

Perandoe Management Council
Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan
2022-2023 School Year

This document is an ever changing outline based upon the recommendations and guidelines set forth by the CDC and may be updated based on school community, and county positivity numbers. Modifications to this plan could include increased mitigation measures to decrease the spread of COVID-19. School strategies in this plan may be removed or increased based upon local conditions, levels of community transmission (i.e., low, moderate, substantial, or high), local vaccine coverage, and use of screening testing to detect cases in K-12 schools. School officials will communicate any changes in plans to staff members, students, and parents through the district's regular communication platforms. This plan will be regularly reviewed, but no less frequently than every six months, taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools. In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the District will seek public input and take such input into account.

The District will be fully open for in-person learning for all student attendance days for the 2022-2023 school year. The following mitigation strategies will be considered based on the most up-to-date guidance from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Remote instruction, which may include a multitude of delivery methods, will be made available for any student who is under isolation or quarantine for COVID-19.

If a student is not excluded from school or quarantined by IDPH, per their regulations, but requests remote learning due to a medical condition, the request for remote learning will be evaluated under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If the student has a qualifying medical condition, the student may be provided home/hospital instruction. The District will operate in accordance with federal and state guidance, consistent with its legal authority.

1. Face Coverings/Mask Use:

Students and staff may, but are not required to, wear masks. The CDC recommends universal indoor masking in communities with high COVID-19 levels. If community COVID-19 levels increase to medium or high transmission, students, staff, and visitors are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings while indoors.

School staff members are to model support for and encourage students to be supportive of people who choose to continue to wear a mask as a personal choice or because of a personal medical reason.

2. Physical Distancing:

Physical distancing and cohorting may be utilized as necessary based on community transmission levels.

3. Hand Washing and Respiratory Etiquette:

The District will encourage frequent and proper hand washing and will continue to teach respiratory etiquette (e.g., covering coughs and sneezes). Hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol (for teachers, staff, and older students who can safely use hand sanitizer) will be offered in addition to hand washing.

4. Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities, Including Improving Ventilation:

School custodial staff and transportation staff will continue to clean surfaces daily. When possible, staff will open doors and windows, use child-safe fans, and may have activities, classes, or lunches outdoors when circumstances allow. When it does not pose a safety risk, transportation staff will keep vehicle windows open at least a few inches to improve air circulation. If a school building has had a person test positive for COVID-19 within the last 24 hours, the District will clean and disinfect the space. Maintenance staff will continue to regularly replace school ventilation system filters by using high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters.

5. Contact Tracing in Combination with Isolation and Quarantine:

- Students and staff who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as influenza (flu) or COVID-19 should stay home and contact their healthcare provider for testing and/or care.
- Individuals in our school environments who show symptoms of COVID-19 are to immediately report to or be escorted to the school's office or health care professional's office to be either sent home or be quarantined in the school's supervised safe area while awaiting pickup/evaluation. Parents should ensure that ill students are picked up from school promptly after being notified. Ill students will not be allowed to utilize the school bus to return home.
- CDC Guidelines for testing and quarantine after a recent exposure to someone with COVID-19 will be followed by the district in coordination with any updated guidelines from ISBE, IDPH, and the Randolph County Health Department. The IDPH Decision Tree can be found here: [IDPH Decision Tree](#)
- Student absences related to a COVID-19 isolation or quarantine will be recorded as excused. To ensure continuity of services, school work missed during such an absence can be requested and made up in accordance with the school's policy (refer to student handbook); social, emotional, mental health, or other needs will be provided in accordance with a student's IEP or 504 Plan. Parents of students who have social, emotional, mental health, or other needs outside of an IEP or 504 Plan should contact their child's principal to discuss needs.
- Absent COVID-related leave days previously provided by Federal law, staff absences related to a COVID-19 isolation or quarantine will be recorded in accordance with the district's sick leave policy and related professional negotiations agreements. Current laws related to employee absent dates for vaccinated staff will be followed.

- To the extent allowable by privacy laws and other applicable laws, school health care professionals will continue to collaborate with Monroe and Randolph County Health Department officials to confidentially provide information about people diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19, including making notifications to staff and parents as soon as possible regarding those who were in close contact of someone in the school who tested positive for COVID-19 when needed or required.
- Students and staff suspected of having COVID-19, whether they were tested or not, are to follow the CDC guidelines and Randolph County Health Department guidelines to determine when they can return to school.

