



West Chester Area School District Health and Safety Plan - May 23, 2022

GENERAL UPDATES TO HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN

- Starting Monday, May 23, 2022, the West Chester Area School District will be recommending, but not requiring, masks until further notice. Separately regulated federal or state programs may be subject to different or additional requirements.
- If necessary in the future, based upon consultation with the Chester County Health Department (CCHD) and in consideration of guidance or orders from health authorities, the West Chester Area School District, by and through the Superintendent, reserves the right and authority to implement any additional health and safety requirements should transmission levels within a specific program or building necessitate this mitigation effort.

MODIFYING FACILITIES TO ALLOW FOR PHYSICAL DISTANCING (E.G., USE OF COHORTS/PODDING)

- School buildings and offices will allow for full occupancy with 3 feet or greater being the social distancing expectations, where practicable.
- We will consider the guidance from our local and state health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) should conditions necessitate implementing greater social distance mitigation strategies.
- For cafeteria settings, we will maximize distancing to the greatest extent practicable if transmission levels increase and necessitate this practice.

HANDWASHING AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

- Best practice encourages hand washing prior to and after meals and snacks, after using the bathroom, and after blowing nose, coughing or sneezing. Our schools will encourage our students and staff to follow these best practices.
- Our schools will have available hand sanitizer in classrooms, public areas, and other strategic locations.
- Our schools will post signs in buildings reminding students, staff, and visitors of proper respiratory etiquette.

CLEANING AND MAINTAINING HEALTHY FACILITIES, INCLUDING IMPROVING VENTILATION

- There will be routine and daily cleaning of our school buildings with attention to high traffic and high touch areas.
- Our school buildings will ensure that ventilation systems operate properly.



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COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

- Our schools will report all confirmed cases of COVID-19 as may be required to the health department.
- We will support and implement public health guidance on isolation and quarantines.
- Additional consultation provided by CDC, Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH), and CCHD will be considered throughout the implementation of this plan.
- We will consult with the health department on specific cases or issues as needed.
- The Superintendent may direct that health guidance or recommendations from federal, state and local health authorities be implemented to minimize the transmission of communicable diseases in district buildings and programs.

DIAGNOSTIC AND SCREENING TESTING

- We will follow our Immunizations and Communicable Diseases Policy #203 for guidance on communicable diseases.
- We will maintain adequate personal protective equipment for use when individuals become ill.
- We will require staff to self-screen prior to reporting to work, programs, and schools and stay at home if experiencing any symptoms associated with COVID-19.
- Parents and guardians are required to self-screen their child prior to reporting to school or programs and keep their child home if experiencing any symptoms.
- Staff and students who are ill must stay home from work, programs, and schools.
- Staff and students shall be sent home if they become ill at work, school, program or service.
- Students and staff shall report immediately to their immediate supervisor/school nurse if they are COVID-19 positive. These individuals will be provided guidance whether to isolate or quarantine as per guidelines of the CDC or CCHD.

EFFORTS TO PROVIDE VACCINATIONS TO SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

- Our schools will provide information to staff and families on vaccine clinics and/or how to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WITH RESPECT TO HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICIES

- Individual accommodations related to health and safety will be included in documents as deemed necessary by the IEP and 504 teams.