Student. Because the District does not have the ability to guarantee social/physical distancing on the school bus, we do ask parents to make arrangements to bring their students to school, if at all possible. **Due to current federal transportation mandates, mask will be required anytime a student is on the bus.** Additional masks and hand sanitizer will be available on the bus and First Student will employ their cleaning and sanitizing protocols each day. Regardless of whether or not the District is in the green or yellow scenario, bus service will run as typically scheduled.

Center for Disease Control Guiding Principles

(Note: These guidelines may change.)

COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. It is thought that the virus may spread to hands from a contaminated surface and then to the nose or mouth, causing infection. Therefore, personal prevention practices such as [handwashing](#), [staying home when sick](#) and environmental [cleaning and disinfection](#) are important principles that are covered in this document. Fortunately, there are a number of actions school administrators can take to help lower the risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread during school and activities.

Reducing the Spread

- **Staying Home when Appropriate**

- Educate staff and families about when they/their child(ren) should [stay home](#) and when they can return to school.
- Actively encourage employees and students who are sick or who have recently had [close contact](#) with a person with COVID-19 to stay home. Develop policies that encourage sick employees and students to stay at home without fear of reprisal, and ensure employees, students, and students' families are aware of these policies. Consider not having perfect attendance awards, not assessing schools based on absenteeism, and offering virtual learning and telework options, if feasible.
- [Staff and students should stay home](#) if they have tested positive for or are showing COVID-19 [symptoms](#).
- Staff and students who have recently had [close contact](#) with a person with COVID-19 should also [stay home and monitor their health unless they have been fully vaccinated and are not having COVID-19 symptoms](#).
 - CDC's criteria can help inform when employees should return to work:
 - [If they have been sick with COVID-19](#)
 - [If they have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19](#)

- **Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette**

- Teach and reinforce [handwashing](#) with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among students and staff.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).
- Encourage staff and students to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).

- **Cloth Face Coverings (Optional to wear during the school day/ required on buses)**
 - Teach and reinforce use of [cloth face coverings](#). Face coverings may be challenging for students (especially younger students) to wear in all-day settings such as school. Face coverings should be worn by staff and students as feasible, and are **most** essential in times when physical distancing is difficult. Individuals should be frequently reminded not to touch the face covering and to [wash their hands](#) frequently. Information should be provided to staff, students, and students' families on [proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings](#).
 - Note: [Cloth face coverings](#) should **not** be placed on:
 - Children younger than 2 years' old
 - Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious
 - Anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance
 - [Cloth face coverings](#) are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms. [Cloth face coverings](#) are not surgical masks, respirators, or other medical personal protective equipment.
 - [Staff can be provided with clear face coverings if necessary for instructional delivery.](#)

Wear your Face Covering Correctly (CDC Guidance):

- Wash your hands before putting on your face covering
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily



Symptoms of COVID-19

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19.

Contact tracing will be necessary when students or staff test positive for COVID-19. Although guidance on this seems to be changing, the general rule is that anyone within 6' of a positive case for more than 15 minutes, will require testing due to close contact and quarantined for **10 days**. Information pertaining to our nursing department's protocols, contact tracing and how we will respond to students and staff exposures and cases can be found later in this document. Our schools will work under the leadership of our local health departments to identify who was in close contact and may require quarantine, as well as for how long. By having seating charts (in the classroom, on the bus, at lunch, etc.) or utilizing a hybrid model, the number of students and staff that may be required to be quarantined can be minimized.

Universal Precautions: Good Practice for All of Us

Handwashing

- Wash hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds
- Where soap and water aren't readily available or social distancing is difficult, utilize hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol

Social/Physical Distancing

- Avoid close contact with others
- Physical distance at 4-6' from others
- While in public or in areas where social distancing may be difficult, wear a face covering

Cover Your Cough and Sneezes

- When you are in a private setting and unable to wear a face covering, remember to cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in the trash. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water isn't available, utilize hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Clean and Disinfect

- Clean high touch surfaces frequently throughout the day and after school. High touch surfaces include: tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, computers, toilets, faucets and sinks. Detergent or soap and water may be used in addition to household/commercial disinfectants.

