

Fremont County School District #38
COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies
August 2021

Fremont County School District #38 will be prioritizing in-person learning for students during the 2021-2022 school year. In order to provide in-person learning opportunities for students we must take measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The District will implement the following mitigation strategies until further notice:

Face Coverings Required in the School Buildings

All individuals are required to wear face coverings over the nose and mouth while inside school buildings. The requirement to wear a face covering will remain in place even if social distancing can be maintained. Individuals may temporarily remove face coverings while actively eating or drinking.

Face coverings will also be required during outdoor gatherings.

Covid-19 Testing for Staff and Students

The District, through partnerships with the Wyoming Department of Health and local Health Organizations, are able to provide regular testing for staff and students. The District will implement diagnostic, surveillance, and screening testing.

Diagnostic testing will be available for individuals who have at least one high-risk COVID-19 symptom or a two or more low-risk COVID-19 symptoms. The School Nurse will make a determination about the symptoms based on guidance from the CDC.

Surveillance testing will be required for all staff. Staff who have submitted verification of being vaccinated will be required to take a COVID-19 test approximately every three weeks. The District will test 20% of these staff members every week. Staff who have not submitted verification of vaccination will be required to test every week. Every week, the District will test a sample of students whose parent/guardian has consented to testing.

Screening testing will be in place for all students and coaches participating in athletics. Students participating in cross-country will be tested every Monday. Students and coaches participating in volleyball will be tested every Tuesday. Students and coaches participating in football will be tested every Wednesday.

Vaccination Status Reporting Requirement

Eligible employees and students are *strongly encouraged* to be vaccinated for COVID-19.

In accordance with the Wind River Intertribal Health Order 2021-11524, the District will collect vaccination status of employees in order to provide it to the Wind River Intertribal Council upon request. All staff are required to submit their current vaccination status to the School Nurse by September 3, 2021. Employees should update that information with the School Nurse if that status changes.

If an employee has been vaccinated, the employee may either submit a copy of a valid vaccination card with the employee's name or show the card to the school nurse for verification. If the District is not able to verify that an employee has been vaccinated, the District will consider the employee as not verified as vaccinated and will report that to the Wind River Intertribal Council if requested and the employee will have to be tested for COVID-19 weekly. If employees are not able to be vaccinated due to medical or religious reasons, the employee is encouraged to submit that information to the Wind River Intertribal Council.

Failure to adhere to the vaccination requirement may result in additional enforcement by the Wind River Intertribal Council.

COVID-19 Leave/Attendance for Isolation and Quarantine Periods

The District will provide up to eight (8) days (64 hours) of "COVID-19" leave for all employees who test positive for COVID-19. The COVID-19 leave is intended to cover all missed workdays of a required isolation period. If an isolation period extends beyond 10 days and the employee is required to miss more than 8 work days, the Superintendent may approve additional COVID-19 leave. Official documentation that the isolation is extended is required to be submitted before additional COVID-19 leave is granted.

Vaccinated individuals who are a close contact are not required to quarantine. Unvaccinated individuals are required to quarantine. The District will not extend COVID-19 leave for quarantine periods. Employees who are required to quarantine must use their own sick leave to cover missed work time.

Employees will not be paid for remote work during quarantine or isolation periods and will be compensated by taking sick leave (if available) or by the District COVID-19 leave.

Students who are required to isolate or quarantine may be placed on homebound status so they can continue to receive instructional support during isolation or quarantine periods.

Ventilation & Air Purification

The District has installed an air purification system in all school buildings and the administration building. The system is expected to be online at the beginning of September. Once online, the system will disinfect recirculated air in the buildings and allow more outside air intake. In order to provide better ventilation, staff are encouraged to open windows if the temperature allows.

Heightened Building Cleaning/Disinfecting

The District will continue to adhere to enhanced disinfecting and cleaning procedures and schedules. A member of the custodial department will be present during school hours to disinfect highly touched surfaces and provide additional custodial services as needed.

Physical/Social Distancing

CDC Guidelines encourage maintaining three (3) feet distance between students as consistently as possible. Desks and seating assignments in all areas should be spaced three feet apart if spacing allows. Face coverings are still required indoors even when spacing can be maintained.

Approved by the Board of Trustees: 8/20/2021