



710 17th St. SW, Faribault, MN 55021

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Faribault Public Schools 2021-22 COVID-19 Protocols

This document outlines Faribault Public Schools' current COVID-19 protocols. They are subject to change based on the evolving public health situation. Families will be immediately notified of changes to COVID-19 protocols. Statewide and/or federal protocols may supersede certain district protocols. (Document updated Sept. 20, 2021)

Vaccination

Vaccination for those 12 and older is the best tool we have to fight COVID-19. All three of the available vaccines are safe, free and highly effective. The vaccines have gone through the same safety steps and studies as the other vaccines our children routinely get. While a fully vaccinated person may be able to pass the disease to others, the health experts we've consulted with tell us a vaccinated person is much less likely to become infected, and if they do, their illness is less likely to be severe.

Face Coverings

For K-12 students, adult education students, staff, visitors and volunteers, the Center for Disease Control transmission matrix will be referred to for determining when masks are strongly recommended or required based on the Rice County seven-day case rate per 100,000 residents. (Effective Sept. 22)

Masks will be strongly recommended indoors for everyone age 5 and older if transmission of COVID-19 in Rice County is Low (0-9 cases per 100,000 residents) or Moderate (10-49 cases per 100,000).

Masks will be required indoors for everyone age 5 and older, regardless of vaccination status, if transmission of COVID-19 is Substantial (50-99 cases per 100,000) or High (greater than or equal to 100 cases per 100,000)

Shifting between strongly recommended or required masking will be made after case rates remain within a category for at least seven consecutive days.



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The following face coverings are acceptable: paper or disposable mask, cloth face mask, scarf, neck gaiter, bandana, religious face covering, and medical-grade masks and respirators.

Physical Distancing

Staff will take reasonable steps to provide spacing between students whenever possible.

Self-screening

Students and staff are expected to [self-screen](#) for COVID-19 symptoms daily before coming to school. Those experiencing any symptoms should follow the [COVID-19 Decision Tree](#) to determine if they should attend school.

Cleaning and Hygiene

Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of classrooms and common areas will continue. Healthy hygiene behaviors, such as regular hand washing, are strongly recommended.

Handling suspected or confirmed cases

The district health and safety manager will report cases of COVID-19 to the Minnesota Department of Health. Staff and families should self-report to the school if they or their student have symptoms of COVID-19, test positive for COVID-19, or recently had close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19

Isolation

Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 must isolate themselves by staying home from school until all three of the following are true: 1. They are asymptomatic, 2. It has been 10 days since they first felt sick or tested positive, and 3. They have had no fever for at least 24 hours, without using fever-reducing medicine.

Students or staff with a member of their household who tested positive for COVID-19 should follow the [COVID-19 Decision Tree](#) to determine if the individual needs to quarantine. Students displaying at least one common symptom or two less common symptoms should also follow the [COVID-19 Decision Tree](#). Families should contact their school nurse if they have any questions.



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Families will be notified weekly of COVID-19 cases by building. Quarantine for close contact with someone at school who tested positive for COVID-19 is no longer required. The Minnesota Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control recommend that all close contacts, vaccinated and unvaccinated, get tested for COVID-19 3-5 days after exposure.

Transportation

Face coverings are required to be worn by all staff and students riding in school buses and other vehicles as part of instructional programming (e.g. to and from school, field trips, educational outings), and co-curricular activities (e.g. after-school sports and other activities, high school athletics, etc.) per the CDC's federal order.

Visitors and volunteers

Visitors and volunteers are welcome. All sites and programs will keep a roster of visitors and volunteers (name, contact information, date, time, program, site, etc) as practicable.