Testing: Available to Staff and Students

Due to a program available through DESE and the Missouri DHSS, Rapid testing is available at each school site for any employee or student with parent consent who is exhibiting symptoms. Any staff at a building without a nurse will continue to utilize Four Rivers Career Center (FRCC) for testing. The COVID phone will still be in use during regular school days 7:30-3:00pm at 636-266-1934. This testing program is designed to keep employees and students in attendance by confirming or denying if their symptoms are related to the COVID-19 virus or not. The testing program is subject to availability of the supplies and testing protocols as outlined by the state.

Vaccination Clinics

Vaccination clinics may be held, in partnership with the local health departments, clinics or medical professionals to administer the vaccine to staff and school community members as arranged. These clinics are voluntary and will be held in accordance with guidelines and best practice.

COVID-19 Care and Exposure Protocols

The plan has been developed to provide clear direction for safe operations through the prevention, early detection and control of COVID-19 in schools. It is our desire to promote the safety, health and well-being of our students and staff and thus act quickly and efficiently to ensure a safe return to school. Please note:

Continued Safety Activities:

- All employees and students will be directed to stay home if ill.
- Alerts will be sent to parents reminding them to keep their student(s) home if they exhibit symptoms.
- Health screening of staff, students, and visitors upon arrival to school as deemed applicable and feasible.

Screening procedures will include (these are subject to change):

Parents are required to screen their children for symptoms each morning, checking their temperature and assessing them for symptoms. After assessing your child for symptoms, if they possess any of the symptoms below, keep your child home, contact your physician and your school nurse.

- A fever of 100.0 or higher or a sense of having a fever
- A cough that cannot be attributed to another health condition
- Shortness of breath or trouble breathing
- Loss of taste or smell
- Muscle aches or pain that cannot be attributed to another health condition

- A sore throat
- Chills or shaking not attributed to another health condition
- A headache not attributed to another health condition

Staff screening procedures:

Staff members (including substitutes) will be asked to self-assess before reporting daily to work. The same assessment of symptoms used to screen students is appropriate for staff. Staff or substitutes that exhibit symptoms, as outlined above, will be asked to contact their physician and their school nurse (or lead nurse if employee is a district employee not assigned to a particular building).

Schools officials may visually screen or assess students and staff upon entry to the building if such protocols don't create wait times and overcrowding, thus making physical distancing an issue. More information regarding how to monitor and report screening procedures will be communicated by your building principals before school starts.

Other procedures:

In addition to the above, both staff and students should remain home and contact their physician or local health care provider, if any of the following conditions apply to them:

- An immediate member of your household has a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19.
- The staff member or student has had close contact with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19.
- The staff member or student has tested positive for COVID-19.
- The staff member or student/parent is awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- [The staff member has been vaccinated and is showing COVID-19 symptoms.](#)

