



MOHAVE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #16

Creating school communities in which all students can learn, no exceptions!

SMALL. SAFE. Neighborhood Schools!

7/1/2021 - Board Approved - 6/29/2021

Dear MVESD Families,

We hope the summer is off to a great start for you and your families. Here in MVESD, we are already Looking Forward to Back-to-School 2021-2022!

Parents entrust schools not only with their child's intellectual development and social growth, but also with their child's safety, health, and well-being during the school day. Maintaining safe and healthy educational environments for our students and staff members is of the utmost importance to us. Additionally, this last school year has provided us with new experiences to inform our approach to maintaining safe and healthy school buildings. To that end, we have established protocols and procedures for the prevention of, preparedness for, and response to emergency situations.

After careful consideration, Mohave Valley Elementary School District will return to face-to-face learning for all students in the 2021-2022 school year. This decision takes into account students' academic and social-emotional needs, updated guidance from health organizations, and improving pandemic conditions, including lower rates of community spread and the percentage of our school staff who have been vaccinated.

At the start of the new school year on August 2, 2021, MVESD plans to offer all K-8 students full-day, in-person instruction at all schools for the 2021-2022 school year. Students in all grade levels will attend 5 days per week, and schools will resume normal hours. All transportation will resume. Our current plan also includes offering families a fully remote K-8 option as well.

Surveillance and Reporting during all stages of a pandemic outbreak is essential in order to monitor and document the number of students and faculty who are absent and meet the definition of infectious illness. Keeping track of these numbers will help health and school officials determine when and whether to close schools and whether the pandemic is increasing in scope.

The following transmission models are based on communication with the Mohave County Health Department, Arizona State Health Department, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the MVESD Governing Board.

Cole Young, Superintendent MVESD #16
8450 S. Olive Ave Mohave Valley, Arizona 86440
Voice: (928) 768-2507 Fax 768-2510 Email: youngc@mvdistrict.net

The following Proposed COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols are based on low transmission and positivity rates in our local region. We anticipate starting the 2021-2022 school year in the following category:

0% - 4.99% of Student Population ill with Respiratory COVID/Flu-like Symptoms with low to moderate transmission/cases/ and positivity rates in our local region:

Face Coverings No Longer Required

- Face coverings will no longer be required for any student or staff member, however, masks may be worn by those who feel more comfortable doing so.
- Face coverings will not be required in any educational space or activity including school buses, athletics, etc.
- Masks are supported if individuals choose or need to wear them and we will support this choice and work through each situation.

COVID Immunizations Not Mandatory

- MVESD will continue to provide information to the community about COVID immunization opportunities as a courtesy for those who wish to access the vaccine. However, the COVID immunization will not be required for staff or students.

Quarantines Discontinued

- Quarantines of healthy/non-symptomatic students and staff will be discontinued.
- Should a student or staff member test positive for COVID, or show symptoms commonly associated with COVID, they will be asked to isolate for 10 days (unless they provide documentation of being fully vaccinated).
- The person in isolation may return if they receive a negative COVID test after day 5 of isolation.
- MVESD will work to make COVID testing more accessible for symptomatic staff.

Social Distancing

- Social distancing will be practiced when possible. Due to the size of our facilities and student body, and our decision to return to full capacity for the 2021-2022 school year, it will not be possible in many cases.

Visitors in MVESD Schools/Facilities Permitted

- In the 2021-2022 school year, visitors will be permitted in schools but will need to fill out a COVID questionnaire and be prescreened by the Health Clerk at the school. Face coverings may be required for visitors. Visitors may wear a face covering if they are more comfortable doing so.

Field Trips Resume

- Field trips will return as possible, depending on venue/location guidelines.

Athletics and Activities Resume

- Athletics and activities will resume normal processes in 2021-2022.

Facilities Rentals Resume

- Facilities rentals will resume as available with access to proper cleaning procedures taken into consideration.



MOHAVE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #16

Creating school communities in which all students can learn, no exceptions!

SMALL. SAFE. Neighborhood Schools!

Transportation

- Buses will be cleaned between routes and at the end of the day, and students will wash their hands after entering school.
- Routes are currently being updated for the 2021-2022 school year and route information will be available during the week before school starts.
- Expect buses to be running late on the first few days of school due to new routes and parent pictures. Students will not be in trouble if they're late to school from an arriving bus.

Cleaning Protocols:

MVESD will arrange for daily cleaning and disinfecting of all frequently touched surfaces in work areas, such as door handles, sink handles, desks, and learning tools and assign schedules to custodial staff for increased cleaning of surfaces and bathrooms throughout the day.

- Touchpoints (i.e. doorknobs, light switches, etc.) will continue to be disinfected throughout all buildings on a daily basis.
- School buses will continue to be disinfected daily.
- Teachers and staff will continue to have access to disinfectant supplies, including disinfecting spray, to clean high-touch areas regularly if desired.

Hand Hygiene

- MVESD will continue to encourage good hand hygiene, such as reminding students to wash hands after using the restroom, before meals, etc., and provide access to hand sanitizer stations.

