East Fairview School Health & Safety Quick Guide

At East Fairview School, we believe that it is critically important for all our students to attend school in person as much as possible. It is our intent to use the Governor's statewide color-coded risk level to advise practices in our school district. It should be noted that we may be anywhere from Level I to Level IV depending on many factors, despite the color the state is in. Our educational delivery methods are **separate from** the statewide risk level, but it will be used as a guide to make local decisions.

Risk/ Activity	Critical	High	Moderate	Low	New Normal
Level	IV	III	II	I	I
School	Fully Online	Online; cohorts or groups may be allowed, in-person and online instruction	Mostly in person; high health risk, family choice, or quarantine individuals learning online	School as normal with additional safety routines	School as normal with additional safety routines
Cleaning	Minimal: building empty	Routine cleaning with extra disinfection of high touch/use areas.	Routine cleaning with extra disinfection of high touch/use areas.	Normal cleaning routine with additional disinfection procedures	Normal cleaning routine with additional disinfection procedures

General Guidelines:

- Encourage good hygiene (handwashing with soap, coughing and sneezing into the elbow)
- Students not feeling well should not enter the school
- Keep each student's belongings separated
- Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high touch materials to the extent possible (art supplies, equipment, balls, weights, etc. assigned to a single student) or limit use of supplies and equipment by one group of students at a time and clean and disinfect between uses
- Rooms/areas used will be frequently sanitized
- Avoid sharing food or drink among students

American Academy of Pediatrics:

School is fundamental to child and adolescent development and well-being and provides our children and adolescents with academic instruction, social and emotional skills, safety, reliable nutrition, physical/speech and mental health therapy, and opportunities for physical activity, among other benefits. These guidelines are provided acknowledging that our understanding of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic is changing rapidly.

East Fairview School will consider the following key principles:

- School policies must be **flexible and nimble** in responding to new information, and administration must be willing to refine approaches when specific policies are not working.
- It is critically important to develop strategies that can be *revised and adapted* depending on the level of viral transmission in the school and throughout the community and done with close communication with state and/or local public health authorities and recognizing the differences between school districts.
- Special considerations and accommodations to account for the diversity of youth should be made, especially for our vulnerable populations, including those who are medically fragile, live in poverty, have developmental challenges, or have special health care needs or disabilities, with the goal of safe return to school.
- No child or adolescents should be excluded from school unless required to adhere to local public health mandates or because of unique medical needs. Pediatricians, families, and schools should partner together to collaboratively identify and develop accommodations when needed.

Assumptions & Assurances:

- Every student should have the opportunity to engage in learning, regardless of the spread of COVID-19 in our community.
- We will make a strong effort to provide staff members in the high-risk categories with the opportunity to complete their duties while remaining comfortable with their work situation and this will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- Schools have a vital role in providing safe environments for students, focusing on both social-emotional and physical health.
- By working together with educators, staff, health care professionals, parents, students, and community members we can solve most challenges.
- Our district will make decisions based on the most current guidance from local, state, and national health care officials.
- Our School Board will work to ensure our plan meets the needs of a majority of our students, educators, staff and community while understanding that the administration and COVID-19 team may need to alter this plan based on new information without board approval.

Health & Safety Committee Members:

Harvey Asbeck
Jessica Cayko
Nikki Schriver
Steph Haber
Jacquelyn Free
Derek Gackle
Alyson Schriver
Lisa Fox
Jessie Bieber

COVID-19 Response Team:

This team was gathered to assist in the development and monitoring of the district restart plan. These guiding team members will serve as a voice in how the district responds to COVID-19 during the school year. This plan is designed to address the issues of reopening as well as provide a nimble and responsive process to address issues that may not be recognized today.

Derek Gackle, Administrator, will assume the role of COVID-19 DISTRICT COORDINATOR. If he is unable to be contacted, the secondary contact will be Alyson Schriver, Business Manager.

The coordinator will be responsible for the health and safety preparedness and response planning. The coordinator will make themselves available to the NDDoH 24 hours a day / 7 days a week to respond to phone calls from public health. This position will assist public health in identifying and notifying close contacts in the school setting. The coordinator will report cases of COVID-19, found in the school setting, to health officials and the State Superintendent's office.

Instructional Models

The instructional models used by the district will be guided, in part, by the risk level of COVID-19 in the community and school. This is a basic guide as instructional models could be altered based on other factors, such as occupancy levels, age of children, and abilities to move certain classes online.

Traditional Learning
All instruction is delivered in-person with some building and group modifications. Teachers and students maintain a normal daily schedule. Safety precautions are implemented to enhance staff and student safety.

