DUSD#27 Safety Requirements for COVID-19

Health Safety Protocols

To assure the health and safety of the Douglas Unified School District Community, the COVID-19 principles described below shall immediately be enacted in accordance with U.S. State Department, Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Arizona Department of Health, Arizona Department of Education, and Cochise County Health Department Guidelines (hereinafter "the regulatory agencies").

These temporary safety requirements shall remain in effect until guidance from the regulatory agencies related to the COVID-19 pandemic changes and/or, in the discretion of the Superintendent, all or portions of the regulation may be modified or revoked.

Health Screening

Health screenings will be conducted regularly for individuals on DUSD property. **Student and employee screenings may occur at any time.**

In order to aid CCHD in notification and instruction, all adult persons other than students entering a school building shall be documented by an attestation, sign-in or other process.

Staff, students and visitors to any DUSD facility will be reminded to ask themselves the COVID-19 Self-check Questions before coming to any DUSD school or facility.

COVID-19 Self-check Questions:

1. Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the past 14 days?
2. Have you had a fever (100 or greater), felt feverish, or have had chills in the last 72 hours?
3. Are you experiencing any new or unexplained respiratory symptoms including a cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, or runny nose?
4. Are you experiencing any new or unexplained muscle aches, headache, fatigue, nausea/vomiting or diarrhea?
5. Have you experienced any new or unexplained change in your sense of taste or smell?

Health Services Standard

Any person who answers "yes" to any of the COVID-19 self- check questions should not enter a DUSD school or facility.

Sick Individuals

Sick individuals will be refused entry into schools or buildings to reduce the risk of transmission.

- Employees presenting with sickness, symptoms, or answering "yes" to any of the screening questions above shall not be permitted to enter facilities. If symptoms develop after an employee reports to work, the employee must immediately notify a supervisor in a manner that limits exposure to others.
- Parent/guardians presenting with sickness symptoms or answering "yes" shall be denied entry into facilities.
- Students who show symptoms of sickness shall immediately be referred to the health office for evaluation and, if indicated, placement in an Isolation Room apart from the general school population.   Staff will make reasonable attempts to contact the parent(s) or guardians to take the student home as soon as possible. Parents shall pick up the student, or arrange for the student to be picked up, immediately. If the student is not picked up within two hours, staff may take other necessary measures to protect the health and safety of students and others at the site.

Individuals with a positive COVID-19 Diagnosis

For those students or staff members who receive a positive COVID-19 diagnosis as identified by the person, healthcare provider, or CCHD, DUSD will defer to the CCHD's notification and contact tracing protocols. Health Services will communicate to CCHD any multiple related cases of COVID-19 in a building, in order to assess the site for a possible COVID-19 outbreak. Recommendations will be communicated to the site Point of Contact.

In addition, the school nurse or other person designated by the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent may reassess a student or staff member who is excluded from school or the worksite because of a COVID-19 diagnosis before the individual may return to the site. (Policy GBGCB and JLCC). The District may require a physician's written medical release as a condition for the individual's return to work or the student's return to campus.

Preparing for when someone gets sick (CDC Guidelines)

Adults (Staff)—Contact the Point of Contact (POC) immediately for next steps

Students—Contact the school site Point of Contact (POC) or school administrator for next steps

Quarantine or isolation

You **quarantine** when you might have been exposed to the virus.

You **isolate** when you have been infected with the virus, even if you don't have symptoms.

Quarantine

Quarantine if you have been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, unless you have been fully vaccinated. People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after contact with someone who had COVID-19 unless they have symptoms. However, fully vaccinated people should get tested 3-5 days after their exposure, even if they don't have symptoms and wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative.

What to do

- Contact the Point of Contact Immediately
- Stay home for 14 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
- Watch for fever (100.4◦F), cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.
- If possible, stay away from people you live with, especially people who are at higher risk for getting very sick from COVID-19.

After quarantine

- Watch for symptoms until 14 days after exposure.
- If you have symptoms, immediately self-isolate and contact your local public health authority or healthcare provider.

You may be able to shorten your quarantine

Your local public health authorities make the final decisions about how long quarantine should last, based on local conditions and needs. Follow the recommendations of your local public health department if you need to quarantine. Options they will consider include stopping quarantine

- After day 10 without testing
- After day 7 after receiving a negative test result (test must occur on day 5 or later)

Isolation

Isolation is used to separate people infected with COVID-19 from those who are not infected.

People who are in isolation should stay home until it's safe for them to be around others. At home, anyone sick or infected should separate from others, stay in a specific "sick room" or area, and use a separate bathroom (if available).

What to do

- Communicate with your Point of Contact
- Monitor your symptoms. If you have an emergency warning sign (including trouble breathing), seek emergency medical care immediately.
- Stay in a separate room from other household members, if possible.
- Use a separate bathroom, if possible.
- Avoid contact with other members of the household and pets.
- Don't share personal household items, like cups, towels, and utensils.
- Wear a mask when around other people if able.

