

COVID-19 Preparedness Plan for Osseo Area Schools

Osseo Area Schools is committed to providing a safe and healthy learning environment for all our students, staff, community and visitors. To ensure we have a safe and healthy learning space, **Osseo Area Schools** has developed the following COVID-19 Preparedness Plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. All staff are responsible for implementing this plan. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19 in our schools and communities and that requires full cooperation among our workers and management.

Osseo Area Schools' COVID-19 Preparedness Plan follows the guidance developed by the state of Minnesota, available at the Minnesota Department of Health.

Each district location has its own COVID-19 Preparedness plan that includes site specific information and is administered by the building COVID 19 Coordinator.

Ensure sick workers and students stay home and prompt identification and isolation of sick persons

Staff, families and students will be informed of and encouraged to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19, in accordance with MDH guidelines. Prior to reporting to buildings, we request all parents/caregivers and staff perform a [daily health screening](#).

The building COVID Coordinator will be responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns and will help coordinate with the district COVID team for positive COVID-19 cases, symptomatic and close contact cases. School staff and families should know who the building COVID Coordinator is and how to contact them.

If students or staff develop symptoms during the day, and they need to wait in the building for transportation, they will use the identified isolation room at the site until such time as transportation can be arranged.

The district follows MDH guidance to ensure that sick or COVID-19 positive staff and students isolate until they are no longer infectious. Families should report to the building COVID Coordinator if their student tests positive and staff should also report this to their building COVID Coordinator if they become positive.

People who test positive for COVID-19 should stay home until all three of these things are true:

- Their symptoms have improved; and,
- It has been 10 days since symptoms first began or they tested positive; and,
- They have had no fever for at least 24 hours, without using fever reducing medications.

Anyone that is considered a close contact of a school COVID positive exposure will be notified of the exposure but will not be required to quarantine as long as they are symptom free.

Creating and maintaining safe spaces

One of the mitigation strategies for COVID 19 is social distancing; we will strive to create social distancing where possible by implementing the following:

- Wherever possible, activities will be held outdoors.
- Staff should maintain 6 feet of distancing between each other and should distance 6 feet from students whenever possible
 - Create classrooms to ensure staff have a space to work that is 6 feet from students
- Sites need to space students as far apart as possible, recommended at least 3 feet apart and ideally 6 feet apart
 - Desks and furniture will be arranged to maximize space between students and it is recommended to have all students facing the same direction.
- Classes are encouraged to create and use seating charts

Meals

To ensure the health and safety of staff and students during meal times staff and students should wash hands or utilize hand sanitizer prior to entering the food service line.

Worker hygiene and source controls

Basic infection prevention measures are being implemented at our sites at all times. Staff and students are encouraged to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water frequently throughout the day, but especially at the beginning and end of the program, prior to any mealtimes and after using the restroom.

Staff, students, and visitors are recommended to wear an acceptable face covering while inside a district site, regardless of vaccination status. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) requires face coverings for all public transportation. This requirement currently applies to all occupants of school bus and district transportation for students. This means everyone must wear a face covering for all situations (to and from school, field trips, athletics buses, etc.) in which they are boarding a school bus or other district transportation.

Staff and students are being instructed to cover their mouth and nose with their sleeve or a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and to avoid touching their face, particularly their mouth, nose and eyes, with their hands.

School sites and ventilation protocol

The district is following MDH guidelines around heating/cooling equipment. We will be extending start/stop times to ensure more air is brought into the space both before and after programming. During the day we will increase fresh air being brought into the space whenever possible.

Best Practice Recommendations for COVID 19 Prevention in Schools for the 2021-22 School Year

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/schoolrecs.pdf>

School sites cleaning and disinfection protocol

Due to COVID 19, all staff need to assist in cleaning their classrooms and offices to ensure a safe learning environment for our students. Only the district provided cleaning chemicals and disinfectants should be used. Do not bring in your own household chemicals with the exception of Lysol/Clorox wipes. District staff will receive **Ecolab Smart Power Sink & Surface Cleaner** and paper towels from building custodians as needed to clean frequently touched surfaces and objects in classrooms and offices such as:

- Classroom desks, tables, chairs, countertops, sink faucet handles, etc.
- Light switches and electronic devices including monitors, computers, keyboards, mice, etc. **(spray product onto towel, not on surface).**
- Athletic equipment, shared toys, etc.

Staff should refer to the [district COVID-19 General Cleaning Guide](#) for further information.

Communications and training practices and protocol

Site COVID-19 Preparedness Plans are communicated to all workers and necessary training is provided. All staff are required to complete the district's online 2021/2022 school year COVID awareness training.

Plan Certified by:

David Moredock, CPP

08/06/2021

Coordinator of Risk Management

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Appendix A – Guidance for developing a COVID-19 Preparedness Plan