Blended/Hybrid Learning
Students report to school on a modified schedule. Multiple hybrid models of instructional delivery may be appropriate to meet the educational needs through a variety of delivery models.

Online Learning (Microsoft Teams)
All instruction is provided off-campus using distance learning resources or suited to the unique needs of the student.

Health and Safety Guidance

The district strives to provide a healthy and safe environment for all who occupy our schools. The following guidelines are intended to provide a framework for the district's response to COVID-19. Additionally, these resources are available to parents and families to provide ongoing training and education regarding COVID-19.

Resources
ND Department of Public Instruction - https://www.nd.gov/dpi/parentscommunity/nddpi-updates-and-guidance-covid-19
ND Department of Health - https://www.health.nd.gov/diseases-conditions/coronavirus

Best Intentions
Despite taking every reasonable precaution, **there is no guarantee that our school will be without risk** as it relates to COVID-19. The virus will most likely be present on our buses, in our classrooms, and at our activities. In certain situations, social distancing is not possible in a school setting. Our actions, as outlined in this plan, will not prevent any student or staff member from being in contact with the virus.

Protect Yourself and Others

Wash your hands often

- Wash with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Students are encouraged to wash their hands often throughout the day.

Avoid close contact

- Keep physical distance from others especially important for people who are at a higher risk of getting sick.
- Alternate or modified schedules, adjustments to use of common areas, use of outdoor spaces, and other actions that increase physical separation may be considered.
- The sharing of instructional materials should be limited as much as possible.
- Physical separation when possible and seating charts on buses, one student per seat except those from the same household, will be our goal but cannot be guaranteed.
- Essential visitors will be required to wear a mask to enter the building.
- NDDoH Guidelines for Close Contact in School/Childcare settings: https://www.health.nd.gov/sites/www/files/documents/Files/MSS/coronavirus/School%20Resources/Close_Contacts_in_School_Child_Care_Settings.pdf

Cover coughs and sneezes

- Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- Throw tissues away and wash hands or use hand sanitizer to prevent spread.

Clean and disinfect

- School staff should clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Classrooms will be cleaned daily by custodial staff.

Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others.

- The wearing of masks will be recommended within the ND Smart Restart Guidance guidelines.
- At this point, we will not be requiring masks for students or staff. Essential visitors will be asked to wear masks when entering the school.
- Masks are not required by ND Smart Restart Guidance in the Green or Yellow phases.

Monitor your health daily

- Be alert for symptoms. Watch for fever, cough, or shortness of breath.
- Parents are asked to screen their children each day before sending them to school. Use the screening guidance provided (see appendix).
- Staff and students who are sick should stay home.
- Temperatures of symptomatic students or staff may be taken at the school office.
  - Symptomatic students will be isolated, and their guardians contacted.

Health & Safety Protocols

Monitoring the health of students and staff will be an important component of a safe and healthy educational environment. East Fairview School will take the following measures to aid in the health of all students and staff while they are at school.

Identifying Students & Staff at Higher Risk

- Registration process will include questions asking families to identify if their child is at-risk, based on a health professionals' diagnosis. This information will be provided to the administrator (COVID-19 Coordinator) who will contact the family and discuss instructional model options.
- The administrator will converse with employees if they feel they are at-risk, based on a health professionals' diagnosis. The administrator will work in partnership with the employee to coordinate adjustments to the work schedule or workplace, if possible.
- When the NDDoH or our UMDHU inform the district of a student or staff member that is COVID-19 positive that information will be passed on to the administrator as allowable within district policy and law.

Isolation & Quarantine

- Isolation – For people who are already sick from the virus. A prevention strategy used to separate people who are sick with the virus from healthy people.
- Quarantine – For people who are not sick but have been exposed to the virus. A prevention strategy used to monitor people who were exposed for a period of time.
- East Fairview School will follow isolation and quarantine guidelines and directives as set by NDDOH and Upper Missouri District Health Unit.

If a student or staff members become sick at school (or school event)

- Student
    - o Direct/escort the child to the office.
    - o The child shall be provided a facial covering and isolated in the building sick area.
    - Parent/guardian will be contacted to pick up their child.

- Staff
    - o Inform administrator immediately and wear a face mask/shield until they can be replaced if supervising students at that time.
    - o Leave the school building/grounds and consult with a healthcare professional.

Guidance for Grade Level & School Building Level Closure

This is intended as guidance for COVID-19 Coordinators and team members on when to close classrooms, grades, and buildings.

