



Davis School District

LEARNING FIRST



Let's Stay Healthy Together

District plan as schools continue to educate students during the
COVID-19 pandemic

August 2021

Preface

The following pages will provide you details regarding the Davis School District’s “Big Five” approach to operating schools while COVID-19 exists in the community. Those five aspects are: Stay Home When Sick, Hygiene Etiquette, Physical Distancing, Clean & Disinfect and Face Coverings.

Please be aware there is no such thing as a “COVID-free zone” in our classrooms or schools. The more people congregate in society — no matter where that takes place — the more opportunity there is for the virus to spread. COVID-19 exists everywhere and, at this point in time, a vaccine is not available for our students under age 12.

That being said, representatives from the Davis School District and the Davis County Health Department have been meeting on a regular basis since February, 2020. The information that follows will provide the best measures to not only prevent the spread of the virus, but also give us an opportunity to provide the best education we can for all students.

In a related note, the school district will continue to share information with you and also utilize its webpage as a way to provide additional information if changes occur. That web page is davis.k12.ut.us.

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Stay Home When Sick

Don't hesitate to stay home

If you feel sick, stay home, except to get medical care.

Students and staff are asked to stay home from school if they have any of the following COVID-19 symptoms:

- **Shortness of breath, sore throat or persistent cough**
- **Temperature higher than 100.4 degrees**
- **Congestion or runny nose**
- **Vomiting or diarrhea**
- **New loss of taste or smell**



Students should also stay home from school **if they are experiencing other illness symptoms** such as severe or long-lasting abdominal pain, rash with fever, strep throat, head lice before first treatment or any other illness that prevents a student from participating comfortably in school activities.

Staff and parents of students are encouraged to notify school officials of any COVID-19 symptoms, positive tests for COVID-19, exposure to someone with COVID-19 symptoms or a confirmed or suspected case. Staff and students who are sick or who have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 should follow quarantine protocols.

Health rooms

Students or staff who are symptomatic should not come to school. If a student begins exhibiting symptoms after arriving at school, they will wait in the health room and maintain physical distancing while arrangements are made for them to be picked up by a parent or emergency contact as soon as possible. Parents and guardians need to make sure their emergency contact list is up to date.

Monitor symptoms

Staff will be encouraged to safely and respectfully monitor any observable symptoms in students, such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath. Staff will observe all applicable privacy laws and regulations in doing so. Additionally, schools will remind parents and students to self-check for symptoms, especially if exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual has taken place.





Hygiene Etiquette

Handwashing

Proper hand-washing techniques include lathering hands with soap, scrubbing between fingers, washing the backside of each hand, scrubbing each wrist, washing underneath fingernails and rinsing with water. The process should take 20 seconds.

Elementary schools will provide frequent opportunities for students to wash hands, including before and after recess, lunch and other activities.

Hand sanitizing

If soap and water are not readily available in some classrooms, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol will be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).



Elementary students will also sanitize their hands every time they enter and exit the classroom. Staff in secondary schools will encourage students to sanitize hands each time they enter and exit a classroom and frequently throughout the day.

Students will be instructed to cover all surfaces of their hands with sanitizer and rub them together until their hands feel dry.

Each school will have free-standing hand sanitizing stations positioned throughout the school in high traffic areas, including the main office, library, counseling center, cafeteria and gym. Hand sanitizing stations also will be used at the entrances of extracurricular events.

Respiratory etiquette

Staff, students and school visitors will continue to be encouraged to exercise proper respiratory etiquette, which includes covering 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.



Physical Distancing

One of the ways to curb the spread of COVID-19 is to physically distance from one another. The rule of thumb is to maintain 3 feet of distance between individuals. If that distance is maintained, the virus is less likely to be passed from one person to another.

Of course, physical distancing is challenging in a school where classroom walls cannot be moved.



Lunch service

Students will be distanced as much as possible. In elementary schools, lunch will be scheduled by grade level, if possible, with tables sanitized between each seating. In secondary schools, tables will be spaced.

Layout modifications

Teachers may also put forth efforts to distance students from one another. They may be able to distance desks farther apart than normal. Those with larger class sizes may not be able to do that. Teachers may choose to have students face the same direction rather than facing one another and remove reading corners, etc. to optimize space.

In elementary schools, students will wash their hands before attending classes held in common spaces — InfiniD labs, computer labs, art and music — and be given a disinfecting wipe to clean all surfaces at their station before beginning the lesson. Library visits also will be scheduled.



Clean & Disinfect

Cleaning schedule

The district will continue its multi-step cleaning protocol in all schools, including daily disinfection of touchpoints — drinking fountains, handrails, door handles, sinks, toilets, partition walls and locks. Other daily disinfection will include bathroom floors, student desks and chairs, locker handles and computer mice and keyboards. If there is a concern of possible contamination, buildings will be electrostatically sprayed using a powerful hypochlorous acid that kills COVID-19 and other viruses.