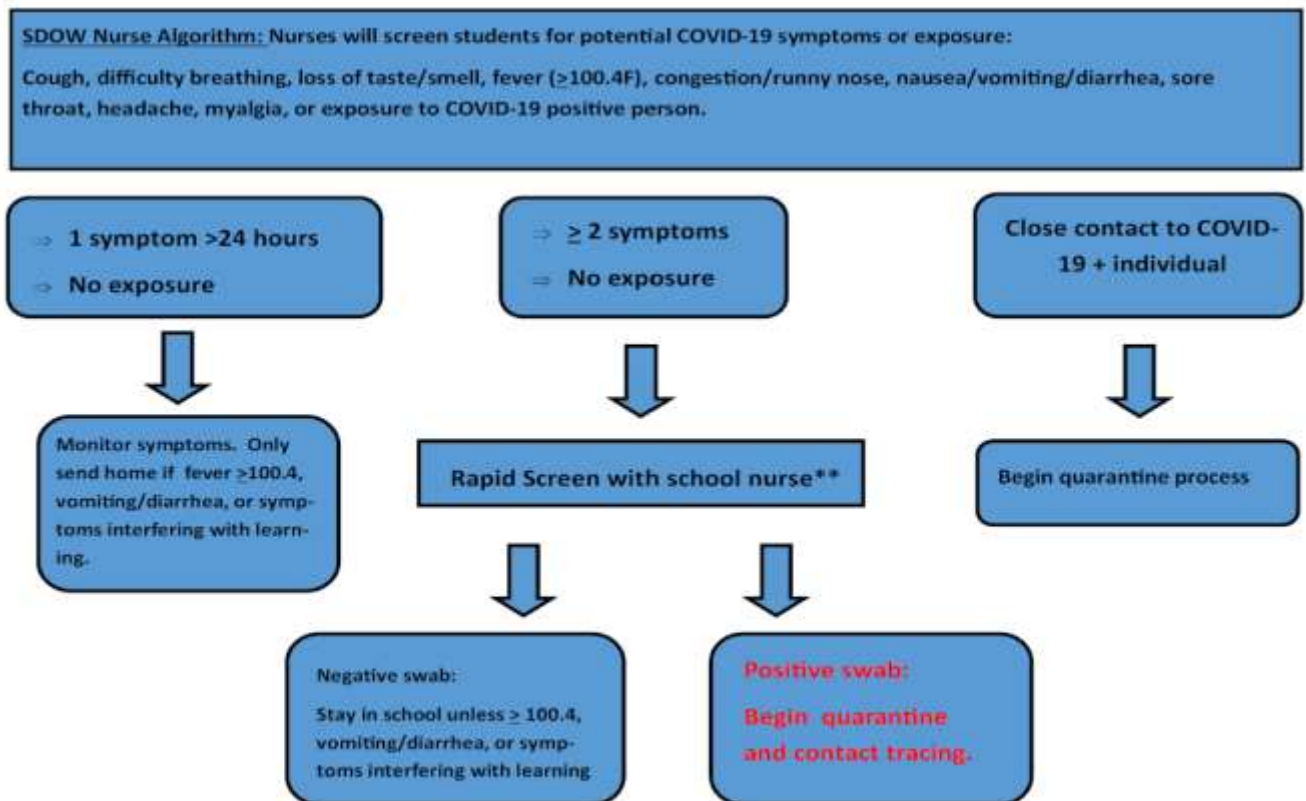
Additional information regarding screening procedures will be provided to building principals as the beginning of the year approaches.

Student with fever/symptoms that reports to the nurse's office once at school will be assessed in the following manner:

- Assessment by nurse will result in following checks:
 - temperature
 - lung sounds
 - pulse oximetry
- If student has one or more of the following the student will be given a face covering to wear and moved to an isolation area away from other students and staff:
 - temperature >100.4
 - pulse oximetry <90%
 - audible adventitious lung sounds
 - cough

- SOTB (shortness of the breath)
- headache
- chills
- muscle pain
- new loss of taste or smell
- The parent will then be contacted and asked screening questions. If there is reason to believe the student has been in contact with someone who is positive for COVID-19 or they are displaying symptoms of COVID-19, they will be sent home with parent/guardian for further testing with their medical doctor or the health department or return after 14 days.
- Students with temperature of ≥ 100.4 are to be sent home with parent/guardian.
- Rapid testing will be available at each building.

School Nurse Algorithm Chart:



**If parents/guardians do not want their students to have a rapid screen and they are showing ≥ 2 new symptoms, the student will need to be evaluated by a health care provider to assure the symptoms are not COVID related or they can return to school 72 hours after symptom resolution without medication.

