

## **MSAD #37 RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN FOR 2022-2023**

With the loosening of COVID restrictions as we begin the 2022-2023 school year, MSAD #37 schools will be full, in-person learning. Hybrid learning or remote learning will only take place should there be a significant increase in COVID cases or if directed to do so by the Department of Education and/or Department of Health and Human Services.

We will be continuing to follow Maine DOE and the CDC guidelines. The Maine State DOE has done away with the "SOP" Standard Operating Procedures document that we were asked to follow last year and the year before. The current recommendations for the DOE now align with the federal guidelines. The full document can be found here: [Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person Learning](#).

### **General guidelines:**

- Please do not send your student to school sick.
- Infection prevention measures are always important whether in COVID-19 times or not. Please remember to wash hands frequently, cover coughs/sneezes, and stay home when sick.
- Anyone who chooses to wear a mask or respirator will be supported in their decision to do so.

### **If your student has tested positive for COVID-19:**

- If your student tests positive for COVID-19 with a lab test OR a home test, please let the school nurse know ASAP. Your student will need to be isolated at home for at least 5 days. Day 0 is the day symptoms started OR if there have been negative tests, it will be the day of the positive test.
- Your student can return to school on day 6 IF they have been fever free for 24 hours WITHOUT the use of fever reducing medication AND they are generally feeling better.
- Masking is optional in all schools EXCEPT on day 6-10 after a COVID-19 infection. When your student returns to school on days 6-10 they are required to wear a mask while around others. If your student receives two negative tests 48 hours apart, they may remove their mask before day 11.
- We will not be contact tracing.

### **If your student is a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case (defined as being within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more, OR direct contact with a positive case):**

- Students who are close contacts can continue to come to school as long as they do not have symptoms of COVID-19. Symptomatic students should test for COVID-19 before coming to school.
- Masking is *recommended* for all close contacts regardless of vaccination status.
- Close contacts should test 5 full days after exposure or when they become symptomatic. Testing should be done at home BEFORE coming to school. Reach out to your school nurse if you need help accessing COVID-19 tests for home use.

You are welcome to contact our school nurse, Amanda Tozier, with any questions or concerns. You can reach her at 483-2746 or [atozier@msad37.org](mailto:atozier@msad37.org).

Updated 5/15/23