Lunchroom tables will be disinfected by lunchroom monitors, custodians and nutrition staff between each lunch group. Playground equipment will be disinfected twice a day; once after morning recess and again after lunchtime recess. High touchpoints on school buses, such as the backs of seats and handrails, will be wiped down and sprayed with disinfectant after each riding group. Bathrooms will be cleaned while class is in session.

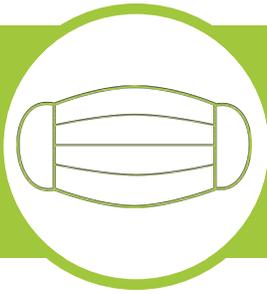


Shared objects

Students will have assigned classroom seating and will sanitize their own space upon arrival with a cleaner. Students will clean all shared hard surfaces such as desks, computers or other equipment when entering and exiting the classroom. Elementary students will be given a disinfecting wipe to clean all shared supplies in STEM, music and art activity spaces.

Air handling & filters

The Davis School District Utility Services Department implemented guidelines to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, which includes increasing outside airflow throughout buildings, moving to a higher efficiency filtration level in HVAC equipment and running HVAC equipment two hours before and after building occupancy.



Face Coverings

Face coverings encouraged

Wearing a face mask to protect oneself and others from COVID-19 is strongly encouraged. Staff, students and volunteers can choose to wear a face mask throughout the day. Schools have face masks available for those who would like to wear a mask and do not have one with them.

No face mask mandate

House Bill 294 eliminated all mask mandates established during the 2020-21 school year. House Bill 1007 also states face masks cannot be mandated. This means no educational entity can require K-12 students to wear masks.

Transportation

While there is no mandate to wear face coverings in the Davis School District, there may be times when a bus route requires masks to be worn. For instance, anyone transported on Hill Air Force Base (HAFB) is required to wear a face mask.



Also, depending on the destination of particular field trips — such as Starbase on HAFB — those transported may be required to wear face masks at the place they are visiting. Schools will inform parents beforehand when those situations arise. If parents do not want their children to wear masks, those students will remain at school.

Isolation & Quarantine

Definitions to understand

Isolation: Separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.

Quarantine: Separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.



Verified positive COVID-19 cases

Any student or staff member who has a verified positive COVID-19 diagnosis — through the Davis County Health Department — will not be allowed to attend school. They will be placed in isolation for 10 days and must be symptom-free before returning to school.

Quarantine recommendations after a school exposure

If you are exposed to someone at school who tests positive for COVID-19, you can continue to come to school if:

- You are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 (2 weeks after your final dose), or
- You and the person who tested positive were both wearing masks, or
- You have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days, or
- You were wearing a N95 or KN95 mask, even if the person who tested positive was not wearing a mask.

Standard Quarantine Protocol

For anyone who does not meet the criteria outlined in the bulleted items above, the standard protocol after an exposure is to quarantine. Quarantine at home if you are exposed to COVID-19 and are not fully vaccinated. We consider anyone who was within 3 feet of an individual with COVID-19 for at least 15 minutes to be exposed. You should not go to school, work, church, group gatherings, or extracurricular activities. Isolate and get tested if you get symptoms of COVID-19 after you were exposed, even if you are fully vaccinated or recently had COVID.

Quarantine cont.



Under the standard quarantine protocol, you can end quarantine and return to school:

- On day 10 without testing. You can end quarantine 10 days after the last time you had close contact with the person who tested positive if you don't have symptoms of COVID-19.
- On day 7 with a negative test result. You must wait at least 7 days after your exposure to be tested. You can end quarantine if your test is negative, and you do not have any symptoms of COVID-19.

Although you can end quarantine after day 10 if you don't have symptoms or after day 7 if you test negative, you still need to take safety precautions and watch for symptoms for 14 days after you were exposed. Those symptoms include a fever of 100.4 F, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, decreased sense of smell or taste or muscle aches and pains.

Because there is no mask mandate allowed, those returning from quarantine will not be required to wear a mask. However, wearing a face mask to protect oneself and others from COVID-19 is strongly encouraged.

Teachers will work with students who are quarantined or isolated at home. Many of the materials will be accessible digitally through Canvas. In the event that a student is sick and cannot receive in-person instruction, a teacher's first priority will be to the students in class. After meeting those needs, the teacher will work with students who are not in class to help keep them up to speed with their classmates.

Test to Stay

Keeping schools open

According to HB 1007 passed during the 2021 Utah Special legislative session, if a school hits a COVID-19 outbreak threshold of 2 percent of students and staff for a school of more than 1,500 or 30 students and staff for a school of 1,500 or less, the school will conduct a Test to Stay event and test students and staff for the virus.

