



## **Osakis Public School ISD #213 Return to School Plan 2021-2022**

*Updated September 1, 2021*

*This plan is subject to change based upon requirements of the Minnesota Department of Health and the Minnesota Department of Education.*

Osakis Public Schools is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all students, staff, families, and visitors. Osakis Public Schools will continue to collaborate on COVID-19 issues and concerns with Horizon Public Health, MDE, MDH, and LCSC. Osakis Public School has developed the following 2021-2022 Return to School Plan.

### **Schedules**

School will be in-person, five days per week with regular start and end times. **There will be no distance learning option available.**

### **Face Coverings**

Face coverings are optional and will not be required during the school day or during after school activities. However, students will need to have face coverings with them, as masks are required while riding on all school bus/van transportation per federal CDC guidelines regarding public transportation. Osakis Public School fully supports individuals who choose to wear or not wear a mask. There will be no mask shaming!

\*The CDC recommends all students and staff, vaccinated or not, wear masks in school.

### **Health Screening and Quarantine**

- Self-screening for symptoms of illness will be required to be completed at home. Individuals who are ill are encouraged to stay home and report symptoms to the school nurse and/or school secretary.
- A computer automated thermometer station at both the elementary and high school will let the school know if anyone has a fever.
- As prior to COVID, the school policy remains that students and staff must be fever free for 24 hours with no medications prior to returning to school.
- Schools are mandated to report positive COVID cases to MDH.
- COVID-positive students will be required to quarantine for 10 days. Students determined to be close contacts of a student testing positive will not be required by the school district to quarantine.

- Parents/guardians of students who are determined to be close contacts will be notified and asked to monitor their child's symptoms closely as well as report any symptoms to the school nurse and/or secretary. Parents/guardians will determine whether or not to quarantine their child.
- Students determined to be in close contact with a positive household member will need to be monitored for COVID symptoms and will be required to quarantine for a minimum of two (2) days and may return to school if not exhibiting symptoms. If symptoms begin, please report symptoms to the school nurse and/or secretary. As a parent/guardian you might want to consider having your child quarantine longer and/or wear a mask when they come back to school.

### **Vaccines**

Osakis Public School will not require COVID vaccinations for students, staff, or visitors. Osakis Public School will not have any testing or vaccination options here at the school for students at this time.

### **Social Distancing**

Osakis Public School will be encouraging social distancing to the extent possible and feasible.

### **Meals**

Social distancing strategies may be used during meal times. Free breakfast and lunch is available to **all** students during the 2021-2022 School Year. The only fee will be for a la carte items and/or extras.

### **Healthy Facilities**

Osakis Public School has evaluated the operational capacity of indoor ventilation systems and developed a plan to increase and maintain ventilation provided throughout indoor spaces. Steps have been taken to increase the intake percentage of outside air to increase dilution of contaminants, and minimize recirculation, whenever possible, while maintaining indoor air conditions. In the absence of effective mechanical ventilation, steps have been taken to increase natural ventilation as much as possible, including opening windows when possible and safe.

### **Cleaning/Good Hygiene**

Cleaning protocols will continue to support mitigation of COVID. Drinking fountains and water refill stations will be open for students. Hand sanitizer stations will be available in classrooms and hallways. Students will continue to be encouraged to practice good hygiene by washing their hands with soap and water during bathroom breaks and before meals and snacks.

### **Transportation**

Per federal requirements, all students (PreK-12) and staff must wear masks on school busses during any school district transportation. Busses will be sanitized after each route.

### **Accommodations for Special Education**

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures will be provided. Parents/guardians should contact his/her child's case manager to inquire about accommodations.

### **Subject to Change**

If necessary, Osakis Public School will make changes to ensure the health and safety of students, staff, and community members, based on factors such as local conditions, state, and federal mandates. We will continue to monitor the situation with daily information from MDE, MDH, CDC, and LCSC. We will update parents via timely electronic communication of positive COVID cases.

We certainly acknowledge that there are still challenges ahead and probably some uncertainty. As we move through the school year, please remember that our plans are fluid and subject to change. Any changes that occur throughout the school year will be communicated to families prior to any changes taking place. We thank you for your continued partnership, flexibility, support, and trust in our local school districts as we prepare for the upcoming school year.