Learn more about what to do if you are sick and how to notify your contacts.

For Anyone Who Has Been Around a Person with COVID-19

Anyone who has had close contact with someone with COVID-19 should stay home for 14 days **after their last exposure** to that person.

However, anyone who has had close contact with someone with COVID-19 and who meets the following criteria does **NOT** need to stay home.

- Someone who has been fully vaccinated and shows no symptoms of COVID-19. However, fully vaccinated people should get tested 3-5 days after their exposure, even they don't have symptoms and wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative.

Or

- Someone who has COVID-19 illness within the previous 3 months **and**
- Has recovered **and**
- Remains without COVID-19 symptoms (for example, cough, shortness of breath

Student Protocol

In the result of a child(ren)/adult getting sick at school, the following protocols will be followed in order to protect the health and wellness of every student and staff member on campus. (CDC Guidelines)

If a child/adult presents with any of the symptoms of COVID-19 while at school the following protocols will be put into effect immediately.

- Student(s) shows signs of infectious illness consistent with COVID-19.
- Teacher or staff excuses student(s) from classroom, cohort or area within the school. Alert the COVID-19 POC. If masking is not required at the school, provide student with mask as soon as possible.
- COVID-19 POC takes student(s) to isolation room/area and ensures student(s) is properly supervised and masked. The parent, guardian, or caregiver is called. Arrangements are made for student(s) to either go home or seek emergency medical attention[3]. Note: If multiple ill students must be placed in the same isolation room/area, ensure mask use and stay at least 6 feet apart while supervised.

- Parent, guardian, or caregiver picks up student(s). Parent, guardian, or caregiver contacts healthcare provider for evaluation and possible COVID-19 test.
- Clean and disinfect areas that the ill student(s) occupied. Ventilate the area(s), wait as long as possible before cleaning to let virus particles settle (at least several hours), and use personal protective equipment (including any protection needed for the cleaning and disinfection products) to reduce risk of infection.

Student **negative** COVID-19 test result.

- Student(s) return to school following existing school illness management policies.

Student **positive** COVID-19 test result.

- Student(s) found to have COVID-19 and begins home isolation.
- COVID-19 POC starts a list of close contacts of the ill student(s) and informs staff, parents, guardians, or caregivers of close contacts of possible exposure[5].
- COVID-19 POC works with local health officials to assess spread and support follow up with staff, parents, guardians, or caregivers of student(s) that had contact with the ill student(s).[6]
- Parents, guardians, or caregivers of close contacts are advised to keep their children home (quarantine according to local health department requirements) and to consult with the student(s)' healthcare provider for evaluation and possible COVID-19 test[7].
- Members of the ill student(s)' household and staff who had close contact with the student are advised to quarantine according to local health department requirements[7].

- The ill student(s) can return to school and end isolation once the following are met:
    - 10 days out from the start of the symptoms, AND
    - Fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication, AND
    - Symptoms have improved.

Adult Protocol

- Students, teachers, and staff who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as influenza (flu) or COVID-19, **should stay home** and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
- **Contact your site Point of Contact immediately.**
- Staying home when sick with COVID-19 is essential to keep COVID-19 infections out of schools and prevent spread to others. It also is essential for people who are not fully vaccinated to quarantine after a recent exposure to someone with COVID-19.
- Schools that do not have a universal mask requirement could require masking by students, teachers, and staff if they are experiencing onset of upper respiratory infection symptoms at school while waiting to be picked up or leave the school.
- CDC guidance provides that people who are fully vaccinated and do not have COVID-19 symptoms do not need to quarantine or get tested after an exposure to someone with COVID-19.
- Schools should educate teachers, staff, and families about when they and their children should stay home and when they can return to school. The site Point of Contact will provide guidance.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic it is essential that staff and students stay home if they are showing signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and get tested.
- Getting tested for COVID-19 when symptoms are compatible with COVID-19 will help with rapid contact tracing and prevent possible spread at schools, especially if key prevention strategies (masking and distancing) are not in use.
- Some localities might choose to use testing to shorten quarantine periods.
- Fully vaccinated students, teachers, and staff with no COVID-19 symptoms do not need to be tested following an exposure to someone with COVID-19.
- People who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and recovered do not need to get tested following an exposure as long as they do not develop new symptoms.
- Any fully vaccinated person who experiences symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should isolate themselves from others, be clinically evaluated for COVID-19, and tested for SARS-CoV-2 if indicated.
- People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms from no or mild symptoms to severe illness.

- Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Because some of the symptoms of flu, common cold, and COVID-19 are similar, it is hard to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone.
- Testing can help confirm a diagnosis, and inform medical treatment and care. Also, testing will confirm the need to isolate from others for at least 10 days and quarantine close contacts.
- It is imperative that the adult be in close communication with the Point of Contact for direction and next steps.