- Close contact is defined as being within 6 ft. of another individual for 15 min or greater.
- If a school is closed for any length of time, the district will determine which mode of instruction will resume.
- Upper Missouri District Health Unit and Richland County Health Department will be consulted for local decision-making.
- NDDoH or the Governor's office may close a school or district at their discretion.

Transportation

"Normal" transportation will not be possible when trying to abide by the guidelines set forth. The school district understands that students will not be able to follow distancing guidelines if all route buses have their normal number of riders. Family members will be asked to sit together, and riders fill the bus back to front and vacate front to back. We ask that parents are diligent about checking temperatures and going through the checklist within this document prior to sending students to school on the bus. It is strongly recommended that when possible, parents bring their children to school and pick them up to avoid bus overcrowding, help us to keep their physical distance, and get them with their own cohort group. Please note:

- Routes may change throughout the year.
- Parents picking up/dropping off students should remain in their vehicles.
- Routes may be suspended during the year if our levels and/or protocols change.

Level I : Low Risk Operations

All instruction is delivered in-person with some building and group modifications. Teachers and students maintain a normal daily schedule. Safety precautions are implemented to enhance staff and student safety.

Priorities	• Parents are asked to screen their child/ren each day before sending them to school. **Appendix A** is available on our website and social media and will be sent home with each family. • All staff, including subs, will self-screen daily. • School will keep record of symptomatic students. • Sick students will be moved to the sick room while waiting to be picked up. • Students and staff may wear masks or other PPE but not required. • Masks and/or other PPE will be provided by the school for school personnel. • Disposable masks can be provided for essential visitors. • Cloth masks need to be cleaned regularly; therefore, it is recommended to have a clean mask for each day; one to wear, one in the wash and one to spare. Student masks will not be provided nor cleaned by the school. • Ensure students and staff who are sick or showing symptoms stay at home. • Ensure open communication between school, parents and UMDHU and Richland County Health Department via Remind App, school newsletter and school Facebook page.

School	• Staff will disinfect larger areas on a regular basis, i.e., lockers, gym, etc. • Hand sanitizer will be present in all rooms for staff and students to utilize as necessary. • Building will be routinely cleaned and disinfected according to CDC guidelines with special focus on high traffic areas. • Signage will be placed throughout the school to continue to educate students, staff, and community about safe protocols in regard to COVID-19. • Classes will be held outside as feasible. • EFS will ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible. • At the end of the school day students not riding buses will exit the gym doors and be released to person picking them up.
Classrooms	• Accommodations will be made for staff and students who are in a high-risk group or caring for individuals in a high-risk group. • Teaching staff will receive professional development training in effective ways to use current technology to provide a quality blended learning environment. • Students will receive education in proper hygiene, hand washing, how to wear a facemask, COVID-19 symptoms, what to do when experiencing symptoms, and to stay home when sick. • School re-opening guidelines and training will be provided to all substitute employees of the district. • Students, staff, and others will be encouraged to use hand washing/hand sanitizer when entering and exiting a classroom. • Attendance will be addressed case by case.

District	• Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among students and staff. • If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used. • Teach students to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or into their elbow. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water or use of hand sanitizer. • Encourage hand washing/hand sanitizer use at the following time: entrance/exit of the classrooms; before and after meals/snacks; and after coughing, sneezing, tissue use; leaving and returning to class. • Good personal hygiene will be taught to all grade levels. • Buses will be disinfected daily. • Mask use is optional. • Students will be sitting with their family members and seating will encourage physical distancing as feasible. • Bus students and bus drivers will use hand sanitizer when getting on and off the bus.
Common Areas	• Lunch schedules will be staggered to allow for distancing in the lunchroom during meals as feasible. Time will be allotted for cleaning between groups. • All components of the breakfast and lunch program will be served by qualified personnel to individuals. All self-serve options will be eliminated.
Communications	• Resources will be provided to staff, parents, and students to help them deal with trauma associated with COVID-19 events. • Staff will report to administration students who may be experiencing trauma due to the circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic so proper resources can be provided to the teacher and/or guardian.
Activities and Athletics	• EFS will follow guidance and directives from Fairview High School for all extracurricular activities. • Proper distancing will be applied on all bus activity and sport trips as feasible. • School Assemblies and other large gathering activities will be evaluated as they occur and determine if they are practical given the current state of the pandemic at the time.

Level II: Moderate Risk Operations

Based on identified COVID-19 cases of students and staff, targeted closures may be implemented (class, bus route, etc.) while other groups remain open and meet with students in person. The elements for this level are nearly identical to level one. In this level, we will be alert to the increased community spread and the need to transition to distance learning.

