

KIDS RSU 2  
Frequently Asked Questions  
On School Safety Topics related to Safe Return to School Plan for COVID 19

1. What are the [minimum requirements](#) from DOE to open school?
  - a. Daily symptom screening at home before coming to school
  - b. Physical distancing and facilities
    - i. 3 ft between students in classes
    - ii. 6 ft between students when eating
    - iii. 6 ft away from other for adults
    - iv. Medical isolation space to place anyone being evaluated or waiting to be picked up if showing COVID-19 symptoms
    - v. Ventilation system that works OR outdoor air exchange using fans in windows
  - c. Mask/face coverings required
  - d. Hand hygiene
    - i. Training on proper handwashing/hygiene
    - ii. Wash hands (or use hand sanitizer) before/after eating, masking, restroom use, playground or shared equipment use, upon entering building or bus, and after exiting bus
  - e. Personal Protective Equipment
    - i. Nurses and staff working in close proximity when distancing is not possible (or students need physical assistance) must use eye protection or shield in addition to mask as minimum protection.
  - f. Return to school after illness (or travel to a location requiring quarantine) is only allowed if the person meets the criteria to return to school after home isolation requirements are met. Students under 18 must quarantine and can be tested like adults.
2. How does the screening tool work for students and staff?
  - a. We have provided a tool to families for all students electronically and will provide paper copies as well. Guardians review the list every day before going to school. Student stays home if the answer to any questions are yes. Updated 9-21-20 based on new CDC/DOE guidance.
  - b. Then, guardians use the return to school flow chart to determine when the student can return and need a doctor note. Updated 9-21-20 based on new CDC/DOE guidance.

- c. Family support and compliance with keeping every sick student home is imperative to help our nurses be able to manage any unexpected health issues or COVID-like issues that will require isolation, immediate transport home by parents, and contact tracing work.
  - d. Please make sure that you provide emergency contacts with transportation on the emergency form in order to ensure pick up from school in under a half hour.
  - e. We have provided a tool for all staff to review each day before coming to work.
  - f. Staff will stay home if the answer to any question is yes. Then, staff use the return to school flow chart to determine when they can return and need a doctor note.
3. Where did the screening tool we are using come from?

The screening tool we are using was selected from one of the early CDC samples and cross referenced with other medical expert samples. The tool was approved by our consulting doctor and nurses after review by our COVID Response Team. There will be a periodic review of these tools and updates may occur as needed after approval by our group of medically trained providers.
4. If there are questions about specific scenarios for students that do not seem to fit the tool, what happens?
  - a. The guardian and school nurse will discuss the situation to become clear on all of the details.
  - b. The nurse will provide the guidance to the guardian if it is scenario already vetted before through our consulting physician, DOE and/or CDC.
  - c. The nurse will contact the CDC for guidance if it is a new scenario for which they need clarity, then inform the guardian and whether a doctor note is required.
  - d. The nurse will inform the school office of the criteria for student return shared with the guardian for attendance and administrator use.
5. If there are questions about specific scenarios for staff that do not seem to fit the tool, what happens?
  - a. The staff member will call the human resource department.
  - b. A human resource person will contact the CDC for guidance if it is a new scenario for which they need clarity, then inform the employee.
  - c. The human resource person will inform the supervisor of the information provided to the employee.
6. What will happen if there is a COVID case among staff or students?
  - a. A guardian would contact the school nurse or administrator immediately.
  - b. A staff member would contact their supervisor and the HR department immediately.
  - c. The sick person would stay home until cleared with a doctor note to return.
  - d. Once we have evidence of a confirmed positive case, DOE and CDC are contacted. CDC will help with the contact tracing communications, and we will

make a decision based on CDC guidance regarding potential exposure about whether a class, wing, building, town schools, or the whole district shifts to all remote instruction and when to shift back to in person learning again. Communication about such a shift to remote learning will be communicated to that community.

7. Are we able to maintain the physical distancing requirements?
  - a. Yes, by having half of each class in school we are able to meet those requirements. Please help teach students to distance using airplane arms.
  - b. There are additional requirements for further distancing at times that children are singing or in activities with physical exertion such as PE. We are planning to be able to meet this using outdoor space.
  - c. Governor gathering limits apply for indoor and outdoor gatherings at schools.
  
8. Are plastic barriers to isolate adults or students required?
  - a. No. Plastic barriers are not required. Physical distancing and masks are required. Barriers are recommended to be considered where physical distancing may be difficult to maintain.
  - b. We have ordered plastic barriers for secretaries as an added measure, and those will be put in place as we receive them.
  - c. We also have ordered plastic barriers as an option for use in other ways in classrooms or other spaces. We received our first shipment of these 9-21-20. Others will be distributed once they arrive.
  
9. What is the status of RSU 2 ventilation systems?
  - a. Our Facilities team inspected our systems over the summer.
  - b. Every building has a working system with intake flow of fresh air as required.
  - c. All building systems work. Select units were scheduled for maintenance or repair in the following locations:
    - i. Monmouth Academy – a few rooms impacted – repair order underway
    - ii. Hall Dale High School Wing – repair fully completed 9-22-20
    - iii. Using fans in rooms where a unit needs repair meets the requirements
  - d. We have purchased fans for use in the few rooms effected by these specific units. This meets the DOE minimum safety requirement.
  - e. We also purchased extra fans as options for other staff who asked for them.
  - f. We have planned & scheduled upgrades which should be completed before the weather turns cold in Dresden and Monmouth Academy. The upgrades will allow for remote monitoring of units and more manual control that will allow over-ride of the energy efficient limits that slow fresh air intake in cold weather.
  
10. Must everyone wear a mask or face covering in school and on the bus?
  - a. Yes, a mask or face covering that covers both the nose and mouth. There is an official definition of what face coverings meet the requirements. See Executive Order 49 from Governor Mills. "Cloth Face Covering" is a protection that covers

the nose and mouth; fits snugly but comfortably against the side of the face; is secured with ties or ear loops; has multiple layers of fabric; allows for breathing without restriction; and is able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to its shape.

- b. DOE provided 2 cloth washable reusable masks for every staff and student.
- c. If a person has a doctor note stating the diagnosis and reason for not wearing a mask, then a face shield and 6 ft distancing from others at all times is required. This requirement makes it not possible to have a student without a mask on a bus with other students.

11. What is the requirement for schools regarding hand sanitizer?

- a. There is no requirement to have a certain kind of hand sanitizer in schools.
- b. The regulations about which kind of hand sanitizer or other cleaning chemicals that can be used in schools is regulated by EPA, OSHA and Fire Marshalls.
- c. There are Fire Marshall regulations limiting the locations where alcohol-based hand sanitizer is allowed to be used in schools.

12. What kind of hand sanitizer is in our schools?

We have both alcohol and non-alcohol sanitizer depending on location in order to comply with Fire Marshall regulations.

13. Do the schools have all of the personal protective equipment they need?

- a. Yes, we have enough to open school by meeting the minimum requirements.
- b. We have the minimum required PPE for nurses.
- c. We have the minimum required PPE for staff working with students who require physical assistance.
- d. We continue ordering to ensure we have a continuous supply of any disposable PPE like disposable masks, gloves and gowns.
- e. In addition, we are providing items requested like plastic barriers, disposable gloves, and shields that can be used if a staff member so chooses along with a mask.

14. What are the cleaning routines and protocols recommended?

- a. Daily cleaning and disinfecting of all spaces is expected.
- b. Daytime custodians will be disinfecting high touch surfaces midday as well.
- c. Classrooms and teacher work rooms have spray disinfectant that are rated in all four areas of health risk at 0 to use as needed with paper towels.