6. Remote Instruction Plan:

Remote instruction is available for students who are under isolation or quarantine for COVID-19.

Student absences related to COVID-19 will be recorded as excused. To ensure continuity of services, school work missed during such an absence can be requested and made up in accordance with the school's policy (refer to student handbook). Social, emotional, mental health, or other needs will be provided in accordance with a student's IEP. Parents of students who have social, emotional, mental health, or other needs outside of an IEP should contact their child's principal to discuss those needs.

Each student's case manager and related service provider(s) should collaborate with the parents/guardians of the students on their caseloads to determine the delivery of instruction model and service delivery model that will work best for the student including teletherapy on an approved platform. Additional resources may be emailed/mailed to parents/guardians which may include home practice activity resources, including videos, website links, etc. These team decisions should be based upon the student's goals and objectives outlined in their IEPs and take into consideration available technology as well as the amount of time the student will need to dedicate to their core academics. The related service provider and parents/guardians will develop an agreed upon schedule and mode to deliver the services. These plans should be revisited often and adjusted as necessary to meet each student's individual needs. Teachers will be responsible for answering questions from students in a timely manner and maintaining regular contact with students in their classes. Teachers will be responsible for grading student work in a timely manner and entering grades into Teacher Ease. Students are expected to attend daily or as specified in their IEP. We encourage and suggest several ideas for how classroom teachers can collect and count a student as present when the one-to-one daily connection is not practical:

- Video conference "check-ins."
- Wellness checks coupled with a question on student engagement/participation in lessons.
- Phone calls coupled with a question on student engagement/participation in lessons.
- Emails coupled with a question on student engagement/participation in lessons.
- Packet collections by school personnel.

IEP Meetings

IEP meetings will continue as scheduled via Google Meets or in person depending on transmission levels. Please watch your emails for invitations and any important changes to the schedule from school staff.

High levels of infection within grade levels or a building may necessitate a return to remote learning. Any outbreaks will be reviewed with help from the Randolph County Health Department in consideration of Full Remote Learning.

7. Diagnostic and Screening Testing:

Parents can request COVID-19 diagnostic testing for their students by contacting the school's health care professional. Any staff member can request COVID-19 diagnostic testing by contacting the school's health care professional. Consent forms are required in advance of testing. Testing will be available subject to the availability of tests.

The District may implement screening testing when community COVID-19 levels are medium or high, and for participants of high-risk activities such as extracurricular activities and when returning from breaks.

The District will not temperature check or screen students and staff until there is determined a need by the Director based on current conditions. We will be asking all parents to continue helping eliminate the spread of any virus by keeping their students home when they are not feeling well.

8. Promoting Vaccination:

Respectful of peoples' varying levels of vaccine confidence, those who want to get vaccinated against COVID-19 can visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find out where they can get vaccinated in our community.

9. Disabilities or Other Health Care Needs:

Parents of students who need accommodations, modifications, or assistance related to COVID-19 safety protocols, disabilities, underlying medical conditions, weakened immune systems should contact their student's principal to discuss the need(s).

Staff members who need accommodations, modifications, or assistance related to COVID-19 safety protocols, disabilities, underlying medical conditions, weakened immune systems or a sincerely held religious belief or practice (covered by Title VII of the Civil rights Act of 1964) should contact their school's principal to discuss the need(s) and request accommodations. Staff members with weakened immune systems are advised to contact their healthcare professional about the need for continued personal protective measures after vaccination.

10. Collaboration with Public Health Officials:

District officials will continue to collaborate and consult with Local Public Health

Department officials throughout a pandemic on various logistics and decision-making including, but not limited to, quarantines, positive or suspected positive cases of COVID-19, vaccine clinics, and emergency school closings. In accordance with State law, the District will provide the Local Public Health Department with the name and contact information of any employee or student who tests positive or is a suspected positive, along with the names of any close contact known to the District. The Local Health Department shall be responsible for conducting any contract tracing.

11. Review of Plan:

Through September 30, 2023, this plan will be reviewed no less frequently than every six months and revised as appropriate based on school, community, and county positivity numbers and after consultation with local public health officials and considering public input. Revisions will address the most recently updated safety recommendations by the CDC, provided in an alternative format accessible to parents who are individuals with a disability as defined by the ADA, and made publicly available on the district's website.

Board Approval: _____
Board Review: _____
Board Review: _____