Below are additions and changes to practices and priorities in the Level I Operations.

- Masks required while traveling in hallways in groups of 10 or more.
- No singing will be performed in music class.

Level III: Moderately High Risk Operations

Students may report to school on a modified schedule. Based on guidance from state and local health officials, EFS may shift to a hybrid schedule where students would attend classrooms alternating days: Blue Days and Gold Days.

Below are additions and changes to practices and priorities in the Level II Operations.

Classrooms	• Blue Days and Gold Days may be part time in the classroom and part time at home, circumstances and age will factor into this decision.
	  • Students will be expected to engage in learning opportunities online using Microsoft Teams on days they are not in school.
	  • Masks will be required in rooms where physical distancing is not feasible.

School	• Class size may be limited per the recommendation of state and local health officials.
Priorities	• Students and Staff will be required to wear masks in the hallways.
District	• Transportation will be limited to allow for distancing on the bus. • Masks and/or other PPE will be required in school transportation • Temperatures will be taken upon entering the bus. • Parents will be encouraged to consider alternate transportation methods.

Level IV: High Risk Operations

In extreme conditions, which could include a local or state stay-at-home order, EFS will close schools and shift to online learning for all students. All instruction is provided off-campus through the use of distance learning resources or suited to the unique needs of the student.

Priorities	• Reduce the risk of further community spread by closing schools. • Possible opportunities for in person small group instruction or intervention, with the focus on continued in person instruction for students with special needs.
Classroom	• Rigorous remote instruction on key learning standards in each grade and content area. • Every student will be provided a device at home. • Technology and Homework Helpdesk will be available. • Clear expectations and communication with students and families. • Current learning assessments and accountability will be followed. • Daily attendance will be required with exceptions addressed case by case.
Common Areas	• Pickup meals will be available. • Breakfast and lunch charges will be the same as traditional school.

Appendix A

IF YOUR CHILD WAS DIRECTED BY A HEALTHCARE PROVIDER TO STAY HOME:

1. Contact the school and you will be in touch with a COVID-19 team member.
2. DO NOT send your child to school UNTIL:
   a. Your medical provider has determined a different illness than COVID-19 and cleared your child to return to school.
3. Provide documentation.

IF YOUR CHILD HAS HAD CLOSE CONTACT (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) WITH SOMEONE TESTING POSITIVE FOR COVID-19:

1. Contact the school and you will be in touch with a COVID-19 team member.
2. Contact your healthcare provider.

IF YOUR CHILD HAS TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19:

1. Contact the school and you will be in touch with a COVID-19 team member.
2. Notify the school of the positive test.
3. DO NOT send your child to school.
4. Follow guidance from your healthcare provider regarding isolation and contact tracing.

East Fairview School Response to a Positive Test of Student and/or Staff:

District will coordinate efforts to communicate to staff, students, and parents the possible exposure to COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).

OTHER RESOURCES:

- CDC Considerations for Schools https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html
- CDC Cleaning and Disinfecting https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/clean- disinfect/index.html
- CDC Print Resources https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/print-resources.html?Sort=Date%3A%3Adesc
- CDC Face Coverings https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face- coverings.html
- CDC Handwashing Information https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/index.html
- CDC Social Distancing https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social- distancing.html
- CDC Isolation and Quarantine Guidelines https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fif-you-are-sick%2Fquarantine-isolation.html
- CDC End of Isolation https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/end-home-isolation.html

BEFORE SCHOOL!

Parents are asked to review this daily health checklist by answering these questions before sending their child to school.
(Parents do not need to send the questionnaire to school)

Does your child have any of the symptoms below?

- ✓ Fever or Chills (a fever is considered having a temperature of 100.4 F)
- ✓ Cough
- ✓ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- ✓ Congestion or runny nose ***when in combination with other symptoms and not due to other known causes such as allergies.***
- ✓ Fatigue ***when in combination with other symptoms.***
- ✓ Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- ✓ Muscle or body aches
- ✓ Sore throat
- ✓ New loss of taste or smell
- ✓ Abdominal pain
- ✓ Headache ***when in combination with other symptoms.***

YES to any of the symptoms above, **STOP!**

NOT send your child/ren to school. Contact your healthcare provider. Contact the school at 701-844-5649 to inform us of your child's absence.

If you able to answer NO to all of the symptoms above, to school!

