

# RPS KEY MITIGATION STRATEGIES



- 1 Each school has dedicated COVID-19 Co-Coordinator responsible for COVID-19 questions, concerns, and preventive activities.
- 2 At-Home COVID Screening must be completed by students and staff prior to coming into school buildings. Nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations should be restricted at this time.
- 3 Staff and students are required to wear face coverings throughout the programming day, per School Board Policy 808. Staff are strongly encouraged to wear face shields, in addition to masks, when providing direct student contact supports. Neck gaiters are allowable if two-ply, meaning two layers. Bandanas are not allowed.
- 4 The District will follow the Minnesota Department of Health exclusion guidance to determine entry into daily programming and athletics.
- 5 The District works closely with Olmsted County Public Health to determine close contacts and quarantine timelines. This document, Close Contact Defined, will help families understand how students are identified during contact tracing.
- 6 All students and staff will wash/sanitize hands upon arrival, throughout the day as needed, and when leaving the building.
- 7 Students and staff should maintain six feet of physical distance to the extent possible. When six feet is not feasible, a minimum of three feet of physical distance between students must be maintained.
- 8 Classroom teachers will plan for the handling of shared materials and will have appropriate cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer available for use before and after sharing materials.
- 9 A designated isolation space, with appropriate PPE supplies, will be identified and communicated to staff for symptomatic individuals awaiting pick up. Students will wear surgical masks while in the isolation space. Staff will wear surgical masks, face shields, and gowns while monitoring the child in the isolation space. Hand sanitizer available.

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At the elementary schools, breakfast and lunch mealtimes will be held in the classroom if six feet of physical distance between pods is not possible in the cafeteria. At the secondary schools, seating arrangements will be documented daily. At all grade levels, students will not be seated across from each other at tables if possible. Common surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected between each group of students. Open campus is available to 11th and 12th-grade students, only.

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Minnesota Department of Health recommends that all school-age youth returning to sports or extracurricular activities get tested for COVID-19 every week through the remainder of their season. They also recommend students returning to school get tested for COVID-19 every two weeks through the end of the school year.

### **How this works:**

- Students or families order tests through the [Vault-at-Home program](#) (remember tests are no costs to Minnesota residents).
- Students complete their test at home.
- Students seal their sample tube and place it in the biohazard bag. The biohazard bag then gets sealed in the shipping bag that came with the test. The shipping label sticker is attached to the bag.
- Students bring their sealed shipping bag with the shipping label to their school on the school's testing day.
- Rochester Public Schools will accept students' kits on the following schedule:
  - March 17
  - April 7, 14, 28
  - May 12, 26
- Once students receive notice that their sample is being processed at the lab, they can order another Vault-at-Home kit for the next screening day.
- There is no expectation or requirement that students receive a surveillance COVID-19 saliva test.

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Regarding travel, RPS does not currently require quarantine for travel within the U.S.; this includes domestic air travel. RPS follows OCPH guidance for quarantine for international travel, which advises international travelers to get tested 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for 7 days after travel. Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days. If you test positive, stay home and isolate yourself to protect others. If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.

*Parents are encouraged to review the [District's School Year 2020-2021 website](#), which provides more information on COVID-19 health and safety, technology support, community resources, the COVID-19 dashboard, and more.*

Para asistencia en español, por favor marque al 328-4241.

Za pomoć na bosanskom jeziku pozovite 328-4243

”إذا رغبت في الحصول على هذه المعلومات باللغة العربية يرجى الاتصال بقسم الترجمة على الرقم 328-4246”

Haddii aad jeclaan lahayd in aad hesho macluumaadkaan oo ku qoran Soomaali, fadlan la soo xiriir waaxda EL(bartaha ingariiska) 328 4247.