Staff and Student Quarantine

Staff with symptoms at school:

Teachers or staff members (including substitute teachers) who develop symptoms consistent with infection of COVID-19 should leave the building as soon as possible to be evaluated and tested. If they are identified as a “case” by positive testing or a presumptive diagnosis based on a high clinical suspicion, then the students who had close contact would be quarantined for **10 days** from the last contact and would need to be monitored for signs and symptoms which would prompt the need for testing, and potentially an extended period of exclusion from school. Close contacts will be determined by examining factors such as distance in the classroom and use of face coverings. Close contact is defined by face-to-face contact within 6 feet for longer than 15 minutes. This is why seating charts, small cohorts and reduced mixing of groups may be recommended.

Students who have been in close contact of a COVID positive person:

If the local health department **and/or our nursing staff** determines through contact tracing that a student has been in “close contact” of a positive or presumptive positive case, then the student will be **excluded from the school environment not instruction as that will continue via virtual learning (noted as “quarantined” in this document)** for **10 days** from the last date of contact and would also need to be monitored for symptoms which would prompt the need for testing, and potentially an extended period of exclusion from school.

Test-Out Modified Quarantine: (updated)

Per the DHSS Statement on Newly-Modified CDC Guidance Regarding COVID Quarantines for Asymptomatic Individual on December 2, 2020, the district adopted the Franklin County Health Department use of the early test-out quarantine option. To test out of quarantine early, the following **MUST** occur:

- Test for COVID-19 on DAY 5-7 and be negative on a PCR or Antigen test.
- The test must be **lab confirmed** and not a home test.
- Have **no** symptoms (i.e. fever, cough, difficulty breathing, loss taste/smell, congestion/runny nose, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, sore throat, headache, or fatigue)

If the previous criteria are met, the quarantined individual may return to school on day 8 with continued monitoring of Monitoring should continue throughout the full 14 days and if a symptom develops, the individual must immediately isolate and contact a public health authority or healthcare provider.

Note: The majority of schools in the District are in Franklin County. However, we will need to coordinate with the St. Charles County or Warren County Health Departments as it relates to Augusta Elementary School and Marthasville Elementary School. Although their guidance is similar to that of Franklin County, there may be slight differences in guidance provided.

Those not having to quarantine:

The following mitigation strategies can eliminate a staff or student from quarantine:

- The staff or student has been fully vaccinated and is not exhibiting symptoms.
- The staff or student has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days.
- The staff or student has been in a mask-to-mask setting with a COVID-19 positive.
In this case, both have proper mask wearing throughout the time of exposure.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols

Cleaning and disinfecting are part of a broad approach to preventing infectious diseases in schools. Effective cleaning and disinfecting of environmental surfaces, including “high touch” or frequently touched surfaces, significantly decreases the number of environmental pathogens on those surfaces, which in turn, reduces the risk of transmission and infection. These “frequency areas” and items to be known or likely to be contaminated will be disinfected daily.

Protocols:

- Custodial team members will undergo a thorough disinfectant and sanitation training and a review of CDC and State of Missouri health department cleaning expectations for during school and after hours.
- Procedures to clean frequent touchpoints will be implemented for cleaning crews to disinfect critical areas daily. Inventory quantities will be regularly tracked and documented to properly supply the schools.
- Drinking fountains will be turned off, but refillable water bottle stations can be used for individual drinking containers. They will re-open once determined safe to do so.
- First Student bus drivers will undergo sanitation training, and all school buses will be thoroughly sanitized before and after each route.
- Staff will encourage use of hand sanitizer or handwashing when students are entering classrooms, before and after lunch and after using the restroom.
- Teachers and students (as age appropriate) will disinfect desks and chairs between groups of students as outlined in classroom protocols.

Items to be specifically disinfected regularly:

- Restrooms:
 - Doorknobs/handles
 - Light switches
 - Paper towel dispensers
 - Faucet handles
 - Toilet and urinal flush levers
 - Toilet and urinal partitions, doors including knobs, levers or slides
- Lunchrooms:

- Refrigerator door handles
- Table tops
- Doorknobs/handles
- Light switches
- Commonly touched serving areas
- Keypads used for Lumen numbers
- Locker rooms:
 - Doorknobs/handles
 - Light switches
 - Locker handles, levers or slides
 - Faucets/handles
- Classrooms:
 - Doorknobs/handles
 - Light switches
 - Telephones
 - Student/teacher desks and chairs
 - Other commonly touched items (keyboards, keypads, etc.)