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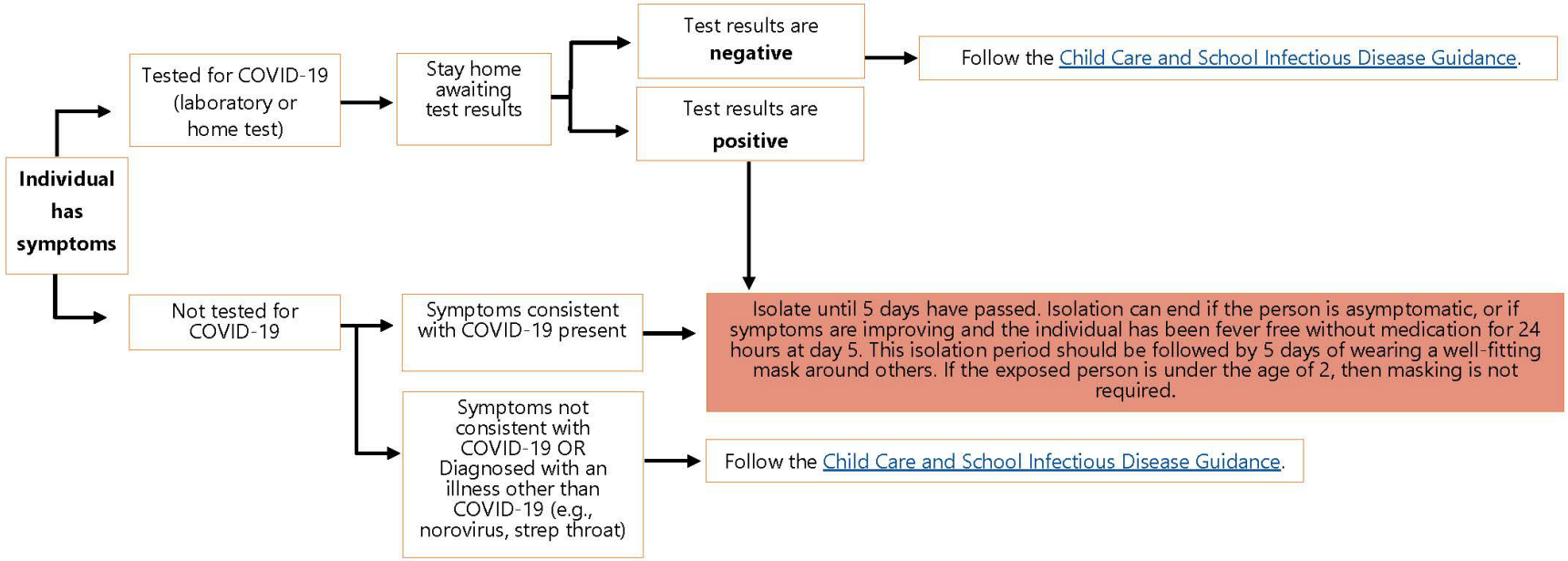
COVID-19 CHILDCARE & SCHOOL EXCLUSION GUIDANCE

Decision Tree for Symptomatic Individuals in K-12 Schools/Childcare Settings

If an individuals has a fever, cough or other symptoms, they might have COVID-19.
This is in addition to general Child Care and School Infectious Disease Guidance. Guardians should contact their child's health care provider if ill.



If the individual is identified as a CLOSE CONTACT to someone with COVID-19:

- Quarantine and Isolation Flow Charts
- A quarantine calculator can be found at health.nd.gov/covid calculator.
- **School close contacts** with parental/informed consent to participate in **K-12 School COVID-19 Screening Testing Program** will need to follow the program recommendations.

Updated: 1/18/2022

ISOLATION or QUARANTINE

Isolation and quarantine help protect the public by preventing the exposure to people who have or may have a CONTAGIOUS DISEASE

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.

ISOLATION

Isolation is for people who are ALREADY SICK.

Isolation separates and restricts the movement of sick people so they can't spread the disease.

Isolation in a home means separating yourself from others in the household.

A sick person isolating at home should seek medical treatment if unable to manage symptoms.

Isolation is usually voluntary, but in a public health emergency, officials have the authority to isolate people who are sick.

Stop isolation only if you've had no fever for at least 72 hours; and have improved symptoms; and at least 10 days have passed since your symptoms first appeared.

QUARANTINE

Quarantine is for people who are NOT SICK but may have been exposed.

Quarantined people may or may not become sick.

Quarantined people must stay at home or another location so they don't spread the disease.

If you are quarantined and become ill, you can seek medical evaluation from a healthcare provider.

Quarantine can be voluntary, but in a public health emergency, officials have the authority to quarantine people who have been exposed to an infectious disease.

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