5% - 10% of Student Population ill with Respiratory COVID/Flu-like Symptoms in conjunction with substantial to high indicators in cases, positivity and transmission in our local region.

- ☐ Ensure that all personnel are informed of the latest developments
- ☐ Send out Parent Letter - informing parents that some students are sick but schools remain open, include resource sheets and info
- ☐ Continue to educate employees, students, parents, and visitors on how to stop the spread of the virus. Appropriate signage may be placed around the school (including entrances, notice boards, meeting rooms, and restrooms.) Signage and fact sheets should contain information regarding hand hygiene, covering coughs and sneezes, and student spacing.
- ☐ Set up prominent notices at all entry points to the facility, advising staff, students, and visitors not to enter if they have symptoms of influenza or other viruses.
- ☐ Ensure maximum support and education for ill and affected children.
- ☐ Enhanced Environmental Management:
 - ☐ Monitor for adequate supplies of tissues, hand sanitizing gels, hand soap, and cleaning supplies.
 - ☐ Increase frequency of disinfecting shared work areas, counters, railings, doorknobs, keyboards, etc.
 - ☐ Filters of air conditioning systems should be cleaned and changed frequently.
 - ☐ Telephones, keyboards, coffee cups, etc. should not be shared if at all possible.
 - ☐ Conduct review of disinfection and cleaning procedures with janitorial staff to ensure all product directions are being followed to ensure maximum disinfection rates.
 - ☐ Where operationally possible, during the day increase ventilation to the facility to decrease the spread of disease. At the end of each day the school may be thoroughly ventilated and cleaned (either opening all doors and windows or turning up the air conditioning/heating systems.)



MOHAVE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #16

Creating school communities in which all students can learn, no exceptions!

SMALL. SAFE. Neighborhood Schools!

Expansion of the Outbreak 10% OR MORE OF STUDENTS ILL in conjunction with high indicators in cases, positivity, and transmission in our local region.

*(Percentages are for common flu, triggers may occur sooner in the event of a pandemic event.)

- ☐ Send Parent Letter Expanded Outbreak, include prevention tip sheets, etc.
- ☐ Follow the CDC, State, and County health department recommendations/guidelines related to extracurricular activities, and school closing.
- ☐ Support and work with local and state health departments in the event vaccinations are offered through school sites.
- ☐ Maximize space between students
- ☐ Discourage prolonged congregation in the hallways, lunchrooms, etc. Limit group activities and interaction between classes.
- ☐ Send out Parent Letter - School Closure, announcing closure(s) when guided to do so by local and state health departments.
- ☐ Cancel any non-academic events and extra-curricular sports practices and games
- ☐ MVESD Governing Board issues Declaration of closing schools
- ☐ Refer to the Roadmap for Re-Entry for guidance concerning instructional models and protocols

Scenario 1

This scenario is the closest to a pre-COVID-19 school environment. The community spread of COVID-19 is low. Students and families may still face academic and wellness challenges as a result of the pandemic but individual prevention and mitigation strategies related to masking are now optional.

- ☐ Monitor daily attendance for increased reports of absence due to flu-like illness or other infectious illness
- ☐ Illness activity reported in school (0-5% school absenteeism due to illness or other infectious illness)
- ☐ Sanitize school environment

Scenario 2

In Scenario 2, the community transmission has increased through the number of cases, and positivity, prevention, and mitigation strategies remain a priority. Students are attending class in person five days a week. Enhanced safety precautions are in place.

- ☐ Monitor daily attendance for illness/absences
- ☐ Begin morning "illness check" first hour of school – screen those who report positive for symptoms
- ☐ Illness activity reported in the school (0-5% school absenteeism due to illness or other infectious illness)
- ☐ Log absences due to illness

Cole Young, Superintendent MVESD #16

8450 S. Olive Ave Mohave Valley, Arizona 86440

Voice: (928) 768-2507 Fax 768-2510 Email: youngc@mvdistrict.net

- ☐ Limited sharing of materials
- ☐ Send weekly absence report to the Superintendent's Office
- ☐ Sanitize school environment
- ☐ Refer to the MVESD Road Map For Reentry/ Protocols

Scenario 3

In Scenario 3, substantial transmission, a high number of cases, and a high positivity rate with 10+% of the students ill with Covid/Flu-like symptoms, hybrid schedules will be implemented to create smaller cohorts of students at school campuses. At school campuses, all students will learn remotely three days each week to allow for increased sanitization of buildings and additional teacher planning time. Enhanced safety precautions are in place.

- ☐ Monitor daily attendance and log illness absences on the illness tracker spreadsheet
- ☐ Illness activity reported in the school (10% school absenteeism due to illness or other infectious illness)
- ☐ Continue morning "illness check"
- ☐ Update illness tracker that is shared Superintendent's Office
- ☐ Enforce 3 ft. social distancing across all campus activities
- ☐ Masks Required
- ☐ Limited sharing of materials
- ☐ Continue to sanitize the school environment
- ☐ Refer to the MVESD Road Map For Reentry/ Protocols

Scenario 4

In Scenario 4, health and safety concerns necessitate the closure of school buildings to students. This could be individual campuses or a district-wide closure. At this point, all at-school learning shifts to a remote environment. This decision would be made in consultation with local and state health officials.

