



School District of Arcadia

Back-to-School Plan

Fall 2021

From Safer-at-Home to Now

On March 13, 2020 Wisconsin Schools were closed “indefinitely” due to the COVID-19 pandemic. School facilities in Wisconsin remained ordered closed until June 30, 2020. In the fall of 2020, several school districts in the state reopened their facilities while others continued to use a virtual learning environment. The School District of Arcadia reopened facilities with full, PK-12 in-person instruction while also offering a parent elected remote option. Many other school districts in Trempealeau County reopened facilities with similar educational options and others employed some type of modified schedules. Wisconsin schools, including the School District of Arcadia, that reopened facilities complied with the state and local mask mandates and implemented several other safety measures.

Fall Attendance Plan

The School District of Arcadia will be holding in-person instruction for PK-12 students five days per week. The School District will not be offering a parent elected remote option for the 2021-2022 school year. If conditions warrant, there could be modifications to the in-person learning and parent elected remote learning options. Any changes that would need to occur will be based on health orders from national, state, and local health professionals, but will be made locally based on the needs of students, staff, families, and the community.

Masks

Mask or other face-coverings for students and staff are optional. Current guidance and recommendations suggest that unvaccinated individuals should wear masks. The wearing of masks will remain optional unless a public emergency health order is put in place that would require the school district to comply.

At the current time, masks are required on school bus transportation per the Transportation Security Administration’s (TSA) definition that school busses and vans are public transportation. When this order is changed or lifted we will inform parents/guardians and students of the change.

Health and Safety Measures

In order to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the following health and safety measures will be put in place across the district

- Access to hand-sanitizing and hand-washing
- Continued cleaning and disinfecting measures
- Posted instructions for hand-washing and respiratory etiquette
- Instruction for at-home screening for symptoms
- Access to masks
- Implement physical distancing to the extent possible
- Continued ventilation
- Masking on buses

At-Home Screening for Symptoms

Staff and students are expected to self monitor for any COVID-like symptoms prior to coming to school. Staff and students should stay home and contact their health care provider if they are experiencing any of the following symptoms that cannot be explained by other causes (such as seasonal allergies).

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Fatigue
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

Exclusion from School Staff or Students with Symptoms

Staff and students exhibiting COVID-like symptoms at school will be assessed by school health personnel and may be sent home. School health personnel may recommend that staff or students seek testing before returning to school.

Close Contacts

A person is considered a close contact when they (1) had direct physical contact (e.g., hug, kiss, handshake) with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19; (2) were within 3 feet of the person for more than 15 minutes; or (3) had contact with the person's respiratory secretions.

Any student or staff member who is determined to be a close contact of a COVID-19 positive person will be notified by school health personnel of the exposure and advised of current district health recommendations.

Quarantine

At this time, the district is not requiring close contacts to quarantine. However, school health personnel may recommend a quarantine time frame based upon risk assessment following consultation with staff, students and families.

Communication about Vaccination

As a service to our families, the School District of Arcadia will provide communication about vaccination as information becomes available. Vaccination is a personal choice. The communication is for information purposes and is not intended to promote or discourage vaccination. If you are interested in learning more about how to access a COVID vaccine, please visit the Trempealeau County Health Department information page at https://co.trempealeau.wi.us/departments/health_department/index.php.

Ongoing Back-to-School Plan Review

This plan has been created based on the current understanding about COVID and the health of our community at this point in time. As the health conditions of our community evolve, we will continue to review our plan on a frequent basis. As adjustments need to be made, we will communicate with our families as quickly as we are able.

Ongoing Communication

Additional district and school-specific information will continue to be shared throughout the school year.

We will use our website to update information as needed: www.arcadia.k12.wi.us

Thank You

Our community is so much healthier than it was a year ago at this time. We appreciate the opportunity to work together to ensure that we keep our schools healthy and safe! Thank you for your partnership and support.