

D20 COVID-19 Mitigations Update

**Board of Education Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 24, 2022**

Layered Mitigation Strategies

- *District 20's consistent goal has been to maintain a safe learning environment for our students and staff so that we can provide in-person learning for all.*
- **An adaptable plan with layered mitigation strategies** was implemented to help reduce transmission of COVID-19 in our schools.
- **Monitored and considered several indicators** when deciding whether to decrease or increase mitigation measures, including:
 - Number of cases in students and staff within our schools
 - Community transmission levels and hospital availability
 - Vaccination availability and rates
 - Accessibility of testing – diagnostic and screening
 - Trends or outbreaks in our schools and community

Updated Mitigation Measures

Effective Tuesday, 2/22/2022

- ✓ **Enhanced Hygiene & Cleaning** – will continue to be practiced
- ✓ **Physical Distancing** – 3 feet as much as possible
- ✓ **Positive Cases**
 - Stay home for 5 calendar days (from onset of symptoms or test date) and may return on day 6, if symptoms have improved and no fever or vomiting/diarrhea in 24 hours
 - Masking on days 6-10 is recommended, but not required, when student returns to school
 - Asymptomatic “close contacts” (including siblings/household members) may remain in school
- ✓ **Symptomatic Cases**
 - Stay home and may return to school if symptoms have improved and no fever or vomiting/diarrhea in 24 hours, when one of the following is met:
 - 1) Negative COVID-19 test result (RT-PCR, NAAT, or Rapid Tests are acceptable) **OR**
 - 2) Healthcare provider note stating that symptoms are the result of an alternative diagnosis, and the student is cleared to return to school **OR**
 - 3) Stay home for 5 calendar days (from onset of symptoms) and may return on day 6
 - Masking on days 6-10 is recommended, but not required, when student returns to school
- ✓ **Required Masking on Buses** – required due to federal requirement

Optional Mitigation Measures

- ✓ **Optional Masking** – masks are recommended, but not required, for all students, staff and visitors when at school
- ✓ **COVID-19 Testing** – free, optional diagnostic and weekly screening available at school for all staff and students
 - Weekly testing for unvaccinated staff is optional
 - Visitors/Volunteers are no longer required to undergo COVID-19 testing
- ✓ **Vaccination** – recommended as the leading public health prevention strategy
 - Vaccination for staff is optional
 - Visitors/Volunteers in school are no longer required to show proof of vaccination

Next Steps

- District 20 asks all families and staff to please **respect one another's mask choices** and to treat each other with kindness. We teach our students to be kind and respectfully requests everyone to lead by example. Teachers will reinforce this message with students in their classrooms.
- Students will **not be segregated or separated** by mask choice or use, or by any other status that could cause division.
- We will continue to **monitor COVID-19 metrics and information** and will inform staff and families as early as possible in the event that we need to increase mitigation efforts.

Questions?

