



August 20, 2021

Welcome Back COVID Protocols

Dear Patrons:

The 2021-2022 school year kicked off last week when we welcomed new teachers to the district with three great days of training. This week saw returning teachers in the building on Monday and all staff here on Thursday. We are all excited to welcome students back into the school for an exciting year on Monday, August 23!

I wanted to send out the current health guidelines to address some of the questions that have come up. Based on the current recommendations and guidance from the Iowa Department of Public Health and the Department of Education, we will be starting school with the following mitigation procedures for COVID-19.

1. Masks will be optional for students, teachers, staff, and visitors at I-35.
 - a. We encourage anyone unable to maintain a social distance to wear a mask (teachers and students).
2. We will continue to practice extra time for good hygiene (handwashing).
3. We will continue to practice social distancing as allowed in the school setting.
4. We continue to encourage families to keep their student home if he/she is sick.
5. We will notify parents if their student has been in close contact with someone at the school who tests positive.
6. Parents will have the option of quarantining students based on exposure to someone who tests positive for COVID-19. Fifth through twelfth (5-12) grade students who are quarantined will have access to the learning management system, Schoology, if they choose to continue to work on class work while quarantined. Students will always have the option to make work up once they return to school. Students in grades PK-4 will be sent practice work home during quarantine if requested.
7. If you have concerns specific to your family situation, please contact Brandi Ransom or myself.

We will also be rolling out the I-35 Code of Conduct at school. These simple, yet meaningful, guidelines will be incorporated throughout the year. Any support you can provide at home to reinforce these--whether that be asking about the Code of Conduct or using similar expectation--will help solidify the learning here at school. The Interstate 35 Community School District Code of Conduct is as follows:

- I can always be heard saying **PLEASE** when asking for something.
- When given something, I will always say **THANK YOU**.

- Likewise when someone says thank you, I will say **YOU'RE WELCOME.**
- To politely interrupt, I will say **EXCUSE ME.**
- I can always be heard saying **YES SIR, NO SIR, or YES MA'AM, NO MA'AM** to my parents, teachers, coaches, managers, trainers, etc.
- Phrases such as: **GOOD MORNING, BE SAFE, HOW ARE YOU, and HAVE A GREAT DAY** are all part of who I am.
- Respect the **SCHOOL** and leave the classroom, locker room, commons, hallway, library, parking lot, gym better than you found it.
- Be **ON TIME** or early to class, practice or scheduled meetings.
- Give my greatest **EFFORT** regardless of activity or place.

Throughout the year, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your building administrator or myself. We look forward to having your students here on Monday. Also, a quick reminder that we have a 2-hour early dismissal on Monday.

Sincerely,

Sharon Dentlinger (signed electronically)

Sharon Dentlinger
Superintendent