Confidentiality and Reporting of COVID-19 Diagnoses

All confirmed cases of COVID-19 shall be reported to Health Services by the identified COVID-19 Point of Contact (POC). A POC will be the administrator of the school or direct supervisor of a department, or designee. The Health Services Department shall be notified of all confirmed cases...A parent or guardian shall notify the POC if they are aware that their child(ren) has tested positive for COVID-19.

While there are public health exceptions to the privacy rules under both the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), and, to the extent applicable, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the confidentiality requirements under Policy GBGCB, Policy JLCC shall apply. **Employees are not to take it upon themselves to notify staff, students, parents or any other person of a student or employee's personal health information except to report to the POC, a supervisor or Health Services as provided in this regulation.** All COVID-19 related lab results, doctor communication, should be kept in the health record of students or in a confidential COVID-19 folder for employees

Criteria for School-by-School closures

Protocol for School or Building closures:

In the event of an outbreak at a school or site, the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent or designee will consult with CCHD on the closure of school areas or entire schools. (See also Policies GBGCB and JHCC regarding building closures in the event of a communicable disease outbreak).

Face Coverings are highly recommended

Face Coverings are **strongly recommended**, but optional. We will continue to take guidance from our state health officials and will comply with all mandates that impact preK-12 public schools.

Health Services Standard

Students and staff suspected of COVID-19 are required to wear a mask that will be provided by the school if the individual does not have one. Until they can leave the campus, the individual may be separated from the rest of the school population until they can be taken home as recommended by the CCHD in order to provide containment of the potential communicable disease and reduce further transmission.

Directional traffic flow

Directional hallway traffic is not mandatory, but may occur at the discretion of the school principal/site leader. If a school chooses to implement directional traffic flow, the site administration shall coordinate with operations on paint, tapes or other signage affixed to the building walls or floors.

Cleaning Protocols

Cleaning protocols and chemical handling are intended for employee use only and will be provided to all facilities by Operations.

Cleaning/disinfecting will take place on all high touch areas at least daily. Students should not handle chemicals or execute cleaning protocols other than personal hygiene like hand washing and hand sanitizing. Disinfectant brought from the outside for personal use will be permitted if the product is approved by DUSD Risk Management and Operations, and by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), to kill COVID-19. The product must be in the original packaging and contain a manufacturer's label. All products should be stored and secured to prevent spills or access/use by children. Mixing chemicals is never appropriate.

Hand Sanitizer

Hand sanitizer will be made available in district schools, facilities and buses. Since proper hand sanitizing will disinfect germs present on a dispenser, touchless sanitizer dispensers are not necessary. The availability of sanitizer shall be prioritized over the dispenser type. Individuals can possess hand sanitizer for personal use, so long as the sanitizer is in the

original bottle and contains a manufacturer's label. All product should be secured to prevent misuse by students.

Employee and Student Travel

All employee and student travel must be approved by the Superintendent. The district will seek guidance from the regulatory agencies concerning guidelines for travel.

Student Athletes
Athletics and clubs will resume as usual, following AIA guidelines and mitigation practices will be effect.

Meetings and Gatherings

For the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, parent visits to classrooms and volunteers are discouraged. Pre-approved staff and student functions shall follow Cochise County Health Department and CDC guidance. **No school functions shall be scheduled or held without approval of the Superintendent.**

District Employees

District employees are deemed essential and are required to report for duty when called to do so by their supervisor or use leave balances as allowed by policy during their scheduled work hours. To ensure student safety, school personnel must return to their work site when required by their supervisor to ensure proper supervision and student support.

Changes to the work environment must be approved by the Superintendent and shall not impact customer service needs, safety protocols or impede department deliverables. Employees who require specific adjustments based on COVID-19 related health needs must meet with the Assistant Superintendent to discuss the needs and options. Such documentation may include having a high risk medical condition as defined by the CDC on its website.

Student Teachers/Interns

Those engaged in student teaching, clinical practicums, intern/externships pursuant to agreements between institutes of higher education and the District may resume their activities on school sites. Such individuals shall comply with all safety protocols.

Volunteers

Volunteers are a valuable resource for our school communities. However, in order to mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19, schools shall engage volunteers only for activities that can reasonably be performed remotely until such time as COVID-19 conditions in Cochise County warrant visitors and volunteers on campuses. Volunteers may be permitted, however, for outdoor sanctioned athletic activities at the discretion of the site administrator or designee, provided that the volunteers adhere to all mitigation protocols and sign the attestation as provided in this Regulation.

Protections for Populations at Risk

The CCHD and the CDC have stated that people of any age with certain underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Individuals with specific health conditions have been identified as having an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

Older adults and people with underlying medical conditions such as:

1. Heart, Lung, Kidney Disease
2. Diabetes
3. Obesity
4. Immunocompromised individuals

The above list is not inclusive and subject to change as the science of COVID-19 evolves.

CROSS REF:

EB – Environmental and Safety Program
GBGCB – Staff Health and Safety – Communicable Disease
JHCC - Communicable Disease - Student
JHD – Students with Chronic Health Conditions

Board Approved: August 17, 2021