



Health and Safety Procedures

2021-2022 School Year

Mid Year Update - Adopted April 12, 2022

The goal of the board of trustees is to have full, in-person learning during the 2021-2022 school year with as little disruption to the learning environment as possible.

However, the board is mindful of its obligation to take necessary and appropriate actions, consistent with applicable federal and Idaho law, to address the continuing impacts of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) on school district operations. Consistent with existing board policies relating to communicable diseases (Policies 555 and 562) and evolving guidance from federal, state and local authorities as to recommended measures to combat the spread of COVID-19, protect the health of students, staff and visitors, and maintain a full in-person learning environment, the board finds it necessary to adopt procedures and protocols addressing COVID-19.

As we welcome back all students to attend in person 5 days per week, the District health and safety procedures have been reviewed and updated. We continue to employ the mitigation strategies identified upon opening our schools previously with the updates as outlined in the following slides.

Blaine County School District continues to update procedures in order to align with the changing research, federal and state guidelines and the health needs within our local community.



Mitigation Strategies

- Reinforce at home [BCSD Illness Screening Procedures](#)*.
- Provide strategically placed hand sanitation stations throughout school buildings.
- Building cleaning procedures include disinfection of frequently touched surfaces.
- Maintain and monitor ventilation systems in all district buildings to optimize air circulation.
- Bottle filling stations available in each school.
- Plexiglass screens will be available at office locations and other desk areas where individuals come in for assistance as requested.
- Each school is equipped with a health office and appropriate PPE.
- Face coverings available for staff, students and visitors.
- Maintain social distancing when possible.

Face Coverings

- Face coverings are optional for students, staff and others visiting district buildings.
- Any modifications to the face covering requirements will be considered by the board upon all relevant factors.
- For individuals [at high risk for severe illness](#), it is encourage to work with your healthcare provider to determine appropriate precautions.

Access to Buildings

- Access to buildings for parents, volunteers and community partners will be allowed in all school buildings.
- Individuals entering buildings will be expected to follow any relevant health and safety requirements in place at time of access.

Monitoring and Advising COVID Related Illness

- District staff will continue with COVID related attendance tracking for reported cases.
- Parents/Guardians are asked to follow [BCSD Illness Screening Procedures](#)* and report COVID related absences to schools.
- Parents, staff and students can refer to the [Return to School Guidelines](#)* to determine return dates.
- School health office staff will investigate exposures on a case by case basis.
- The school nurse team will work with South Central Public Health District as needed to determine exposures and appropriate actions.
- There will no longer be in school contact tracing for possible school related exposures.

*Updated regularly based on CDC, SCPHD and local medical provider's guidance.

Student Illness

- Students are expected to stay home if they are sick, and be picked up promptly from school if ill.
- [Return to School Guidelines](#)* will be used to set student return dates for COVID related illness/quarantines.
- Homebound instruction continues to be an option for eligible students.
 - Medically fragile based on physician's recommendations
 - Any student out >10 days with a physician's note
- Teachers and counselors will continue to facilitate learning during student absences.

*Updated regularly based on CDC, SCPHD and local medical provider's guidance.

Staff Illness

- Staff are expected to stay home if ill, or go home promptly if they become ill.
- If a staff member is caring for a family member who is ill:
 - they are expected to remain at home; and,
 - follow the guidance of their healthcare provider or South Central Public Health
- [Return to School Guidelines](#)* will be used to set staff return dates for COVID related illness/quarantines. Staff should contact the HR Department.

*Updated regularly based on CDC, SCPHD and local medical provider's guidance.

Student Attendance

- Student absences for COVID-19 related quarantine, isolation, or related medical treatments will not be counted against students.
- COVID-19 related absences will need to be reported to the school at time of absence.
 - Parents/guardians will be asked questions regarding COVID-19 symptoms and exposures.
 - Completed questionnaire will be shared with school nurse for appropriate follow up.

Transportation

- Face covering requirements will follow the same requirements as determined for school buildings.
- Social distancing is encouraged at bus stops and on buses as much as possible.
- Bus Drivers disinfect buses in between routes.

Food Services

- Meals will be served through traditional methods with appropriate safety precautions.
- Schools can use the cafeteria with safety precautions.

Monitoring Local Conditions

BCSD will monitor local conditions through the Idaho Division of Public Health, in conjunction with CDC guidance. Including the following data sources:

[Idaho Coronavirus Website](#)

[CDC COVID-19 County Check website](#)

[South Central Public Health District Coronavirus Dashboard](#)