

# **COVID-19**

# **SAFE LEARNING PLAN**

## *Summer 2021*

**FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT 197**  
**STUDENTS AND STAFF**

School District 197 is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for each employee, student, parent, and visitor to our buildings. This Safe Learning Plan identifies and explains the procedures, practices, and protocols to help ensure we have a safe and healthy workplace, and help mitigate transmission of COVID-19 in our school communities.

Guidance was provided by the Minnesota Department of Health - COVID-19 Prevention Guidance for Summer School.

# In this guide...

- \* Self-Screening**
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- \* COVID Testing**
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# SELF SCREENING

## When to stay home and when to return

### Daily Wellness Self-Screen

Every student and staff member is expected to self-monitor for new symptoms of COVID-19 each day before arriving and while at school/work using the MDH Home Screening Tool for COVID-19 Symptoms.

### When to Stay Home from School

Individuals should follow MDH guidelines and stay home from school if they have one or more symptoms of COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status. Detailed guidance can be found on the MDH's *Decision Tree for Symptomatic People*. If a student or staff member develops new symptoms of COVID-19 while at school/work, they should notify their school nurse (and supervisor if a staff member), avoid contact with others, and go home immediately. They are strongly advised to contact their health care provider.

### More Common COVID-19 Symptoms (*one of these*)

- Fever of 100.4°F or greater when taken by mouth
- New uncontrolled cough or a cough that gets worse
- Difficulty/hard time breathing
- New loss of taste or smell

OR

### Less Common COVID-19 Symptoms (*at least two of these*)

- Sore throat
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Extreme fatigue/feeling very tired
- New severe/very bad headache
- New nasal congestion/stuffy or runny nose
- If an individual has traveled, they should follow the Centers for Disease Control guidelines and review the travel restrictions for the state you live in and are visiting.

## **If a Student or Staff Member Tests Positive for COVID-19**

Students/staff members who test positive for COVID-19 must stay home from school/work, notify their school nurse (and supervisor if a staff member), separate themselves from others, and reference the MDH's *What to Do If You Have COVID-19* guide and their physician for additional guidance. School nurses will document the positive case to notify the District COVID Coordinator Sara Lein and the District Health Services Coordinator Stacie O'Leary so that it can be reported to the MDH.

School leaders follow guidance from public health agencies to identify and notify others who had relevant exposure to the individual with a confirmed positive case. Information about the need to quarantine will be shared. The school nurse at each building is the COVID-19 program coordinator. The coordinator receives input and communicates concerns related to COVID-19. They also serve as the point of contact for their site and work collaboratively with district leadership. School nurses are liaisons for communication with/between students/staff members and community resources.

## **When to Return to School/Work**

Students/staff members who have COVID-19, symptoms of the disease, or were exposed to someone with symptoms of COVID-19 should follow the MDH's *Decision Tree for Symptomatic People* to determine when it is safe for them to return to work.

- [Decision Tree for People in Schools, Youth, and Child Care Programs in Hmong](#)
- [Decision Tree for People in Schools, Youth, and Child Care Programs in Somali](#)
- [Decision Tree for People in Schools, Youth, and Child Care Programs in Spanish](#)

## **Quarantine Guidance - MDH Quarantine Guidance for COVID-19**

### ***Who needs to quarantine?***

- People who were within 6 feet of someone contagious with COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more over the course of a day (24 hours)
- People who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19
- People who had direct physical or intimate contact (e.g., kissing, hugging, other types of physical contact) with a person who is sick with COVID-19
- People who provide care for a person who is sick with COVID-19 at home
- People with direct exposure to respiratory droplets from a person contagious with COVID-19
- People who have traveled outside of Minnesota, other than crossing the border for work, study, medical care, or personal safety and security. For more information, see [Protect Yourself and Others: Traveling](#)

### ***Who does not need to quarantine?***

If someone has recovered from COVID-19 in the past 90 days and is exposed again, they do not need to quarantine if ALL of the following are true:

- Their illness was laboratory confirmed in the past 90 days.
- They have fully recovered.
- They do not currently have any symptoms of COVID-19.