- ☐ Refer to the MVESD Road Map For Reentry/ Protocols

Student Exhibiting Symptoms at School:

A teacher notices a student exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, such as flushed face, coughing, difficulty breathing, etc.

If a person becomes sick or exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, the procedures listed below should be followed:

1. Notify the health office of the student's disposition and symptoms to ensure safety precautions can be initiated
2. Send the student to the health office
3. Nurse/health clerk will assess symptoms:
 - a. If the student has a runny nose and the nurse/health aide observes that there are no other symptoms, the nurse/health aide will contact the parent to inquire as to whether the student has had any other symptoms or there have been any COVID-19 exposures in the home. If not, the student may return to class.



MOHAVE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #16

Creating school communities in which all students can learn, no exceptions!

SMALL. SAFE. Neighborhood Schools!

- b. If the student has health information on file that confirms a diagnosis of asthma or other respiratory condition and the nurse/health aide observes that there are no other symptoms, the nurse/health aide will contact the parent to inquire as to whether the student has had any other symptoms or there have been any COVID-19 exposures in the home. If not, the student may return to class.
 - c. Otherwise, the nurse or designated staff will immediately isolate the student and notify a parent or emergency contact to pick up the student and call 911 if the student appears to be in medical distress.
4. Close off any areas that were exposed to the symptomatic student for a prolonged period.
 - a. Wait a feasible amount of time before cleaning and disinfecting those areas
 - b. During that time, if feasible, open windows or outside doors to increase air circulation
 - c. After a feasible amount of time, thoroughly clean and disinfect all surfaces in the area, per CDC guidelines
5. Determine whether other employees or students may have been exposed to the symptomatic individual within six (6) feet and for a prolonged period of time (typically longer than 15 minutes)
 - a. If so, notify those individuals (or, in the case of students, their parents/guardians) of the potential exposure
 - b. Notification should recommend that exposed individuals monitor their health closely, review symptoms to look for with employees or parents/guardians, encourage them to contact their health care provider if possible, and self-quarantine if any symptoms develop.

The health clerk should immediately report the situation **ONLY** to the authorized individuals, which MVESD has identified as the Nurse. Confidentiality must be maintained to the greatest extent possible.

- Should a student or staff member test positive for COVID, or show symptoms commonly associated with COVID, they will be asked to isolate for 10 days (unless they provide documentation of being fully vaccinated).
- The person in isolation may return if they receive a negative COVID test after day 5 of isolation.
- Students and staff with proof of vaccination will NOT need to quarantine if they are identified as direct contact, as long as they remain symptom-free.
- Documentation from a healthcare provider allowing the student to return to school after illness.
- Students and staff with proof of vaccination will NOT need to quarantine if they are identified as direct contact, as long as they remain symptom-free.

Cole Young, Superintendent MVESD #16

8450 S. Olive Ave Mohave Valley, Arizona 86440

Voice: (928) 768-2507 Fax 768-2510 Email: youngc@mvdistrict.net

Staff Member Exhibits Symptoms At School:

An employee develops COVID-19 symptoms at work.

1. Separate the employee from all other students, staff, or visitors, ensure that the employee wears a mask at all times, then make arrangements to send the employee home in a safe manner.
 - a. If the employee is able to self-transport, have the employee leave the site.
 - b. If the employee is not able to safely self-transport, contact a family member, emergency contact, or another method of transport to get the employee home or to a healthcare provider.
 - c. If the employee appears to be in medical distress, call 911
2. Close off any areas that were exposed to the symptomatic staff member for a prolonged period.
 - a. Wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting those areas
 - b. During that time, if feasible, open windows or outside doors to increase air circulation
 - c. After 24 hours, thoroughly clean and disinfect all surfaces in the area, per CDC guidelines
3. Determine whether other employees or students may have been exposed to the symptomatic individual within six (6) feet and for a prolonged period of time (typically longer than 15 minutes)
 - a. If so, notify those individuals (or, in the case of students, their parents/guardians) of the potential exposure
 - b. DO NOT disclose the name of the individual who has become sick
 - c. Notification should recommend that exposed individuals monitor their health closely, review symptoms to look for with employees or parents/guardians, encourage them to contact their health care provider if possible, and self-quarantine if any symptoms develop.

The health clerk should immediately report the situation ONLY to the authorized individuals, which MVESD has identified as the Nurse. Confidentiality must be maintained to the greatest extent possible.

- Should a student or staff member test positive for COVID, or show symptoms commonly associated with COVID, they will be asked to isolate for 10 days (unless they provide documentation of being fully vaccinated).
- The person in isolation may return if they receive a negative COVID test after day 5 of isolation.
- Students and staff with proof of vaccination will NOT need to quarantine if they are identified as direct contact, as long as they remain symptom-free.

Sincerely,



Cole Young