Additional measures:

- All employees will keep their workspace as clean as possible by cleaning and disinfecting their workstations, surfaces they commonly use and other touchpoints. Employees should also avoid using others' workstations, supplies, tools and equipment. Shared standard office equipment should be wiped down prior to and following use.
- Use technology instead of paper when possible.
- Use virtual manipulatives/tools as much as possible.

Classroom Safety Protocols

Pre-K – Performed by the classroom teacher or other adults assigned to the room.

At the conclusion of meals/snacks	Assistive technology
Desks – wiped clean with approved sanitizing cleaner Chairs – wiped clean with approved sanitizing cleaner Other high touch areas as appropriate	If the device travels with the student, it needs to be wiped down upon arrival and dismissal. If the device stays at school, it needs to be wiped down prior to use and after each use
Protocols with bodily fluids	Toys and classroom materials
Wear additional PPE when changing diapers or assisting in toileting Disinfect affected areas Staff and students change affected clothes	Spray after use Limit community supplies
End of day	Personal end day consideration

Wipe down devices used by students Wipe down other student personal belongings	Cell phone – wipe down Keys – wipe down Badge - wipe down Other personal belongings
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- Wash/sanitize hands frequently throughout day as activities within the classroom dictate.
- Wash hands for 20 seconds before and after lunch (or hand sanitizer stations).
- Wash hands for 20 seconds after using the restroom.

ALL Classrooms – Performed by classroom teachers or other appropriate staff (students may help as appropriate)

Classroom and Lunch	Personal considerations/recommendations
Desks – wiped clean with approved sanitizing cleaner (hourly for secondary) Chairs – wiped clean with approved sanitizing cleaner Door knobs/other high touch areas -wipe clean as able Shared equipment sanitized between use as much as feasibly possible	Cell phone – wipe down Keys – wipe down Badge – wipe down Other personal belongings

- Wash/sanitize hands frequently throughout day as activities within the classroom dictate.
- Wash hands for 20 seconds before and after lunch.
- Wash hands for 20 seconds after using the restroom.
- Stay socially distant from classmates in the room and during transitions.
- Cough and sneeze in sleeve.
- Limit the use of community supplies.
- Limit multiple students touching/interacting with the same materials.

Closing Comment

As medical professionals, health departments and school district leaders learn more, this document and the protocols included within it will be revised. It should be known that we may be directed to implement less or more stringent measures as the conditions change. It should also be known that the District must keep the best interest of our students and staff in mind as it relates to their health, safety and well-being. With quarantining rules due to close contact, the time frame in which test results may be final, and the myriad of other issues we may encounter, we must realize that staffing our classrooms may become challenging. With that said, we must also prepare to shift to online delivery when quarantines occur. COVID-19 continues to be present in our community and we must take precautions both at home and at school.

Reference List

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education:

<https://dese.mo.gov/communications/coronavirus-covid-19-information>

MSBA Pandemic Response Planning Guidance: <https://www.mosba.org/2020/04/05/msba-resources-for-the-covid-19-pandemic-2/>

Centers for Disease Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/prepare-safe-return.html>

American Academy of Pediatrics: <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>

Missouri State High School Activities Association Guidelines:

<https://www.mshsaa.org/resources/PDF/2020-2021%20MSHSAA%20Guidelines-Recommendations%20for%20Opening%20Sports%20and%20Activities.pdf>

Franklin County Health Department- regional meetings with superintendents, Mercy Washington

St. Louis County Health Department- meeting in conjunction with EducationPlus

Warren County and St. Charles County Health Departments- meetings with superintendents

Mercy Hospital Doctors and staff, Washington, MO- regional meetings with regional superintendents, health department