If someone has completed COVID-19 vaccination (two doses in a two-dose series or one dose in a one dose series) and is exposed, they do not need to quarantine if ALL of the following are true:

- The COVID-19 exposure was at least 14 days after their vaccination series was fully completed.
- They do not currently have any symptoms of COVID-19.

A shortened quarantine period may be considered if ALL of the following are true:

- The person has NOT had symptoms of COVID-19 during the quarantine period.
- The person does NOT live with someone who has COVID-19.
- The person does NOT live or work in a high-risk setting, including a long-term care or assisted living facility, correctional facility, shelter, or other congregate living facility.
- The person does NOT work in a healthcare facility.

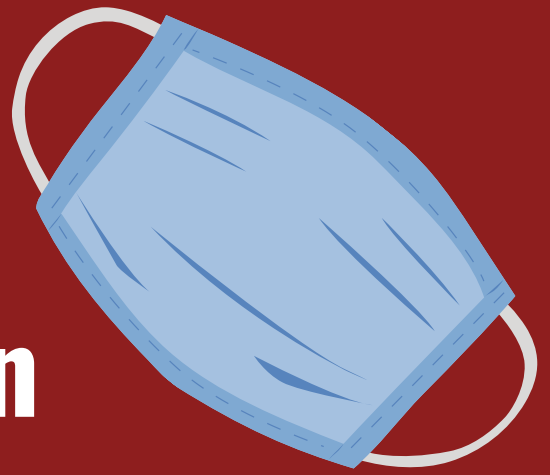
If and only if all of the above conditions are true, quarantine may be shortened to:

- 10 days without testing or
- 7 days with a PCR-negative test (not an antigen test or antibody/blood test) if the test occurred on day five after exposure or later

After stopping quarantine: Wear a mask, stay 6 feet from others, wash hands, and avoid crowds or settings with people who are at risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Watch for symptoms until 14 days after exposure. If any symptoms occur, isolate from others right away and get tested.

- COVID-19 vaccination or proof of vaccination is not a requirement for students or staff. For information about the COVID-19 vaccine, please visit [MDH COVID-19 Vaccinations](#)

# Face Coverings and Other Practices to Minimize Transmission



School District 197 follows the current recommendations from MDH/MDE and Governor Walz regarding face coverings and social distancing protocols for students, staff, and visitors.

## **School Buses**

The CDC has issued an order that requires face masks to be worn by all travelers while on public transportation. All people must wear masks that completely cover both the mouth and nose while awaiting, boarding, disembarking, or traveling on school buses.

## **Face Mask Guidance for Various Groups**

- **Preschool Students and Staff:** Masks required at this time (under Executive Order 21-23 until 70% of the 16+ population is vaccinated or July 1, whichever arrives first)
- **School-Age Care Children and Staff:** Masks required at this time (under Executive Order 21-23 until 70% of the 16+ population is vaccinated or July 1, whichever arrives first)
- **Elementary, Middle School, and High School Summer Programming:** Recommended for those who are unvaccinated

Visitors to School District 197 buildings will be required to wear a face covering when visiting the Early Learning Center and School-Age Care. Masks are recommended for those who are unvaccinated when visiting summer programming at the elementary, middle school, or high level. Paper masks will be available at the front desk.

# COVID TESTING

There are many COVID-19 testing options and each one is available at no cost. There are [COVID-19 community testing sites](#) across Minnesota, in addition to local hospitals and clinics. Appointments can be made ahead of time or simply by walking in. The [COVID-19 test at-home program](#) is also available to have a test mailed to you.

COVID testing is voluntary and available at school sites every two weeks for staff that are not vaccinated. Test kits are provided in the school health office on the designated dates. High School students may also access a test at home kit from the health office every two weeks.

