

Moving Forward: Returning to School 2021-2022 COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols

Collaborate With Local Public Health Dept.

- The district will continue to work with the local public health department as well as the County Commissioners to ensure a safe learning environment and to stay informed of current safety measures and county guidelines. The district will work with these entities to ensure we have the latest updated information. Collaboration with them will be important as decisions are made.

Face Coverings No Longer Required

- Face coverings will no longer be required for any student or staff member, however, masks may be worn by those who feel more comfortable doing so.

Temperature Checks No Longer Required

- Teachers will not be required to check temperatures of students on a daily basis. Parents will be asked to screen their child before sending to school. Teachers will however, continue to check temperature of students that are showing signs of illness while at school. Students will continue to be sent home when a fever of 100.4 is recorded.

COVID Immunizations Not Mandatory

- SSD will continue to provide information to the community about COVID immunization opportunities as a courtesy for those who wish to access the vaccine. However, the COVID immunization will not be required for staff or students. Contact Baca County Health Dept. if you wish to seek vaccination for yourself or your children.
- If a staff member or student is immunocompromised and unable to receive the COVID vaccine, there will be a process for them to request an accommodation. For example, if a teacher is immunocompromised and unable to receive the vaccine, that teacher may have the option to ask their students to wear masks while in the classroom with them. This will enable the educator to continue to teach in person.
- The Health Department strongly recommends vaccinations but they are not required.

Quarantines

- Should a student or staff member test positive for COVID, or show symptoms commonly associated with COVID after being exposed to a positive test, they will be asked to isolate for 10 days. Those students considered in close contact will have the option of “test to stay”
- SSD will work to make COVID testing more accessible for symptomatic students/staff.
- If a student is deemed to have been in close contact with an individual that tests positive they will be quarantined for 5 days unless:
 - They have proof of vaccination
 - They participate in our “test to stay” program.
 - They can lower the number of days to 5, if they test negative after day 5.

Physical Distancing Requirements Adjusted

- In situations where physical distancing is easily implemented teachers are asked to do so. Teachers may also implement physical distancing plans where they feel it will improve the opportunity for students to stay in school. The District will make adjustments to the surroundings to provide the safest setting without affecting the learning environment.

Visitors in SSD Schools/Facilities Permitted on Limited Basis

- In the 2021-2022 school year, visitors will be permitted in schools on a limited basis. School may limit the maximum number at any time when deemed necessary. Face coverings will not be required for visitors, however, they may wear one if they are more comfortable doing so. Visitors are asked not come into the building if they are showing symptoms of COVID-19.

Personal Hygiene

- SSD will continue to encourage good personal hygiene, such as reminding students to wash hands after using the restroom, before meals, etc., and provide access to hand sanitizer stations.

Disinfection

- Touchpoints (i.e. doorknobs, light switches, etc.) will continue to be disinfected throughout all buildings on a daily basis.
- School buses will continue to be disinfected daily.
- Teachers and staff will continue to have access to disinfectant supplies, including disinfecting spray, to clean high-touch areas regularly if desired.

Remote Learning

- The remote learning options that were available during the 20 – 21 year due to COVID-19 will not be available during the 21 – 22 year.
- Remote learning will be available to those students that are quarantined or in isolation.

Field Trips Resume

- Field trips, including out-of-state trips, will resume in 2021-2022. Careful planning will take place to ensure a safe environment for the trips.

Athletics and Activities Resume as Normal

- Athletics and activities will resume normal processes in 2021-2022 in partnership with CHSAA and governing bodies. The district will work with local public health officials to determine public health protocols for activity participation and game protocols.

Facilities Rentals Resume

- Facilities rentals will resume as normal in 2021-2022.

Ventilation

- The circulation of outdoor air within district buildings, via mechanical systems, will continue to be increased.

In addition to the protocols listed above, SSD will continue to encourage families to keep students at home when showing symptoms of illness. When children or staff members feel ill they should stay home until symptoms subside.

Please remember that the district will continue to monitor the COVID situation and will make adjustments to our protocols in accordance with local health department recommendations and in the best interest of our students and staff.

Our students and staff are our top-priority and we will continue to make decisions to ensure their health and safety. The district would like to thank all parents, and stakeholders for your continued patience and working with us as we have navigated through the COVID pandemic. We look forward to returning to our regular school protocols in the upcoming 21 – 22 school year.

Reviewed January 5, 2022