The following protocols will be adhered to:

- Parents must give their approval for their child to be tested.
- Those who test positive will return home and be placed in isolation.
- Those who test negative may return to school.
- Students not tested will not be allowed to attend school and will be placed in quarantine for 10 days. However, the student can return to school if they receive a negative COVID-19 test.



Secondary schools

- Prior approval will be sought from parents for their permission to test their child during the school day.
- School nurses will conduct the testing during school.

Elementary schools

- Prior approval will be sought from parents for their permission to test their child in their presence or test their child without them being present.
- School nurses will conduct the testing before, during and after school.

Vaccinations

Vaccinations not mandated

Vaccination for COVID-19 is strongly recommended as the primary mitigation strategy. The Davis School District encourages vaccinations, but also recognizes individual choice. Currently the vaccine is only offered to those 12 years of age and older.



As vaccinations become available for students under the age of 12, the school district and health department will offer vaccination clinics in area school buildings. Again, the district recognizes individual choice. Vaccinations will not be given without parental approval.

If someone chooses to be vaccinated, they are considered fully immune or protected from the virus 2 weeks after their final dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

- Two-dose vaccines: 2 weeks after the 2nd shot (both shots are needed to be fully protected).
- One-dose vaccines: 2 weeks after shot (only one shot is needed to be fully protected).

This means if someone is exposed to an individual who tests positive for COVID-19, they don't have to quarantine if it has been 2 weeks since their final shot.

Individuals do NOT need to wait 90-days after testing positive to get vaccinated. People can get vaccinated as soon as they are no longer in isolation or quarantine and don't have any symptoms of COVID-19.

Legislation



There are several state laws that will impact how the Davis School District and Davis County Health Department respond to COVID-19 during the upcoming school year. A brief summary of these laws is provided below. There may be other local, state, or federal laws and regulations that impact schools during the pandemic.

First General Session 2021 [Senate Bill 107](#) Requirement for in-person instruction – Test to Stay Program

- All schools in Utah are required to have at least 4 days of in-person instruction per week.
- Test to Stay is required in K-12 schools. Testing events should be done in coordination with the local health department and are required to take place when a certain number of students test positive for COVID-19 in a 14-day window. Schools can request assistance from the Utah Department of Health for Test to Stay events.

[U.C.A. 53G-9-210 \(3\)](#) Requirement for in-person instruction.

First General Session 2021 [Senate Bill 195](#) Emergency Response

- The Governor and Utah Department of Health must provide 24-hour notice to the Legislature before declaring a Public Health Emergency or issuing an Order of Constraint. An example of an Order of Constraint includes requiring masks to be worn by all students in schools.
- A local health department must provide 24-hour notice to their county elected officials before declaring a Public Health Emergency or issuing an Order of Constraint.
- The Legislature or elected county officials may overturn a Public Health Emergency or Order of Constraint at any time.

Legislation cont.

- There is a 30-day maximum time limit on an initial Public Health Emergency or Order of Constraint. The Legislature or elected county officials must be provided 10-days notice if the Department of Health or local health department requests an extension of a Public Health Emergency or Order of Constraint.
- All new Public Health Emergencies and Orders of Constraint must follow the requirements of Senate Bill 195.

[U.C.A. Title 26 Chapter 23b](#) Detection of Public Health Emergencies Act.

First Special Session 2021 [House Bill 1007](#) Face Covering Requirements

- Does not allow a local education agency (LEA), an LEA governing board, the state board, the state superintendent, or a school to require face masks to attend or participate in in-person instruction, LEA-sponsored athletics, LEA-sponsored extracurricular activities, or to be in any other place on the campus of a school or school facility.
- Does allow for a private school to require face masks.
- Does not allow an institution of higher education (like a college or university) to require a face covering to participate in or attend instruction, activities, or to be in any other place on the campus, except for a medical setting at an institution of higher education.

[U.C.A. 53G-9-210 \(5\)](#) Face Coverings.

First General Session [House Bill 308](#) Covid-19 Vaccine Amendments

- A governmental entity can't require a person to get a COVID-19 vaccine that was authorized for use under Emergency Use Authorization as a condition of employment, or to participate or attend an activity of the governmental entity.
- This restriction would not apply to a COVID-19 vaccine that receives full authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
- Employees who work in a public health or medical setting can be required to receive COVID-19 vaccines authorized for use under Emergency Use Authorization.

[U.C.A. Title 26 Chapter 68](#) Covid-19 Vaccine Restrictions Act.

First Special Session [Senate Bill 1001](#) Appropriations Adjustments

- Does not allow funding appropriated by the Legislature to be used for financial incentives, awards, drawings or prizes, or any similar incentive to anyone for receiving a vaccination.

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Special thanks to:

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Updates to this plan will be available at
davis.k12.ut.us