# Cleaning, Disinfecting & Hygiene Practices

Routine environmental cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surfaces in classrooms and common spaces occur on a daily basis. Additional environmental cleaning occurs when students and teachers are not occupying the space. All students and staff have access to appropriate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors (e.g., soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, disinfectant wipes, and tissues) and these items are strategically placed in areas where they will be frequently used. Routines for hand hygiene are built into the daily school schedule for all students and staff, including handwashing and sanitation breaks during or between classroom activities. Handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or the safe use of hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol by staff and older students is expected.

Custodial employees will clean and disinfect the following frequently touched surfaces and objects at least daily (or more, depending on use patterns):

- Door knobs and handles
- Handrails
- Classroom desks, tables and chairs
- Lunchroom tables and chairs
- Countertops
- Light switches
- Handles on equipment
- Push-buttons on vending machines and elevators

All staff members are expected to clean and disinfect surfaces and touch points, both personal and shared (e.g., keyboards, telephones, copiers). Employees will be expected to complete [Online Training](#) > Procedures & Resources > COVID-19 Staff Training on Industrial Strength Cleaning and Disinfection Products.



Teachers/paraprofessionals are expected to disinfect surfaces and touch points based on student usage. You can protect yourself and others from COVID-19 by washing your hands and cleaning/disinfecting frequently used objects (shared manipulatives and classroom supplies).

Transportation employees will clean and disinfect the buses regularly with a focus on high-touch student surfaces and objects such as bus handrails, seats, and windows. In addition, transportation personnel will disinfect each used bus or vehicle with an electrostatic sprayer at least once each day.

### **Technology (Computers and iPads)**

Each student has their own device (district-issued iPad, computer or their personally owned BYOD device) and charger. In the event that a student needs to borrow a classroom device or charger, or staff member needs to assist a student with their device or charger, the following options may be used to clean and disinfect the device prior to and after the staff member handles the device or charger. Staff should also clean shared devices such as laptop carts and labs after every use.

1. Phenomenal #9 can be used to clean technology devices by spraying Phenomenal #9 on to a microfiber or soft linen cloth before wiping the device, never spray any liquid directly on a device.
2. Bleach free disinfecting wipes (Clorox or Lysol). Wring out any excess water from the wipe prior to using it on a device.
3. A solution of at least 70% alcohol is also acceptable for cleaning technology devices by spraying the solution on to a microfiber or soft linen cloth before wiping the device, never spray any liquid directly on a device.

Building systems were assessed and sanitized prior to reopening, and are regularly evaluated to ensure proper ventilation and healthy indoor air quality that meets OSHA standards.

# COMMUNICATIONS, TRAINING & SUPERVISION PROTOCOLS

This COVID-19 Safe Learning Plan for School District 197 Students and Staff Summer 2021 was communicated via all-staff email and posted to the School District 197 staff hub on June 10, 2021. All students and staff members are expected to comply with and follow the established guidelines and protocols in this plan for the health and safety of our community. Site leaders and supervisors are expected to ensure compliance with these provisions and support employees as needed. District-approved visual reminders of COVID protocols will be posted at entrances, in halls, and in bathrooms of all buildings. Ongoing training is provided for all staff regarding health and safety precautions in relation to COVID-19. Updated information and new recommendations provided by state and federal agencies will be shared via email and on our district intranet.

## More Information

School District 197 will continue to monitor and update this guidance based on new information from the CDC, Minnesota Department of Education, and Minnesota Department of Health.

If you have further questions, contact a member of the Cabinet:

- Superintendent Peter Olson-Skog [peter.olsonskog@isd197.org](mailto:peter.olsonskog@isd197.org)
- Assistant Superintendent Peter Mau [peter.mau@isd197.org](mailto:peter.mau@isd197.org)
- Director of Communications Carrie Ardito [carrie.ardito@isd197.org](mailto:carrie.ardito@isd197.org)
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