

Shawano School District Fall 2021 COVID Mitigation Plan

Approved by the Board of Education August 16, 2021

We believe students benefit from in-person learning. Safely returning to full time, in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority. Implementing layered prevention strategies (e.g., using multiple prevention strategies together consistently) helps protect all students and staff including those with health conditions that place them at higher risk for severe illness.

Mitigation Measures

- **Shawano School District will continue to monitor and evaluate the local/state/national COVID-19 conditions.**
- **All stakeholders in the district must be prepared for rapid changes to all of the components within this plan.**

Health Screening – all staff and students are asked to do a daily self-screener and stay home when sick and be tested for Covid if meeting symptom criteria.

Shawano School District Masking Mitigation Levels

- Masks optional for students and staff.
- Masks optional for staff and students with the flexibility to go to required masks based on community transmission, local school data, and building burden. Considerations include: numbers of positive cases in our buildings, number of students/staff quarantined, high rates of transmission in the community.

Physical Distancing – 3 to 6 feet spacing is recommended

Maintain other mitigation measures currently in place such as:

- Promote frequent handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Easy access to hand sanitizer throughout the buildings
- Adequate ventilation
- Maintain routine cleaning schedule, paying extra attention to high touch surfaces
- Encourage COVID-19 vaccination. On-site opportunities will be offered.

Cohorts - Cohort classes, when possible, to limit the numbers of students who may be required to quarantine due to an exposure at school.

Sports – Follow WIAA guidance.

Testing

- At this time, we do not plan to offer onsite screening testing of asymptomatic staff and students without a known exposure. This type of testing is not recommended for fully vaccinated individuals.
- Onsite Rapid Antigen Covid-19 testing for symptomatic staff and students will continue through the district nurses with test kit support from DHS.

Shawano School District Isolation and Quarantine - Follow current public health recommendations for isolation and quarantine, including allowing the shortened quarantine options.

- Quarantine for unvaccinated students/staff may return after:
 - 10 days without symptoms, return on day 11
 - 7 days without symptoms and negative test collected on day 5 or after, return on day 8
- Isolation (positive case) 10 days from onset of symptoms or date of positive test if asymptomatic

Contact Tracing - will continue to coordinate with the local health department.

Additional Information:

- Masking Recommendation by Health Entities
 - Universal masking of all students and staff regardless of vaccination status is currently recommended by the CDC, AAP and DHS.
 - Benefits include – quarantine exemption for both parties masking, decreased classroom quarantines, less burden on staff and families (childcare, missed work, more face-to-face learning), less need for contact tracing within the school.
- Buses/Public Transportation – The CDC’s Order requiring masks for everyone on all public transportation does extend to school buses (public and private). All students should wear a mask while on the bus.
- Given new evidence on the B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant, CDC has updated the guidance (7/27/2021) for fully vaccinated people. CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.
- The AAP recommends universal masking in school at this time for the following reasons:
 - a significant portion of the student population is not eligible for vaccination
 - protection of unvaccinated students from COVID-19 and to reduce transmission
 - vaccination uptake within the surrounding school community
 - Under age 12 are not eligible to receive the COVID vaccine at this time
 - 12 to 15 age group 17.9% received at least one dose of the vaccine in Shawano County
 - 16 to 17 age group 23.3% received at least one dose of the vaccine in Shawano County
 - continued concerns for variants that are more easily spread among children, adolescents, and adults

Resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/schools.htm>

<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>

https://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Health/Covid/Guidelines-Return-2021-Fall-Sports.pdf?ver=Np1tdDb49qrqIBeaeRyc_A%3d%3d×tamp=1626794745853